



Eydon Village News

FEBRUARY 2026

ISSUE 463

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Next Issue

Deadline for March
newsletter is 20th February
2026

Please email to:

evn@eydonparish.gov.uk

WINTER BLUES NIGHT

Saturday 28th February
Eydon Village Hall | 7:30pm



WELL
STOCKED
BAR

LIVE MUSIC FROM
Alice Armstrong

WINNERS OF THE EUROPEAN BLUES CHALLENGE 2025

TICKETS £10

Book via QR code or
<https://square.link/u/WI9oLlp8>

Tickets also available at Oboe Fine Wine.

Enquiries: Andy 07827 965394



PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

The January meeting was held on 15 January at 19:30 in the Village Hall

Attendance: Councillors, Lisa Genovese, Andy Reynolds, Luke Alexander, Kim Keeble and Howard Carter were present, along with the Clerk, Steven Fox. Due to the absence of the Chair, Keith Simmons, Councillor Keeble Chaired the meeting.

One member of the public attended, along with West Northants Councillor, Alison Eastwood.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Councillor Keith Simmons

Previous Minutes: The Minutes from 9 December were approved.

Council Membership: The Council has one empty place and is keen to recruit an extra member. Anyone interested should contact: Keith.Simmons@EydtonParish.Gov.Uk

Public Comment: There were no comments.

Matters Arising: The Clerk confirmed that an agreement between AJR Electrical and the Council setting out their trading relationship, had been signed and is available for view on the website.

Planning Matters: The Council discussed the proposed development of Wakelyn Manor, 2 School Lane, and will make a few minor comments to WNC Planning.

Village Projects: The new Village Welcome Pack was approved.

(Continued on page 3)

Notes from St Nicholas



SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday 1st February

10.00 Morning Prayer

Sunday 8th February

9.30 Holy Communion

Sunday 15th February

10.00 Family Service

Sunday 22nd February

9.30 BCP Communion

11.00 Benefice Holy Communion St Mary's Woodford Halse

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

Rector Rev Clare Glover 260204
revclare@outlook.com

Churchwarden

Sue Tresham 260503
sueeyates@aol.com

Bins and Post Drop Boxes

Eydton Residents are politely reminded to ensure their bins (whether Domestic or Commercial) are returned to their storage areas after collection.

Storage areas should not be village footpaths or verges as these are owned by West Northants Council. Residents are also requested not to place Post Drop Boxes on Community land.



POTHOLES

Reminder to all residents

Please use www.FixMyStreet.Com to report pot holes and any issues with Footpaths in the neighbourhood.

February Bin Collections



Tuesday 3rd February
Blue & Green Bins



Tuesday 17th February
Blue & Green Bins



Tuesday 10th February
Black Bin



Tuesday 24th February
Black Bin

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

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 2)

AJR advised that the new salt bins had been installed and thanked those who helped with the work.

The Clerk advised that installation of the history signs and water butt in the cemetery would be completed during the next few weeks.

AJR/LG agreed to manage the Village Litter Pick, a date in April will be circulated shortly.

The meeting also agreed to put together a project team to install new fencing around the cemetery, any volunteers should contact the Clerk.

Highways and Footpaths: The Clerk advised that 6 potholes were reported in December and 5 fixed. There was also 1 footpath issue reported which has been resolved. The Clerk advised that any issues should be reported using the WNC App or FixMyStreet.Com. Anyone wishing to check reports can do so by visiting www.WNC.ai/wise

Other Matters: A full set of minutes is available from EydonParish.Gov.Uk. Anyone wishing to receive news updates about Eydon should request to be added to the village email alerts list by contacting Clerk@EydonParish.Gov.Uk

Next Meeting: 10 February at 19:30 in the Village Hall, all welcome.



The Annual Church Meeting will take place in Byfield Village Hall at 3pm.

SUNDAY 22nd MARCH

Reports on church activities across the Benefice are presented and discussed and elections will be held for churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Councils (PCCs)

You need to be on the electoral roll of St Nicholas Eydon to be able to vote in these elections.

If you would like to be on the electoral roll, please contact Matt Wheeldon, our electoral roll officer (majwheeldon@btinternet.com)

No Experience Required, Just Willing Hands



Many people visit our beautiful and historic village church daily, whether to use the popular library, enjoy the children's corner, show interest in historic buildings or family history, walkers and those looking for a peaceful place for a few moments quiet and of course all those attending the regular services.

Throughout the year there are also the well-attended services at Christmas, Easter, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday and of course weddings, baptisms and funerals.

Late last year we had a big clean up in St Nicholas Church and we would like to express our grateful thanks to all who helped. The Church looks amazing and it would be lovely to keep it like that for all who use it.

Following this we would like to organise a more regular cleaning schedule. If you would like to help, maybe an hour or two a couple of times a year we would love to hear from you. Come with a friend and a smile and we will provide the cleaning materials.

For more details please contact Lyn

lynandsimon@hotmail.co.uk





Eydon Ladies met for the first time in 2026 on Wednesday 21st January at the Village Hall. During the evening we held our AGM at which the Chairman presented her report on the varied activities undertaken during 2025. She then outlined the programme for 2026 which was enthusiastically received.

In addition to the main list of events, Eydon Ladies will be hosting a Harvest Supper in October as part of the Village Hall 100 year celebrations after the success of the one held last year. This was followed by the Treasurer's financial report showing that the group stands in a very secure financial situation to move forward in the new year. All of the current Committee were re-elected for 2026 and an additional member –Gail Howarth – was elected to bring the number to seven.

After the formal part of the evening we had the opportunity to have a good catch up and discuss our plans for the year over a glass of wine or hot drink. The programme for 2026 includes talks on a wide range of subjects (Opera, Theatre in Northants and the Life of a Female Correspondent in WW2 among them), a gin tasting, a needle felting workshop, a Short Mat Bowling evening and a Garden Party in the summer.

The next meeting of Eydon Ladies will be on **Wednesday 18th February 2026** in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. The topic for the evening will be the Textiles of Vietnam and Cambodia. The speaker – Mary Hart – is a textile artist and will have pieces highlighting the spectacular colours of these Far Eastern countries. **This event is open to ALL** – friends, partners, husbands, neighbours - with guests paying the fee of £5 for the evening. After the talk we will have a chance to socialize over a hot drink and there will be a raffle, so why not come along and join us!

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 set at £30 for 2026. Each meeting is a chance to meet new friends and catch up with local people in a relaxed atmosphere.

Ruth Kukla

FIRST WEDNESDAY CLUB Annual Lunch

This month, on January 7th, the **Eydon First Wednesday Club** held their annual festive lunch at The Red Lion in Hellidon.

Most of our regulars attended for a very pleasant social occasion, with first class two, or three course meal which all those present thoroughly enjoyed.

Many thanks to the Red Lion staff for looking after us so well and to Richard Collins for organising it. A very good start to our new season.



Tom Tresham



Recipe of the month

Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce

For the Sauce

3 tbsp olive oil
2 garlic cloves, peeled and finely chopped
3 x 500g cans plum tomatoes, drained
2 Bay Leaves
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 – 2 pinches brown sugar (Optional)

For the Meatballs

600g minced pork
2 garlic cloves, peeled and finely chopped
1 tbsp fresh sage leaves, finely chopped
1 tbsp fresh thyme or rosemary, finely chopped
2 handfuls of fresh breadcrumbs
Zest of 1 lemon
1 heaped tbsp Dijon mustard
1 egg, beaten
1 tbsp olive oil
70g grated parmesan



Heat oven 200c. Warm the oil in a deep oven proof pan on a medium low heat, gently fry the garlic. Add the tomatoes, then stir in the bay leaves, seasoning and simmer gently for 45 minutes. Add a pinch or two of sugar if you think it needs it and a few tbsp of water if the sauce is thick and dry.

Combine all the meatball mixture in a bowl except the oil and half the parmesan. Season and mix well and shape into balls.

Pour remaining oil into the frying pan, heat over a medium heat and lightly brown the meatballs on all sides. Transfer to the pan with tomato sauce and toss gently to coat. Sprinkle with remaining cheese and bake for 20 mins until firm to the touch.

Serve with wide pasta/rice/noodles. Freezer friendly.

Serves 6 Henrietta Nelson



The Red Lion, Culworth

February Dates for Your Diary

We are pleased to share our upcoming events and offers at **The Red Lion** this February and look forward to welcoming residents and visitors alike.

February Events

- Wednesday 4 February – Quiz Night
- Saturday 7 February – Six Nations rugby screening in the Barn
- Friday 14 February – Valentine's Day special menu
- Tuesday 17 February – Pancake Day



Regular Offers

- Happy Hour: 3:30pm – 4:30pm
– Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays
– All beers and house wine £4.50
- Every Tuesday: Burger & Pint or House Wine – £17
- Sunday Lunch served weekly

For further details and updates,
please follow us on
Facebook and Instagram:
www.instagram.com/theredlionculworth

☎ 01295 760050

We look forward to seeing you at the pub.



By now, everyone should have received the programme of events marking the centenary of our village hall — and what a way to start!

We're incredibly lucky to be kicking things off with a **Winter Blues Concert** featuring the amazing Alice Armstrong and her world-class band.

Alice is on a real roll: winners of the **European Blues Challenge 2025** and **Contemporary Artist of the Year at the UK Blues Awards** in both 2024 and 2025. Her music is a powerful, feel-good mix of modern Blues, Funk, Soul and Rock 'n' Roll, brought to life by her magnificent vocal range and a truly charismatic stage presence.

Alice pours everything into every performance. Expect to be moved by her superb voice, laugh, and then dance your way home. It's going to be a fantastic start to a very special year!

Meet the People of Eydon

Carire Bedford has lived in Eydon for about 50 years. Carrie is a pillar of the community and cornerstone of so many important societies.



What did you do, or what do you do for a living?

I've had what I'd call a portfolio career. I started out in East Midlands Electricity, doing various roles including designing heating systems for both domestic and commercial buildings. I loved working with architects and developers. It was very much a man's job at the time in the 1970s and 80s, so I had to establish myself and I certainly didn't take any nonsense!

When the industry was privatised, I decided to go back into further education. I did a degree in Behavioural Science at Northampton, followed by an MSc in Consciousness and Transpersonal Psychology at Liverpool John Moores.

Alongside that, motorsport has been a lifelong passion as well as a job. I started in the late 1970s as a marshal, after about 15 years, I started timekeeping, producing the official results. I've timed events from Silverstone Race School to Formula One, which meant travelling extensively. In the last ten years of my career, I worked for the Historic Sports Car Club assisting with the organisation of race meetings and latterly the Vintage Sports-Car Club where I was responsible for organising race and speed events like hill climbs and sprints and assisting with other events.

What are your hobbies?

I love photography and I'm a member of Culworth Snappers. I enjoy travelling and I love research, especially local history. I've just finished writing the history of the village hall and the organisations that use it. The booklet will be published by Eydon Historical Research Group and launched at the exhibition on 17th April – which is the centenary of the Grand Opening in 1926 (note the plug!). I'm also involved in amateur dramatics and I'm a keen reader.

Have you always lived in this area? Where were you born?

I was brought up in Woodford Halse. My aunt, Miss Cobley, had a house in Eydon built by Kenches, the local builders. When she died in the late 1970s, I moved there so I've been in the village nearly 50 years now.

If you could have dinner with three people, dead or alive, who would they be?

Joanna Lumley – I think she's charming. I'd like to talk to her about her acting career and her travel programmes. I'm told she's exactly the same in real life as she is on TV.

Carl Jung – he developed his theory of psychology around the same time as Freud and I find his ideas absolutely fascinating.

Finally, Dougal Cawley, who is completely bonkers in the best possible way. He drives a car called Piglet at VSCC events, runs a tyre company, and is the most outgoing and outrageous gentleman you could hope to meet. You'd be in stitches the whole time with him at the table.

What three items would you take to a desert island?

A toolkit so I could build a shelter, the complete works of Terry Pratchett, he's the most amazing writer, and art materials. I usually take photos but with more time and good light, I'd love to develop my skills. I used to do watercolour flower painting and loved it.

Who would play you in a movie about your life?

Sue Johnston or Alison Steadman.

Describe yourself in one word.

Involved.

Fry up or green juice?

Definitely a fry up.

What have been some of the happiest moments in your life?

Spending time with friends, old and new. That moment in research when you find a missing piece of information or make a new connection and exploring new places around the world.

Who/what has been the biggest influence on your life?

Motorsport. It explains a lot really! Through it I've made friends in places like Belgium and Australia and been given many new opportunities and experiences.

Tell us something people don't know about you.

I met Prince Philip at Buckingham Palace when I received my Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

A Personal View...



I'll come clean at once....

I'm no great gardener, poor on Latin names and worse on some English plant names. But, I do enjoy looking around most gardens and am often at my best when relaxing on a well-tendered lawn most likely with a glass of wine by my elbow.

I guess I've been pampered most of my life, garden-wise. During the last war (by which I mean the '39 to '45 second world war), Mum was the cook in an Italian prisoner of war camp, or it may have been an internment camp. Anyway, this was in the heart of Warwickshire where Mum & Dad lived in a relatively remote setting, but we had a large garden. So, it was only natural that we had some Italian "trusties" helping out. I recall three of them at any one time. One to help Mum in the house, a second to act as my nanny, and the third of course, as gardener.

Hence, we had a colourful and productive garden. Everyone benefitted: my parents and their guests, with an extensive lawn, colourful flower beds and a highly productive vegetable area; the Italians, who were relieved of the monotony of being behind barbed wire; and little me who had a play area with seemingly no horizons. The further bonus was the supply of home-grown food, some of which Mum was able to sell to the prison camp to supplement the basic rations.

After the war, my parents purchased a house with a huge garden in Priors Hardwick, I use the term 'garden' loosely; it was four acres of jungle, unkempt and unattended all though the war. On our arrival, a tall thin man in his mid-fifties presented himself at the door. "I'm your gardener", Tommy announced, when Dad asked his name and business. Only, that is what Dad identified he had said after realising that poor Tommy had a serious speech impediment. So, Tommy was set to work that day. My Mum got on with him, and after a relatively short time both understood each other more than adequately. It became apparent, that Tommy was more used to spending his time in



the greenhouse, than in the outdoors. But gentle encouragement coupled with some leading by example, soon got Tommy clearing the jungle, and returning part of the four acres into the lovely garden it once had been. To keep the grass down, Dad then introduced a small flock of Jacob sheep into the orchard and paddock areas of the jungle. The descendants of this initial flock eventually came to Eydon, some longer-term readers may remember the Jacobs around the village, and for some years on the Cricket Field during the winter months. In fact, my daughters now have them.

Here in Eydon, gardens certainly have not been neglected. As recently as a couple of summers ago, a truly enterprising villager organised an 'Open Garden Day' around the village. Nearly twenty houses generously opened their gates, and the quality and ingenuity of the gardens behind the walls, was truly eye-opening. Eydon did have an active Garden Club until recently: maybe some enterprising villager may consider re-starting it? But, signs of Spring are apparent not just in our gardens. Take a walk around Eydon Churchyard, and you will see some buds beginning to show, and the bulbs are coming through. In fact, Eydon's own Snowdrop Sunday is only days away, on Sunday February 8th.

See you there?

John Grindlay

Here are the results of the draw held at the end of December congratulations to all the

EYDON
2022 CLUB

Prizes

1st Prize: Lyn & Simon
Evans
2nd Prize: Diana Cowley
3rd Prize: David Bailey

Bonus Prizes

Lawrence Hardy
Angela Walker
Sue Lodge
Elaine King & Family

New participants are always welcome, please contact elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com for more details

Eydon 200 Club

Reminder - Starts again in February 2026

The Eydon 200 Club is a licensed lottery (Licence No. LN/201000617), which donates **50% of the funds it raises equally to St. Nicholas Church and Eydon Village Hall**. In recent years, each recipient has received at least £400 per year. The other 50% of funds is used for prizes

Entry costs just £12 and gives you a chance each month to win one of 3 cash prizes. Make as many entries as you like, for your family, friends and pets. The more people taking part the more prize money there is to share so last year there were several extra bonus prizes every month.

The 200 club draw takes place at the end of each month, starting in February.

Entries must reach us by **Wednesday 25 February 2026**. You can sign up by returning your form to Lucy or Elaine or via email to the address below. Pay by cash, cheque or bank transfer.

Your support is greatly appreciated and good luck to you all.

Elaine Partridge, 28 High Street *or email to elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com*
Lucy Braddyll, 44 High Street

I/We wish to participate in the Eydon 200 Club draw
and enclose £12 per entry for the year commencing February 2026

Name(s):

Amount paid:

Address:

Preferred numbers (1 -200)

(numbers are allocated on a first come, first served basis)

Email address (if not already provided; in order to contact you via email next year):

Payment: **cheque / cash / bank transfer** (please delete as appropriate)

Cheques payable to ***Eydon 200 Club***

Bank details - Account Name: **Eydon 200 Club** Sort Code: **09 01 53** Account Number:
75685480

If paying by bank transfer please send your details via email to elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com

Payment by cash or cheque, with this form, to Lucy @ 44 High Street or Elaine @ 28 High Street