



# Eydon Village News

MARCH 2026

ISSUE 464

## In This Issue

### Regular Features

Bin Collections . . . . . 2

Notes from St Nicholas . . 2

Parish Matters . . . 2,3

**News & Views**

Eydon 200 Club . . . . 2

Eydon Ladies .. . . . 3

First Wednesday Club . . . 3

Beryl Watson . . . . . 4

The Loop . . . . . 4

Easter Tea Party . . . . . 4

Sue Tresham Interview . . 5

Plant Sale . . . . . 6

Call For Fete Assistance. . 6

Egg Rolling . . . . . 6

Litter Pick . . . . . 6

Personal View . . . . . 7

Recipe. . . . . 7

VH Centenary Events. . . 8

## Next Issue

Deadline for April newsletter is 20th March 2026

Please email to:  
evn@eydonparish.gov.uk

### EYDON



### PLAYERS

January saw Eydon Players put on the traditional pantomime Peter Pan. We were thrilled to find we had sold out on all four performances and the feedback from those that saw it has been so positive. We thank you all for your continued support of Eydon Players it is always greatly appreciated.

Alongside the royalties paid to Great Ormond Street Hospital we also raised an amazing £292.66 on the lotto played on each performance for the charity. This was only possible due to your generosity in both taking part and donations made.

We would also like to thank Jo Lamb for kindly doing a review for us. Watch this space for our next production and if you would like to get involved either on stage or behind the scenes please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Louise Brown



**On a dank Saturday in January, I was transported to Neverland through Eydon Players delightful pantomime production of Peter Pan.**

**The village hall was warm and cosy and the feeling reminiscent of a 1930's post dinner children's drama. Robin Brown as Tinkerbell covered the stage with delicate enchanting ease in a beautiful green corset from which sprouted suggestions of a forest.**

**It was encouraging to see so many brilliant young people involved. Peter Pan played by Harriet Radcliffe was fearless, cocky and charming with Wendy and her siblings demonstrating transition adventure and magic.**

**Children were encouraged to boo and hiss, and they did this with gusto when the aptly cast, terrifying Mike Jackson as Captain Hook entered the stage. The audience giggled as the comedy duo Line and Sinker demonstrated their naivety when falling Hook...line ... and sinker for Hooks attempts to seize Pan. They certainly owned the stage, engaging the crowd with every shuffle and every display of poor dental hygiene!**

**The Lost Boys were of varying maturity and certainly the shorter boys kept the taller two in line! They were a collaboration of brilliant characters with energy, petulance and cheerful bravery.**

**I was sat at the rear of the hall and could hear every word spoken and sang ...and oh the singing was brilliant: gentle, enthusiastic and funny. My favourite scene being The Octopus's Garden, the lyrics lead by true mermaids Sebastian Burrows and James Reynolds. The crowd giggled in awe at the unexpected lolloping of a giant Octopus escaping down the central aisle.**

**It is really important to praise the brilliant artwork and costumes; the ship gave the stage depth and the magical window at the beginning provided an anticipation of the magic to come. The costumes were fitting, detailed and professional ...how they executed costume changes so quietly I have no idea!**

**Well done Eydon Players you certainly lifted me out of the January gloom**

# PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

## Parish Council Matters

The January meeting was held on 10 February at 19:30 in the Village Hall

## Attendance

Councillors, Keith Simmons, Andy Reynolds, Kim Keeble and Howard Carter were present, along with the Clerk, Steven Fox.

Due to illness, Councillors Lisa Genovese and Luke Alexander were absent. Two members of the Public attended.

## 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@EydonParish.Gov.Uk](mailto:Keith.Simmons@EydonParish.Gov.Uk)

## Public Comment

There was no comment.

## Matters Arising

The Council agreed to spend up to £500 on a Centenary Plaque for the Village Hall.

## Planning Matters

The Council discussed the proposed development of Wakelyn Manor, 2 School Lane and will Object to the proposal.

## Village Projects

A Working Group has been put together to compile a response to WNC's Local Plan which will affect the village up to 2043. The same Group will

(Continued on page 3)

# Notes from St Nicholas



## SERVICES FOR MARCH 2026

### Sunday 1st March

10am Morning Prayer

### Sunday 8th March

9.30am Holy Communion

### Sunday 15th March Mothering Sunday

10am Family Service

### Sunday 22nd March

9.30am BCP Communion (Woodford Halse)

11am Benefice Holy Communion (Boddington)

3pm APC Meeting (Byfield Village Hall)

### Sunday 29th March

11am Palm Sunday Communion at Aston Le Walls  
Meet at the end of Main St at 10.30am

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 January congratulations to all the winners:

### Prizes

1st Prize: Julie Knight  
2nd Prize: Pod Gordon (Cat)  
3rd Prize: Sandra Matthews

### Bonus Prizes

Ruby Johnson (Dog)  
Hazel & Graham Daniels  
Maisie Grindlay (Dog)  
James & Kat Taylor

EYDON  
**200** CLUB

*Congratulations to all winners. This was the final draw before the new 200 club year starts at the end of February. New participants are always welcome, please contact elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com for more details.*

## March Bin Collections



Tuesday 3rd March  
Blue and Green Bins



Tuesday 10th March  
Black Bin



Tuesday 17th March  
Blue and Green Bins



Tuesday 24th March  
Black Bin



Tuesday 31st March  
Blue and Green Bins

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

# PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

*(Continued from page 2)*

begin to update the Village Design Statement.

The Clerk advised that due to the wet conditions, it has not been possible to erect the Village History on the Green and at the top of Moreton Road. Hopefully this will be completed over the next month.

The Annual Village Litter Pick will be on the Saturday 7 March at The Royal Oak at 10:00. All appropriate kit will be provided and all are welcome to join in.

### Highways and Footpaths

The Clerk advised that 5 potholes were reported in January and 3 fixed. Anyone wishing to report Road or Footpath issues can do so using the WNC App or FixMyStreet.Com.

Anyone wishing to check maintenance work in WNC can do so by visiting [www.WNC.ai/wise](http://www.WNC.ai/wise)

### Other Matters

A full set of Minutes for the Council are available from [EydonParish.Gov.Uk](http://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](mailto:Clerk@EydonParish.Gov.Uk)

### Next Meeting

10 March at 19:30 in the Village Hall, all welcome.

Eydon Ladies met on Wednesday 18th February 2026 at the village hall where we welcomed our guest speaker, Mary Hart.



Mary spoke of the trip she and her husband took to explore the wonderful textiles and colours of Cambodia and Vietnam. She accompanied her talk with photographs and showed samples of textiles she bought while there, which clearly demonstrated the intricacies of weaving, dyeing and sewing.

The Vietnamese make much of their own clothing from raw materials through to the finished article, for example linen which is made from hemp. They are proud of the fact that each village has their



own vibrant colours and style and some of Mary's photos showed these differences. Mary is a skilled textile artist who gains inspiration from her travels, she has used many of the textiles in her own creations of collages, cards and wall hangings some of which were available to purchase after her talk. We concluded the meeting with our usual hot drinks and biscuits and chats.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 18th March 2026 at 7.30pm and will be held in Moreton Pinkney Village Hall, where we will try our hand at Short Mat Bowling. Who knows you might find you have a new skill and hobby? The event is open to ladies only – guests pay a fee of just £2 for this meeting.

We welcome all ladies whether resident in Eydon or nearby villages to our meetings which are held in Eydon Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (unless otherwise specified). The annual membership is

£30 for 2026. Each meeting gives the opportunity to meet new friends and catch up with old ones in a relaxed atmosphere.

**Ann Lane**

## FIRST WEDNESDAY CLUB AGM

February is our usual month for holding the A.G.M.

This year the committee all stood unopposed for re-election, and we are very pleased to welcome Diana Cowley to our ranks.

To fill in the time after the meeting was over and before tea and cakes were served, I endeavoured to keep everybody entertained with descriptions of the origins of popular expressions such as 'Three sheets in the wind' and 'Setting the Thames on fire.'

**Tom Tresham**

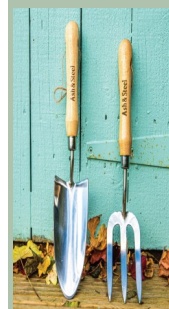
## Moreton Pinkney Garden Club Come and Join us

We have speakers, visits, an end of season supper plus a flower and produce show in September.

We are a friendly bunch who are very welcoming. Membership is £7.50 for the year.

Please email [jshirley@hotmail.com](mailto:jshirley@hotmail.com) for more information and the programme of events.

Find us on facebook at Moreton Pinkney Garden Club.



## IN LOVING MEMORY

### BERYL WATSON by Claire Thompson

Mum passed away peacefully at The Ridings care home on December 30th 2025.

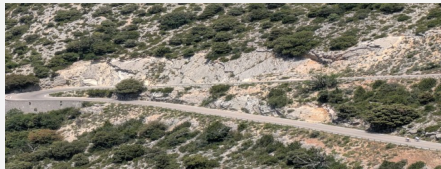
Mum moved to Eydon in 1952 with my late father Ray Watson. Over the years they both enjoyed becoming an integral part of the community of Eydon. They formed many life long friendships over the years within the Eydon community, the list of names is too great but they were thankful for each and every one of the friends that was part of their Eydon life.

Following the passing of my father in 2008 Mum continued to be a part of the community and was honoured to open the village fete in 2021. Those of you that knew Mum would know she loved to be at the forefront of any gathering or social event.

Mum loved going over to The Oak on Boxing Day to see the Mummers, taking the grandchildren to the village pantomime, snowdrop Sunday and the village fete. She regularly attended the over 60's club which she would always tell me about who she'd seen and what they had talked about (in great detail!) We organised a surprise 90th birthday party for her at The Royal Oak and she was blown away by the number of locals that attended.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the kind wishes on Mums passing and for those who attended her service and wake.

I'm sure she will be greatly missed in the village as she will be by all her family.



### SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE – LE LOOP Andrew Partridge

This year my cycling objective is to complete the first half of the Tour de France as part of an event called Le Loop.

Lasting nine days, and starting in Barcelona; I shall "enjoy" the heat of Spain, the Pyrenean mountains, the Dordogne landscapes and finish at the Massif Central in Ussel.

The event is organised with two aims, for cyclists to experience the rigours of the Tour de France and secondly to raise funds for the William Wates Memorial Trust (WWMT), a charity that helps the most disadvantaged young people in the UK avoid a life of crime and violence. The money supports projects that engage these young people through sports, arts and education, allowing them to fulfil their potential. Le Loop is now a primary source of funds for the charity, raising between £300,000 and £500,000 a year.

The target set for me is to raise £1500 and I would appreciate your assistance in getting to this total by a donation through my sponsorship page: <https://fundraising.wwmt.org/fundraisers/andrewpartridge/ride-le-loop>

So if you see me out on the road training, when the roads get dryer, give me a wave to help me on my way.

Wish me luck. By the way you can just about see me in the bottom right hand corner of the photo.



All under 10 year old children and grandchildren of village residents are warmly invited as part of the Village Hall Centenary Celebrations to

### A Children's Easter Tea Party and Egg Hunt

on Monday 6th April at 3pm in Eydon Village Hall

Come and join us for a lovely, fun-filled afternoon with tea, delicious Easter treats, and an exciting egg hunt around the village - lots of smiles guaranteed!

To help us plan (and make sure there are enough goodies to go around!), please get in touch with Sue (07703 355491) or Emily (07783 386801) to let us know how many children you'll be bringing and their ages.

Parents and guardians are kindly asked to stay and enjoy the afternoon too, and to accompany their children on the egg hunt trail. We can't wait to see you there!

# Meet the People of

## Eydon

### Sue Tresham (Yates)



**What did you do, or what do you do for a living?** I retired in 2009 but my professional life has always centred on languages and international education. I studied German and French at university and took a teaching qualification. Then I decided to move to West Germany to teach English as a foreign language, which proved to be a turning point both professionally and personally. It was there that I met my first husband Chris, who was also a language teacher.

After we married, we moved to Stockholm where we both taught English at Atlas Copco, running the company's English Language Department. At the time the Swedish government was strongly promoting English proficiency and even provided financial support for workplace language training. After about a year we returned to the UK and settled in the Colchester area where I taught English to international students, specialising in English for Specific Purposes (ESP), mainly working with diplomats and other professionals. One particularly memorable experience was teaching a group of Afghan firefighters; we became friendly with them and even took them to football matches.

Chris focused on researching how English could be tailored for specific professional needs, while I concentrated on the teaching itself, which made us a very effective partnership. In 1985 we moved to Oxfordshire as Chris was working for Oxford University Press. We initially lived in a house that was scheduled to be demolished to make way for the M40 motorway—ironically, the route was later changed and built further away.

I was recruited as Director of Studies and Principal of English Language at Bletchington Park. When that job ended, I took on various posts - as accommodation officer at a language school, wrote teaching materials, and taught at the University of Buckingham. We frequently hosted international students in our home.

This eventually led to my work at SOAS (University of London) in Bloomsbury, where I managed pre-university programmes for international students, later developed pre-Master's programmes and finally became Director of Business Development.

Although I once wondered how I would adapt to life after retiring from SOAS, I have remained very active. I am currently Lay Chair of Brackley Deanery, work as a consultant and external adviser for City University and serve on school admissions appeal panels for North Northamptonshire, West Northamptonshire and the Diocese of Peterborough.

**What are your hobbies?** Travel is one of my greatest passions. I've been fortunate to visit Uzbekistan and Tunisia, which were particularly memorable, and my work also took me to Japan, Korea, China, and Oman. I tend to be drawn more to the East than the West, largely because of my interest in history and culture. I would love to visit Damascus one day, when it is possible to do so safely, and I am also very fond of Turkey.

I also enjoy music, especially early and Baroque music, and I have always loved reading, particularly history.

**Have you always lived in this area? Where were you born?** I was born in Bristol and spent my early years in the West Country. I later lived just outside London for two years before moving to Dorset, including time in Shaftesbury, and then went on to university.

**If you could have dinner with three people dead or alive who would they be? Can I have five please?** Definitely the Dalai Lama and Nelson Mandela. I really admire Juli Francis Dehqani (I met her when she lived locally – she is now Bishop of Chelmsford)—she has such an interesting background and speaks so thoughtfully.

I'd also include James Bowman, who brought such life to early music. And closer to home Archdeacon Richard — he once turned down becoming a bishop because he preferred being directly involved with people. He can talk to absolutely anyone and is a wonderful speaker.

**What 3 items would you take to a Desert Island?** Streaming for music and word like Keith! First Aid Kit and some comfortable bedding!

**Describe yourself in one word.** Active (involved)

**Fry up or Green juice?** Fry Up

**What have been some of the happiest moments in your life?** Both my weddings. Births of my children and grandchildren.

**Who has been the biggest influence on my life?**

My mother. She often seemed to know what I was up to but she never confronted me about it. On my 21st birthday I had a party in London and another one in Shaftesbury. At the time, I was seeing a Zimbabwean freedom fighter and I took him with me to the party in Shaftesbury.

I'm sure my mother managed my father carefully, because I know he wouldn't have approved.

**Tell us something people don't know about you?** I once worked with a charity where I was responsible for the education side of the project. The plan was to bring North Korean students to the UK so that gradually there were North Koreans who saw that the DPK regime could be challenged.

There was also a Korean priest based in Aylesbury involved in the project and the Bishop of London was one of the trustees. Part of our role was to support the North Korean Embassy in London with various matters.



## The Eydon plant fair is coming soon!

A wide range of vegetable and ornamental plants will once again be available to buy on the grass leading up to St Nicholas Church with refreshments in the church itself.

**Saturday 16th May from 10am**

A good selection of perennials, annual vegetables and flowers, shrubs and plants not available in garden centres.

All raised in Eydon and mostly organically grown.

Growers -if you would like to help by giving your surplus plants or helping to raise plants from seeds it would be much appreciated! All proceeds to St Nicholas Church

Details from Lyn Evans 01327 261164

## EASTER EGG ROLLING



## CAN YOU HELP?

Unfortunately the Sports Field Committee are unable to host the annual Egg Rolling Event this year over the Easter weekend if anyone would like to take on this amazing event please get hold of Bronni at 6 Blacksmiths Lane for all the info or message

me .... [bronniesandjustin@msn.com](mailto:bronniesandjustin@msn.com)



## EYDON FETE 2026

Is to be held on the Sports Field on Sunday 6 September

This year's committee is already gearing up for another fantastic fete and is looking for volunteers to help either on the day or prior to the event.

**Can you make jams or preserves?**

**Could you help to collect bottles for the tombola?**

**Are you able to run the publicity machine that makes the fete such a success?**

**Can you organise a book stall?**

**Do you know of anyone able to provide a great prize for the Grand Draw?**

**Do you know how to play "splat the rat" and other traditional fete games?**

**Can you help to put up marquees or set out the arena and the car parking area?**

**Would you like to steward the car parking area?**

**Could you organise the tea and cake stall?**

Whatever skills you have we would be keen to hear from you - every little helps - a great way to meet people and be a part of the village community.

**The next committee meeting is in the village hall on Tuesday 24 March at 7pm**

Even if you are not one for attending meetings you can still get involved.

Please contact the committee via [elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com](mailto:elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com) and we will get in touch with you.

## Village Litter Pick

**SATURDAY 7TH MARCH**

Meeting at The Royal Oak at 10am

Pickers, gloves and sacks will be provided.

Please email Lisa Genovese at [lisa@eydonparish.gov.uk](mailto:lisa@eydonparish.gov.uk) if you can help.



## *A Personal View... March 2026*

### **Read any good books lately....?**

It will be surprising if you haven't. Apparently, 2026 is UK National Year of Reading. Added to which, March 5th is World Book Day. And not to be outdone, Penguin books are this year celebrating the 90th anniversary of the first publication of their iconic paperbacks, in 1935. The fact they are marking Sir Allen Lane's initiative a year late doesn't seem to worry Penguin. Look out for some of the special paperbacks they have re-published, now on sale at Waterstones and other good book stores.

It was predicted that the advent of computer tablet-based reading, purchasing books published by Kindle and others, would spell the demise of the printed book. But this wasn't to be. In fact, according to figures from The Publishers Association, in 2022 (the last year for full figures), 669 million printed books were sold in the UK, up 3% on the previous year. Last year (2025) some 180,000 new titles were issued. OK, digital sales are also rising, but are still only about 60% in terms of value compared with the print sales.

Then there are second-hand book sales, which aren't contained in any published figures. There are few of us who haven't come across or handled a second-hand book in the past year or so. If you haven't done so, visit The Old Hall bookshop in Brackley (I have no connection!) and marvel at the cross-section of remarkable second-hand volumes on offer, at very reasonable prices. Nearer home, visit the free library inside our Church here in Eydon.

When I was clearing out my parents' home after they had both passed on, the book collections had to be dealt with. With some assistance, we got all the hundreds of books out and laid them on the floor. The idea was to sort out the more interesting and apparently valuable books for retention, and pass the remainder to Old Hall bookshop for eventual sale or disposal. I noticed a bit of paper inside one (non-fiction) book, shook it, and out came several five-pound notes. This started a worried search through other books, and we discovered several more volumes each containing five- and ten-pound notes. The only pattern seemed to be that notes were only in non-fiction books, with a bible containing the most cash. But of course, we then had to go through all the hundreds of books, to make sure nothing was missed. Obviously, my late Mum was secretly using certain books as her piggy bank.

Dad was an avid reader. He joined The Times Book Club in about 1949. This was owned and run by The Times newspaper, and existed from 1805 until its closure in 1962. It was at one time, the premier lending service in the UK. Dad enrolled me, when I was away at school. For a fixed annual subscription, members could choose up to four books a month to be mailed. These had to be returned, in order to receive the next. The books arrived in a grey cloth bag, with a zip top and a window address panel. I remem-

ber as a schoolboy, eagerly awaiting my next batch of reading matter.

Nowadays, there is no need to wait for the postman. I'm sure many of you have patronised the Woodford Halse Community Library. There, if you can't find the book you want, the helpful staff (see picture) are normally able to order the chosen volume and let you know when it's arrived. Naturally, this may not apply to more obscure books, or those long out of print. On a recent day I visited, Catherine and Jill were on duty to assist. Opening hours are on the web, but it is closed Sunday/Monday/Tuesday. Go to <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/list-libraries/woodford-halse-community-library> Happy reading!

**John Grindlay**



## **Recipe of the month**

### **Spanish Orange and Almond cake**

**By Kim Keeble (Oboe Wine)**

A perfect accompaniment to Sauternes from Chateau Simon a few hundred metres from the village of Barsac in the Bordeaux region which has been producing fine wines Sauternes, Graves and Bordeaux since 1814. Available from Oboe Wine

#### **Ingredients;**

100g unsalted butter  
175g caster sugar  
2 x oranges, one juiced and grated zest of both  
3 x medium free range eggs  
100g ground almonds  
50g plain flour  
1 tsp baking powder  
Icing sugar to sprinkle on top  
20cm loose bottom flan lined with parchment.

#### **Method;**

Preheat oven to 180 C fan oven  
Cream the butter and most of the grated orange zest with the caster sugar until light and fluffy (keep some zest for decoration later)  
Add the eggs one at a time beating as you do  
Stir in the juice of one orange  
Sprinkle on the plain flour, baking powder and almonds; fold them gently into the mix  
Pour the mixture into the tin and bake for 25 minutes until golden on top, and when inserted into the cake a cocktail stick comes out clean  
When cool decorate the top with sieved icing sugar and remaining orange zest.



# EYDON VILLAGE HALL CENTENARY

Join us for the 100 Year Celebrations.



Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April



Have fun at a Children's Easter Tea Party & Egg Hunt



Friday 17<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April

Drop by the 100 year Celebration Exhibition



Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April

Get together for the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party



# CHILDREN'S EASTER TEA PARTY & EGG HUNT



Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of Easter treats and an exciting egg hunt around the village.

Bring your little ones along for a special Easter celebration just for them!



Eydon Village Hall  
Monday 6th April | 3pm

To help us plan, please contact Sue (07703 355491) or Emily (07783 386801) to let us know how many children you'll be bringing and their ages.



1926



2026

# EYDON VILLAGE HALL 100 YEAR CELEBRATION EXHIBITION

History of the Village Hall over the past 100 years!

Friday 17th April  
Time: 2-6pm

Saturday 18th April  
Time: 10-2pm

Booklet  
Launch of  
The History  
of Eydon  
Village Hall



Enquiries: Carrie  
07799 885935



# EYDON VILLAGE HALL 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY PARTY

FREE ENTRY

MUSIC FROM DJ LONGMOUSE  
WELL STOCKED BAR

SATURDAY 18TH APRIL  
7:30PM

