



# Eydon Village News

JANUARY 2024

ISSUE 438

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## ▲ FESTIVE SEASON TO REMEMBER!

**While the village patiently awaits the refurbishment of the Royal Oak, it was perhaps feared that the annual village festivities would not be the same as normal, and so it turned out.**

In reality, it was possibly even better than most had hoped, due no doubt to the fantastic efforts of the many, many people involved.

From the incredible donations to the festive foodbank as organised by St Nicholas Church, to the tuneful(?) delights of the Christmas Carols, followed by the amazingly well-rehearsed and very well received “Cool 4 Cats” covers band led by David Fitch-Peyton, and topped off by the ever present and entirely sober Eydon Mummers, Eydon celebrated with its usual gusto!

Much fun was had, much money was raised (see inside for details), and we would like to thank everyone (too many to mention) who contributed to a memorable Christmas.



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## Next Issue

Deadline for future articles is the 3rd Friday of the month.

Please email to:

evn@eydon-village.co.uk



### EDITOR REQUIRED FOR THE EVN

Due to the imminent departure of our current editor, we are seeking a capable person to edit and compile the EVN on a monthly basis. It's around 4 hours work and pays a good hourly rate—ideal for home workers or part time parents/carers.

Please contact [evn@eydon-village.co.uk](mailto:evn@eydon-village.co.uk) for details or call Gordon on 07946 470690

# PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

The December meeting of Eydon Parish Council took place on Tuesday 12 December at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

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

No members of the public were in attendance.

During the meeting the amongst the items discussed were:

## Village Projects

The Council reviewed and updated the Village Projects List. (Available on request from the clerk)

## Village Design Statement

The Chairman had received a couple of volunteers to assist, more volunteers would be sought to form a working group, and to also research how the original document was produced. It was agreed to produce a brief for publication on the Village website and social media.

Agreement was made regarding the procurement of Village signs and the clerk would enable final artwork to be produced at the next meeting.

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## Notes from St Nicholas



### Services for January 2024

#### Sunday 7th January

No service at St Nicholas

11.00 Holy Communion at Holy Cross, Byfield

#### Sunday 14th January

10.00 Holy Communion at St Nicholas

#### Sunday 21st January

10.30 Café Church at St Nicholas

#### Sunday 28th January

10.00 Benefice Holy Communion at St John the Baptist, Boddington

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

We are happy to arrange lifts to benefice services if needed

Churchwardens:

Sue Tresham

Tel: 260503

sueeyates@aol.com

—

Gary Denby

Tel: 264002

gjenby@btinternet.com

### HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

Being a councillor is all about giving back to your community by bringing your energy, passion, and hard-working attitude. You can make a real difference to the village.

*If you would like to represent Eydon as a Parish Councillor, please get in touch with Keith Simmons, Chairman on*

**01327 263014**

***keith.simmons@eydon-village.co.uk***

### EYDON KNITS

January's meeting of Eydon Knits (and crochet) is on Thursday 25th, 2-4pm at 18 High Street.

If you haven't been before, 'book in' beforehand to make sure there is seating. Various items in progress; I'm trying to interpret some Danish patterns which are a bit alien. What's a 'steek'?



Sue Lodge 261535

Lyn 261164

### January Bin Collections



Tuesday 9th January

Blue and Green bins



Tuesday 23rd January

Blue and Green bins



Tuesday 2nd January

Black bin



Tuesday 16th January

Black bin



Tuesday 30th January

Black bin

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

# WINTER CHAT GROUP

**Do you often find January endless and dreary?**

Come and join us for a cup of tea in the Village Hall every Monday 2-4pm beginning 8th January.

Chat away the winter blues with friends.

All are welcome.

No age limit by the way!



*Jenny Forsyth*

## FOODBANK COFFEE MORNING



**On Saturday 9th December we held a free coffee morning in the Village Hall. Everyone enjoyed delicious cakes and drinks and donated lots of festive foods for the foodbank at Woodford Halse.**

So much was given that we had to make two journeys to Woodford and there was no room for a passenger!

Many thanks to everyone who contributed so generously

*Sue Tresham*

## PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

*(Continued from page 2)*

The Clerk advised that the legal work on the sports field access was continuing and a meeting would be arranged with the parties involved.

The Clerk also reported that Northants Highways had acknowledged the offer of a donation to support the construction of a footpath to the sports field.

Work on the Emergency plan was continuing.

### **The Freedom of Eydon Scheme**

The Chairman had taken on board feedback and would circulate new draft documents for discussion at the next meeting.

### **Village Litter Pick**

Dates were provisionally set for the Village litter pick of 16 March and the Village tidy of 30 March.

### **Tree Survey**

This had been carried out and initial quotes had been received, those regarding the sports field would be forwarded to the sports field. A further quote was awaited but the implications were included in the budget considerations.

### **Grass Cutting**

Tendering contract documents were agreed and the clerk was instructed to seek quotations.

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# PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 3)

## Dog bins

It was agreed to purchase an extra bin and locate it next to the one on the Green.

## Co-option of Councillor

It was disappointing that still no volunteers had unfortunately come forward, Councillors were asked to approach residents to enable a full Council.

## Eydon Village News Production

Again no volunteer from the Village had come forward for this paid position. It was agreed to re-advertise both positions.

## WNC Planning Update

The Clerk attended a briefing meeting from Stephanie Gibrat, the new Assistant Director of planning at WNC. Staffing vacancies were being filled and she was confident in a much needed improvement to the service provided.

## Highways and related matters

Highways - Andrew Partridge continued his correspondence with Kier regarding the Morton Road and Culworth Road.

A new highways warden will also have to be sought as the present incumbent is also looking to leave the village.

## Councillor Training

This was continuing and was proving valuable to

(Continued on page 5)

## Eydon Ladies



Eydon Ladies met for their last 'Hurrah!!' of 2023 on Friday 8th December. The evening was spent at the Star in Sulgrave where we enjoyed good food, wine and rousing conversation. A happy and relaxed time was had by all, meaning the year went out with a bang for our rejuvenated band of Ladies!

At both our November meeting and our dinner at the Star we collected 'Secret Santa' gifts from our members. Their generous donations mean that we delivered 25 neatly wrapped presents to the Daventry Women's Refuge in good time for the festive season. Another very positive thing to come out of the year suggested by one of our members.

**Our first meeting for 2024 will be on TUESDAY (please note the change of day!) 16th January 2024 at which we will hold our AGM and outline the programme for the new year.**

To soften the blow of those boring bits at an AGM, we will be including wine and nibbles. The membership fee for the full year of events in 2024 will be £25 and we welcome all Ladies who wish to join us.



It just remains for the Committee of Eydon Ladies to say a big 'Thank you' to all the members who have supported us in 2023, the interesting speakers who have inspired us over the last 9 months and the Eydon Village News for including us in their publication each month. Here's to a happy New Year!

**We always welcome new members and anyone wishing to join our merry band should contact Ruth Kukla (Treasurer) on 01327 264109 or send an email to: [ruth.kukla@hotmail.com](mailto:ruth.kukla@hotmail.com).**

## EYDON'S SEASONAL GENEROSITY—HUMMERS, MUMMERS AND STRUMMERS

**Eydon (and not forgetting our friends in Warmington and Cropredy), you've excelled yourself once again!**



On the Friday evening before Christmas the traditional carol singing not only formed the warm up act for our fantastic new village band, but also raised the cracking sum of a whisker under **£250** for Help for Musicians.

And on Boxing Day the Eydon Mummers annual tour raised **£778**, including the generous contributions from The Plough at Warmington and The Red Lion at Cropredy.

Thanks to them and to the amazing numbers of you who congregated at Eydon Village Hall the village has raised **over £1000 in 2 days** for these important causes.

Of course it wouldn't have been possible without the input from **Kim and David** who organised our EVH Pub so effectively, so a **HUGE** vote of thanks / round of applause to them....

....and to you all - A Happy & Healthy 2024!

**Matthew Tasker**

## FIRST WEDNESDAY CLUB - LAST FOR 2023

This was our final meeting of the year which had seen a very full programme starting in January with the Festive Lunch at Skylark Farm, Staverton, followed by 9 monthly speakers, the garden party at Oriel house and an outing to Whitchurch Silk Mill.

The meeting today included our speaker who is well known in the village.

Andy Partridge gave us a very interesting talk on his career in the construction industry. He started by giving us some history of his boyhood before moving on to Lanchester Technical College. His first "proper" job was at the Windscale nuclear power station where history tells us there was a nasty fire in 1957, but Andy could not have been responsible for this!

His career involved working at numerous prestigious construction sites which included Canary Wharf (3 times), dredging lakes at Chicksands and Buckingham Palace, Waterloo station, Wembley stadium, John Radcliffe hospital, Birmingham New Street station, Royal Shakespeare theatre, Northampton power station and the Harwell visitor centre, to name but a few!



One site not mentioned in the above was Northwood JCHQ. This top secret facility is head of the British Armed Forces which is secreted about 60ft under ground. By a strange coincidence I did some work there in about 1965! Andy's talk was ably assisted with some excellent photos.

Our meeting concluded with festive refreshments and a Christmas raffle.

The hall had been nicely decorated by Gill Walker.

We now look forward to an action packed 2024.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

*Richard Forsyth*

## PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

*(Continued from page 4)*

Councillors, the latest being a timely one on Finance for Councillors which took place prior to the meeting.

### **Budget/Precept**

After the proposed budget at the last meeting, amendments were made after comments from councillors and other considerations including new expenditure streams budgeted.

Including funding for tree maintenance, First aid training, Village entrance signs, amongst general increases and inflation led rises to costs.

The donation had been received from Anglian Water and after deducting the donation towards the footpath costs it was agreed the remainder would be distributed during the final year by a method to be agreed.

These changes were agreed and the Council unanimously agreed a new precept request of £28,150 up from £27,331 last year. The budget forecast showed an expected drop in reserves from £58,000 to approximately £43,000.

### **Planning Matters:**

Application 2023/7842/FULL  
Crockwell Farm

Construction of a roof to barbecue area - the Council had no objections.

*(Continued on page 6)*

# PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

*(Continued from page 5)*

It was noted that two applications for 27 High Street had been withdrawn.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

The next planned meeting of the Parish Council is at 7.30 on Tuesday 9 January in the Village hall

Keith Simmons  
Parish Council Chairman



EYDON  
**200** CLUB

Here are the results for the November draw, congratulations to all the winners:

**Winning prizes:**

1st prize: Esme Nelson

2nd prize: Judith & Stefan Bullworthy

3rd prize: Andy Reynolds

**Bonus prizes:**

David Holman

Caroline Bedford

Fiona Reynolds

Julie Holman

Lauren Edmonds

Please remember that the new 200 club year starts in February 2024 - see the back page of this issue for how to enter.

A vibrant, stylized poster for a pantomime. The background is a warm, orange-yellow gradient. At the top, the word 'REWARD' is written in large, bold, red letters, with 'THOROUGH ENTERTAINMENT' underneath in smaller red letters. Below this, the title 'THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE PANTO' is written in large, dark brown, block letters, with 'A PAUL BARRON STORY' in smaller dark brown letters at the bottom. The central illustration features a silhouette of a cowboy in a wide-brimmed hat and a dark cape, standing in a desert landscape. To the left and right of the cowboy are green cacti with smiling faces and small brown hats. The bottom right corner has the 'Eydon EP Players' logo. A QR code is located in the middle right section of the poster. Text on the right side of the poster provides showtimes: 'TRADITIONAL PANTOMIME FULL OF HUMOUR FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY TO ENJOY. DOORS OPEN AT 7PM. TO START PROMPTLY AT 7:30PM.' followed by 'THURSDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2024 7:30PM', 'FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2024 7:30PM', 'SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2024 (MATINEE) 2:30PM', and 'SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2024 7:30PM'. At the bottom right, it says 'PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS AT [TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/EYDON-PLAYERS](https://TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/EYDON-PLAYERS)'.

***Water, water, everywhere,  
And all the boards did shrink;  
Water, water, everywhere,  
Nor any drop to drink.....***



## ***A Personal View... January 2024***

**The immortal words of Samuel Taylor Coleridge spring to mind when reviewing some of the events in Eydon during 2023. It was the year of the water supply.**

Undoubtedly, as far as the Village is concerned, 2023 will go down as a year when common sense prevailed over big business. No small thanks to Eydon Parish Council for thumping the Water Supplier's table, and demanding prompt action to secure a regular and uninterrupted supply of water to the village. And, so far, it seems to have worked. It remains to be seen whether the system as whole will stand up to further hot summers and possible earth movements.

Of course, it is only relatively recently that we are used to having the luxury of piped fresh water piped to every house. The last 75 years or so, have seen a dramatic change in availability of water. The village pumps (Village Green and Sports field to name but two), were operational when we arrived in Eydon. There were stand pipes in several points in the village, the remains of which are still evident.

My early years were spent in a remote part of Warwickshire, where we had no utility services. No electricity, no gas, and no running water. Our house was lit by paraffin lamps, mother cooked on a solid fuel stove, water was heated in a copper fuelled by a wood stove, we had a fireplace in each room, and water was pumped from an outside well.

Dad obtained a small Stuart Turner petrol-driven single cylinder donkey engine, which he rigged up to the arm of the water pump over the well. With a simple cam connection, the engine operated the arm of the pump up and down, and water was drawn. Apparently, my bath was about one hundred strokes of the pump. It was not till just after the '39 war finished, that we managed to get electricity using an American 110 volts generator, and water was piped to us in 1947. What luxury!

One of my correspondents reckons that the water supply to Eydon was laid using concrete and asbestos piping, some 56 years ago. This new piping would appear to be 25mm wall plastic pipe, which could last several hundred years. On this basis, it will see most of us out....!

As for the supply of water, there should be no shortage. Looking at recent local rainfall figures supplied to me by another correspondent, it is noted for example that November rainfall in year 2021 was 96mm, whereas in 2022 it increased to 161mm, and in 2023 was 144mm.

December 2021 yielded 75mm, in 2022 it dropped a bit to 52mm, but December 2023 (up to the 21st) we have suffered a massive 118mm with still 10 days to go.

**Have a happy, and stress free 2024; let's hope we all enjoy a regular supply of water!**

*John Grindlay*





## ***Starts again in February 2024***

The Eydon 200 Club is a licensed lottery (Licence No. 566; SNDC), which donates **50% of the funds it raises equally to St. Nicholas Church and Eydon Village Hall**. In the past few years, each charity has received at least £400 per year, thanks to your support.

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 that take part the more prize money there is to share so last year there were several extra bonus prizes.

The first draw of the new 200 club year takes place at the end of February, with subsequent draws taking place at the end of each month.

Entries must reach us by **Wednesday 21 February 2024**. You can sign up by returning your form to Lucy, Denise or Elaine or via email to the address below. Pay by cash, cheque or bank transfer.

Your support will be greatly appreciated and good luck to you all.

*Elaine Partridge, 28 High Street*                      *or email to [elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com](mailto:elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com)*  
*Lucy Braddyll, 44 High Street*  
*Denise Palmer, 4 Quarry Close*

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I/We wish to participate in the Eydon 200 Club draw  
and enclose £12 per entry for the year commencing February 2024

**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 provide proof of payment and send your details via email to [elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com](mailto:elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com)

Return payment by cash or cheque together with this form to Lucy @ 44 High Street, Denise @ 4 Quarry Close, Elaine @ 28 High Street