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## Next Issue

Deadline for November news-letter is 24th October 2025

Please email to:

evn@eydonparish.gov.uk

## ALL THE FUN OF THE FETE!

It has been a long time since I chaired the Eydon Fete and gosh how it has changed over the years!

We all know Eydon to be a great community based village, but it is always heart-warmingly reassuring when so many people give up their time to make the fete the success we have all come to know and enjoy. It has been a pleasure to work with such an enthusiastic team and fantastic to watch the marquees become populated with chairs, tables and produce that has either been generously donated or kindly made in the days beforehand. What an enlightening experience to see just how many people get involved and be part of such a team.

On the day, the rain held off, the sun shone and people came out to enjoy the day. A brilliant community event where you could catch up with old friends and make new ones too. Not to mention enjoy a drink or two, partake in

some scrumptious food or cake, enter your darling pooch in the dog show and watch it have fun in the hugely hilarious Terrier Racing.

After the 'wash up', where we were able to announce that we had raised just over £9000, I was walking Stanley and went up to the Sports Field to take a moment to reflect. It is incredible to think that 20 years ago the village came together to put on an auction in the Royal Oak, another great Eydon event, to help raise the money to buy the Sports Field and here we are now able to enjoy

events such as the fete in the field.

So where does the money go? It goes towards the upkeep of our fantastic amenities – the church, sports field and village hall. They all play important roles within our community and this money goes towards helping to ensure they remain part of our village's identity.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for getting involved in and most importantly supporting the fete and making it the success it has been and I look forward to seeing you all at next year's fete. On this note there is a phrase I would like you to remember, as it will always be gratefully received and that is 'Is there anything we can do to help?' We are looking to start planning next years fete from Feb 2026 and would welcome anyone who would like to get involved.

**Many, many thanks**

**Robin Brown, Chair – Eydon Fete 2025**

SEE THE BACK PAGE FOR MORE .....

### Winners—Fancy Dress Competition



# PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

The September meeting of The Parish Council took place on the 9 September at 7.30 pm.

Councillors present were, Keith Simmons, Luke Alexander and Andy Reynolds. Also present was the Clerk Steve Fox and around a dozen members of the public.

Apologies had been received and accepted from Ian Stewart, Kim Keeble and Howard Carter.

The following matters were discussed in the meeting:

**Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2025 were approved and signed. Lisa Genovese was co-opted onto the Council, which now means that the Council has a full complement of Councillors.

**Members of the Public Commented on these matters:** Cllr Alison Eastwood (WNC) gave an update on Council activity during August.

Nine members of the public attended, mainly to comment on Planning Application (Land West of Byfield Road - see planning).

A member further commented on the proposal to install a water tap in the Cemetery. The Clerk explained that it would cost a minimum of £3500 if Anglian Water carried out this connection. He was instructed to investigate further options for a connection to be made.

**Morton Triangle :** A site visit with WNC Highways arranged for 15:00hrs, 19 September.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Notes from St Nicholas



### SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2025

#### Sunday 5th October

10.00 Morning Prayer

#### Sunday 12th October

9.30 Harvest Festival

#### Sunday 19th October

10.30 Café Church

#### Sunday 26th October

8.30 Holy Communion (BCP) Woodford Halse

10.00 Benefice Communion Aston Le Walls

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

Here are the results of the draw held at the end of August, congratulations to all the winners:



#### Prizes

1st Prize: Corrie Walker (Dog)  
2nd Prize: Verena Jackson  
3rd Prize: Jack Sherlock

#### Bonus Prizes

Al Ryan  
Bay Harper  
Jackie Garrock  
Sarah Klaes

*New participants are always welcome, please contact [elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com](mailto:elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com) for more details*

## October Bin Collections



Tuesday 7th October

Black Bin



Tuesday 14th October

Blue & Green Bins



Tuesday 21st October

Black Bin



Tuesday 28th October

Blue & Green Bins

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

# FIRST WEDNESDAY CLUB

## An Egyptian Village

Tim Bodington made a welcome return to the First Wednesday Club for our September talk. His subject was an Egyptian village.

The majority of the population of Egypt live within a few miles of the river Nile. Those who do not live in the major cities inhabit small villages near the river.

Most of the houses are of sun baked mud brick, with flat roofs, frequently used for storage, or sleeping on hot nights. They are regularly constructed with courtyards and wind catchers that direct the air through house to help cooling. The houses are usually organized around a central square with a well, and a mosque, while others line narrow streets with workshops, granaries and a bakery.



Those not engaged in farming the rich soil near the river maybe artisans such as potters, weavers, carpenters, and metal workers producing goods for local use or trade.

The language spoken is frequently a regional dialect that bears only a passing resemblance to Egyptian Arabic the official language of modern Egypt.

Tom Tresham

Eydon Ladies met on Wednesday 17th at the village hall to hear Andrew Crofts talk on how anyone can write a book. Andrew stepped in at very short notice, as he did last year, as our planned speaker was unable to attend.

Once more he entertained us with amusing anecdotes of people and books he has either ghost written for someone else, or written under his own name.

He described the different ways a writer can get a book published; there are far more now than when he started his career. The clear message was, if you want to write a book, whether it's something for your family or intended for a wider audience, then just sit down and start. Word processors have made it much easier to write and edit manuscripts than in the days of typewriters. So, what are you waiting for? And if you get stuck, we can recommend a jolly good ghostwriter!

The next meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 15th October 2025 at 7.30. Our speaker will be Anita Chipalkatty giving us 'A taste of India'. She is passionate about Indian food and will demonstrate dishes for us to taste. One not to be missed. At the end of the evening there will be a chance to have a chat over a cup of tea/coffee and we will also be holding a raffle.

The event is open to ladies only, why not join us for the rest of the year with membership now half price at £15.00 for the remaining meetings of 2025? We welcome all ladies to our happy group whether you live in Eydon or in one of the villages nearby.



Ann Lane



# PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 2)

**Village History Sign:** Clerk advised delivery expected in September.

**Musical Ensemble concert in the church:** EKFB/HS2 offered £250. The council resolved that an extra £250 on top of its original contribution would be available if required.

**Defibrillator Training:** this had been very well attended, the Council decided to arrange another session next year. The Clerk was also asked to contact the Royal Oak re siting another defibrillator externally on Lime Avenue side. The council approved up to £1500 for installation on top of the cost of the defibrillator.

**Welcome Pack:** Luke Alexander would present revised version within coming weeks.

**Young Persons Forum:** Item raised in EVN but no responses to the communication disappointing but clearly no appetite within the Village.

**Copper Beech (Village Green):** Clerk instructed to arrange pruning.

Andy Reynolds undertook to manage replacement of two grit bins (School Lane) and installation of one new bin (Byfield Road).

**Highways :** The correct FixMyStreet link had been shared on all social media platforms.

**Budget 2025/26:** F&GP Committee to meet 30 September to draft budget.

(Continued on page 4)

# PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 3)

**Annual Audit:** Clerk reported receipt of Completion Certificate from External Auditors (two minor comments noted). Documents available on EPC website.

**Social Media :** Clerk reported improved coverage due to new Media Specialist (4hrs/week). First Marketing Report presented. Positive feedback had been received.

#### Planning Matters:

*WNC Ref 2025/2712/PIP* – Land West of Byfield Road. After a long discussion and a variety of comments put to the Council by members of the public - of whom none were in favour. The Parish council passed a resolution to object to this proposal - the details of the objection would be circulated .

*WNC Ref 2025/2234/OUT* – Land adjacent to 4 Hollow Way. Awaiting WNC Highways response re access.

Consultation on Local Planning (shared via social media). The Chairman to respond on behalf of the Council

Next Meeting: 19:30hrs, Tuesday 14 October 2025, Village Hall.

Meeting closed: 2145 after the long planning discussion.

**Keith Simmons**  
Chairman EPC



## St Nicholas' Church, Eydon

**Sun 12<sup>th</sup> Oct at 9.30 a.m**

### Harvest Celebration

**Please bring offerings of harvest gifts.  
Our local foodbanks would be grateful for  
garden produce as well as tins/packages etc.**

### Eydon Artefact



### Appears in Northampton Museum!

There is an amazing opportunity to see an item from Eydon's history displayed in Northampton Museum from now until the New Year.

The black cape is on show as one of a Hundred Objects illustrating the History of Northamptonshire and has a unique story to tell, connecting the lives of two very different women.

Dating from the early 1900s and probably made by Flora Tyrrell, wife of the village tailor and mother of Syd Tyrrell, the cape is still owned by the family. It also features in the book accompanying the exhibition and on a podcast.

More details from the Eydon Historical Research Group.

### AID FOR UKRAINE

### Your help is required....

We all know that the Russians are hitting the Ukrainian civilians, very hard, at this time and they are in desperate need of help.

Steve from the Hare and Hounds will be taking a truck of supplies to the Ukraine in November/December

Items required are:

**EX - NHS Crutches**  
**Walking Frames**  
**Walking Sticks**  
**Blankets**  
**Dried Fruit**

We would really appreciate it if you can help in any way, please bring items to:

**Barry McRoberts, 2 Partridge Lane**

**Thank you very much**

## EYDON CRICKET CLUB

it's been another enjoyable season for Eydon Cricket Club with eleven completed fixtures, fantastic weather, great support and the first tour (with not such good weather!) for many years.

We had a disappointing start to the season losing 4 and cancelling 1 of the first 5 games which leaves us having played 11, won 4 and lost 7 for the season as a whole. So plenty of scope for improvement in 2026. Our early season losses came against Culworth (a), Buckingham (h), Alpine F1 (a) and Tom's Old Rectory Allstars (h). We won the return fixture with Culworth whilst also beating Everdon at home and losing to Blakesley (h) and Napton (a).

Our annual game against The Royal Oak was played in beautiful weather and was brilliantly supported. Many thanks to Ian Smith for organising the opposition and entertaining us with his dress sense! Over £900 was raised towards the net refurbishment which we hope to have completed by the start of next season and which, we also hope, will improve performances.

The season finale was a 2 match tour to Devon where we had a comfortable win at Chagford and then lost, in the final over, at Butterleigh. The tour was a huge success and thanks must go to Gully for the time and effort he put into organising this for us.

Thanks too to all our sponsors, Atlas Facilities, Dodds Manor Farm, Crockwell Farm, TR Bullworthy Ltd, Eydon Cider and all those individuals that help us and contribute throughout the year.

Until next season.....



## A Celebration of the Best of Eydon

Firstly, Eydon Village Hall would like to extend Huge Thanks and Gratitude to Jonathan & Angela of Dodds Manor Farm for offering and hosting what was a fantastic afternoon in their Glass House.

Supported admirably by Jack, Amelia & Josh, and Prosecco Bar hosted by David & Kim of Oboe Fine Wine, the very best of Eydon came together to put on all things sumptuously Afternoon Tea.



On Sun 31<sup>st</sup> Aug, 41 guests supported this event and a magnificent total of £928 was raised for Eydon Village Hall which will now be invested in its upkeep. And a revamp of its Crockery...



All told this was a standout example of Eydon's services coming together to host a fundraising event in support of a valued village asset.

THANK YOU

## Potswolds on the Up!

Our very own Lizzie Black's letter printed in the Times on 13th September.

## Roads gone to pot

Sir, Further to the debate over the definitive boundaries of the Cotswolds ([Times2, Sep 10](#); [letter, Sep 11](#)), I have lived in west Northamptonshire for 25 years. It is close to, but definitely not in, the Cotswolds, but I wonder if we should capitalise on west Northamptonshire's dubious USP of having some of the worst-maintained roads in England with a rebrand as the Potswolds? This could potentially attract inward investment, which would allow the council to address this seemingly intractable problem.

**Lizzie Black**  
Eydon, Northants

## THE OILY RAG GALLERY

Well, it all started many, many moons ago when I managed to unknowingly knock a bottle of black indelible drawing ink onto my Mother's brand new fitted carpet which was an old rose colour! I was 14.

Luckily the bottle was lidded but ink still escaped enough to make a significant difference to the colour. The only saving grace was that as the bottle had landed under the radiator valve there wasn't much to see.

However, I was banned from doing any art at all in the house. It was a just punishment, even from a mother who was a talented artist and designer in her own right. She had waited a long time for this first fitted carpet. Now my Father was an engineer who was completely baffled by art, but he understood my need to have somewhere to work – in all our family homes he had built his own garages and workshops. So he made a space for me to work in his garage as long as I avoided the oily rags. My Ma always called my bit of garage the Oily Rag Studio. There was some rent to be paid which was helping Dad with some of his projects which was how I learned to make leaded light windows, I think it was 40 lights for the whole house.

Eventually my piece of garage housed 2 printing presses which were eventually moved to my town house where the Oily Rag Studio was set up in the basement, well it was such a good name I couldn't let it go. Time passed and my Ma died. I had met my future husband and my house was up for sale. The printing presses and all the art stuff as well as myself went back to Dad so the Oily Rag went back to its origins.

A long time later my Dad died and after a big shake up everything came here. I now have my Oily Rag Studio in the top of our barn and will be having art exhibitions in The Oily Rag Gallery which is half of my husband's garage when he is competing with his Volvo Amazon.

These exhibitions will only be for 2 days at most and will occur at most 4 times a year but I hope they will be enjoyable occasions.

### The First Oily Rag Gallery Exhibition

3rd and 4th OCTOBER, at

27 HIGH STREET EYDON

Opening from 10.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. on  
both days

Lizzie Coulter



## HARVEST SUPPER

SATURDAY 11TH OCTOBER

7PM

Eydon Village Hall

\*\*\*\*\*

### Two Courses

Vegan/Vegetarian/Dairy and Gluten Free  
options available

Bar

Tickets: Adults £12.50, Under 10's  
£7.50

Proceeds in aid of St Nicholas  
Church, Eydon Village Hall and  
Eydon Ladies

Tickets available from:

Carrie Bedford: 01327 262706

Ruth Kukla: 01327 264109

Hazel Daniels: 01327 263128

Lyn Evans: 01327 261164

# A Personal View...

## October 2025



The brochure described her as 'The Ultimate in Transatlantic Luxury, fully equipped to answer every modern concept of splendour and speed in ocean travel'.

She was launched in 1938 as the largest liner in the world, but then spent her first six years on active war service, mainly as a troop carrier. She was, of course, the Royal Mail Ship 'Queen Elizabeth'.

I was booked to sail on her departing Southampton on Friday October 1st 1965. This was to be my first trip to the USA, to seek business at a time when the UK was in a financially perilous situation. My fare in a tourist class cabin was £107, one way. Treasury regulations stipulated that I was allowed to take just £25 in sterling notes with me, and a maximum of £250 in travellers' cheques. These had to last me for the next 26 days I was to be in the USA.

The crossing was unforgettable. After collecting other passengers in Le Havre including Josette, a French/English girl who befriended me, we hit storms head on. My diary tells me I ate very little for the first couple of days, and the Q.E. sailed at only half speed for a lot of the time.

Meals were social affairs, with all we could manage from menus we only dreamt about back in the UK. The picture must have been taken after the storms had been weathered, the writer second from the right and Josette opposite.



Photographed on board R.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH.

We were overtaken in mid-ocean by the flagship of the USA, the S.S 'United States' which was apparently fitted with better and stronger stabilisers than us. Things improved the further west we sailed, and by day five I was brave enough to visit the huge Engine Room of this magnificent ship.

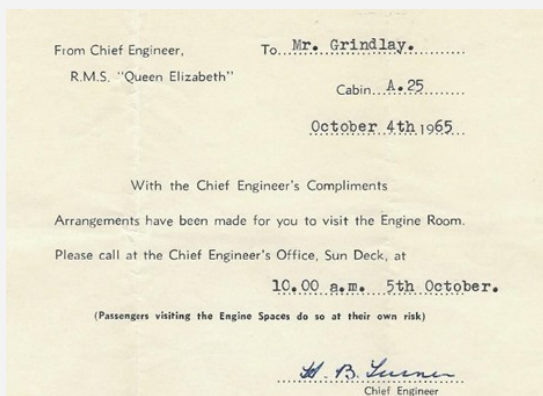
There were six of us on the engine room tour, which started in the control room where the turbines were constantly monitored and the twelve boilers checked.

We then put on overalls (no hard hats, which seem to be de rigour nowadays), to tour the engine and transmission areas. This involved walking along a very narrow serrated metal catwalk high above the naked drive shafts, which lead directly to the four propellers. These four shafts were each about 24" diameter and seemed to turn quite mesmerizingly slowly.

Josette was on this engine room tour, and it was from some five decks above the engine room that she and her breakfast suddenly parted company. Her aim was perfect. That which was lost fell directly onto one of the glistening shafts, and it was fascinating to watch it rolling round and round, some seventy feet below us. Only the Chief Engineer seemed unimpressed.....

We docked the following day in New York only about a half day late on account of the gales in mid- Atlantic. Sea crossings to and from the USA dropped in popularity in favour of the new Boeing 707's and subsequently for a while the UK-built VC10's. The Queen Elizabeth's final regular crossing was in December 1969. On my trip, there were only 900 passengers out of a capacity of 2250. With a crew of over 1000, we were certainly well cared-for.

An experience of a lifetime? Just 60 years later, a definite and resounding 'Yes'!



John Grindlay

# EYDON FETE 2025



Photos by Alex McGuffie