



Eydon Village News

JULY 2026

ISSUE 468

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Deadline for July newsletter is
24th July 2026

Please email to:

evn@eydonparish.gov.uk



EYDON PARISH COUNCIL FREEDOM OF EYDON AWARDS 2026 MONDAY 17TH AUGUST 7PM VILLAGE HALL

I am very pleased to be able to confirm that the Chairman of West Northamptonshire Council, Councillor Fiona Baker, has accepted the invitation to present the second round of Freedom Awards.

You will call that the inauguration of the awards was made in 2024 by then Chairman Councillor Jo Gilford, and so this will be the second time that we have had a civic event within our village.

I am delighted to announce that **Kevin Lodge** will also be added to the presentations this year.

The awards to be made this year are to **Judith Watson** and **John Grindlay**, with three post-humous awards to **Alan Watson**, **David Kench** and **Kevin Lodge**.

There will be refreshments available, a glass of fizz to start before the awards are made and then light refreshments and wine to enable the celebration of the community spirit these stalwarts of the Village have given over many years.

I hope many of you are available to come along - we need to know numbers so we can plan the appropriate amount of refreshments (and wine!) so that parish money is not spent unnecessarily.

If you could kindly commit to attending and email me as below it would be appreciated.

Keith

keith.simmons@eydonparish.gov.uk

Keith Simmions
Parish Council Chairman



PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Parish Council Matters

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

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

Previous Minutes: The minutes from 12 May were approved.

Council Governance: The Chairman advised that a resident has requested to be co-opted to the Council but the Council is awaiting Electoral Registration confirmation before actioning.

Public Comment: A member of EVHC100 sought clarity of various statements made regarding the Financial Probity of the Group and the Council agreed to publicise the following statements that had been previously made in emails between the Clerk and EVHC100.

"I would also like to make it **very clear** that myself, EPC and the Village Hall Committee have absolutely no doubt as to the financial probity of the EVHC100 Committee in undertaking these events."

and

"Management of Public Funds is always a challenging process due to the need for such high levels of Accountability and Transparency and I am very sorry if the EVHC100 feels that their financial probity with regard to the EPC Monies has ever been called into doubt. This would never have been the intention of me, EPC or EVH."

The Clerk, acting as the Responsible Financial Officer for EPC confirmed that £1000 had been received back from EVHC100 and that the Council had no further pecuniary interest in the management of EVHC100 and wished them success in their planned events.

(Continued on page 3)

Notes from St Nicholas



SERVICES FOR JULY 2026

Sunday 5th July

10.00 Morning Prayer

Sunday 12th July

09.30 Holy Communion

Sunday 19th July

10.00 Family Service

Sunday 26th July

09.30 BCP Holy Communion

You will be made very welcome at any of our services.

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

Lyn Evans 01327 261164
lynandsimon@hotmail.co.uk

Matt Wheeldon 07968 092503
majwheeldon@btinternet.com

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

Prizes

1st Prize: Sandra Matthews
2nd Prize: Sue Manoe
3rd Prize: Sue Lodge

Bonus Prizes

Hazel & Graham Daniels
Verena Jackson
Bella & Pepper Holman



SADLY, after almost ten years organising the Eydon 200 Club, Lucy and Elaine have decided to step back and allow new people the chance to take on the mantle. Thanks go to Denise (who has now left the village) and to Annabel for their assistance with the monthly draws.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com. The last draw will take place at the end of January 2027 but any handover needs to happen well in advance of that so hopefully by end September this year.

July Bin Collections



Tuesday 7th July

Blue and Green Bins



Tuesday 21st July

Blue and Green Bins



Tuesday 14th July

Black Bin



Tuesday 28th July

Black Bin

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

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 2)

Matters Arising

Maintenance of Steps into

VH. The Council continues to seek quotes from suitable contractors

Village Design Statement. An advert seeking resident engagement was placed in this month's EVN and the Chairman will now take this process forward.

Sports Field Footpath. WNC has advised that this would cost in excess of £100k, the Council agreed not to fully fund such work but agreed to continue to seek the work to be substantially paid by WNC.

No Parking and Pillory signage on Village Green. The Clerk reported that the Pillory sign is now back in place. AJR will fix the No Parking sign.

Planning Matters. The Council agreed to support the Applications for 31 High Street and to continue to Oppose the development of a double garage on the building development on 9 Moreton Road.

Highways. The Clerk advised that 11 Potholes had been reported in the Eydon Parish area during the month and 7 of these have been fixed.

Anyone wishing to check maintenance work in WNC can do so by visiting www.WNC.ai/wise

Freedom of Eydon. In addition to the 4 new Freedoms announced last month the Council was delighted to bestow the award on the late Kevin Lodge who did so much for the Village in his engagement with Eydon Historical Society, the Mummers, Royal Oak Morris Team and throughout village life.

(Continued on page 4)

EYDON LADIES



The June meeting of Eydon Ladies was held on Wednesday 17th in the Village Hall where our speaker was Fay Tennet. Fay had stepped in at short notice as our original speaker became unavailable due to illness. We were certainly not disappointed as she gave us a most interesting, informative and insightful talk entitled 'When Terror came to Parliament'.

Fay had been an officer in the Northants police and at the time of the Westminster attack in March 2017 was Deputy Director of Security at Parliament. On that day there were approximately 5,000 on the parliamentary estate including cabinet ministers, the Prime Minister (Theresa May), security officers, police (armed and unarmed), media and members of the public. The devastating events that unfolded that afternoon were to have a profound effect on them all including Fay who gave us her personal perspective.

The perpetrator had hired a car, driven across Westminster Bridge ploughing into pedestrians, having got out of the car stabbed PC Keith Palmer multiple times and was finally shot and killed by armed police. From the time his car started crossing the bridge to the final shot was a mere 82 seconds! Shock, chaos and confusion ensued, but the security forces immediately put the whole estate into lockdown (as practiced) including both parliamentary chambers. This lockdown lasted approximately 5 hours, during which time there was a phased movement of all personnel to Westminster Abbey to take details from everyone.

Considerable trauma was felt by all those involved including Fay and her staff, particularly as PC Keith Palmer (who unfortunately died of his wounds) was well known to many of them. The Speaker of the House of Commons, however, announced that both Houses of Parliament would sit the following day. In the aftermath Fay and her colleagues had to deal with Books of Condolence, scores of flowers laid near the scene and, most challenging of all, the funeral of PC Palmer. The death toll that day was 5, but in Fay's opinion, without some of the measures in place, this could well have been higher. A security review was launched and additional safeguards have been put into place in the years since the incident.

Our meetings so far this year have been on a wide variety of subjects. The next time we gather will be our annual Garden Party on Wednesday 15th July 2026. This will be open to members only who will be contacted shortly with details of the evening which will start at the earlier time of 7pm.



Ruth Kukla

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 3)

Residents are reminded that the Presentation Reception will take place from 19:00hrs on 17 August in the Village Hall and all are welcome.

Other Matters. A full set of Minutes for the Council are available from EydonParish.Gov.Uk.

Anyone wishing to receive news updates about Eydon should request to be added to the Village email/Whatspp alerts list by contacting Clerk@EydonParish.Gov.Uk

Next Meeting

14 July at 19:30 in the Village Hall, all welcome.

Summer Food Bank Appeal

As we head into the summer holidays, we know this can be an especially difficult time for many families, with children at home and food costs rising.

We're asking for any donations to help keep our food bank shelves stocked over the summer weeks. Every item donated really does make a difference.

Items especially needed:

- Cereal
- Tinned meat & fish
- Pasta & rice
- Pasta sauces
- Long-life milk & juice
- Biscuits & snacks for children
- Tinned fruit & vegetables
- Toiletries & hygiene products
- Free From products including gluten free foods

If you're able to help, no matter how small, we would be incredibly grateful. Thank you for continuing to support our communities and helping local families through the summer holidays

Donations for the foodbank in Woodford Halse can be left in the tray on the freezers in the garage at Oriol House, 59 High Street. Thank you.

Sue Tresham

FIRST WEDNESDAY CLUB June Meeting

Andy Chapman came to the First Wednesday Club this month to tell us about Northamptonshire in prehistory covering the time between the earliest known settlements from 4000bc to about 800 bc.

For a long time, it was thought that there was little or no archaeology in this county. It had been assumed that because the land had been farmed for many years anything that might have once existed had long been lost but in the early 1960's archaeological finds began to be discovered around gravel pits in the Nene valley. Although the county is not rich in ancient sites, interesting artifacts have been dug up, for example pottery left by the Beaker people, so called because when excavating the sites where these people had settled distinctive pottery beakers are often found. Sometimes as just broken shards in rubbish dumps, or middens, but also in old burials as grave goods.

Recently many more sites have been discovered, because it is now mandatory that before any work such as new road, railway, housing estate, or quarry begins the land must first be surveyed for any archaeological evidence. This has sometimes led to a site being uncovered when there has been no evidence of its existence on the surface. This has led to important finds being made from neolithic to iron age times, such as barrows, forts, farm settlements, and burial pits that were totally unknown about before work began. Not only have discoveries associated with human activity come to light, but also wildlife, Beavers were once common along Northamptonshire's rivers and streams.

Andy assured us that there still is a great deal to be found and sometimes in the most unexpected places.

Tom Tresham

MIDSUMMER DANCE PARTY

'A Night to Remember!'



There are occasions in life when one realises, with a pleasant glow of gratitude towards providence, that society is not only surviving, but is positively flourishing like a well-watered geranium. Such a moment occurred at the Midsummer Dance at Eydon Village Hall on Saturday 20 June, when some 70 revellers assembled to hear the mellifluous tones of the Al Ryan Big Band.

The village hall itself underwent a transformation. Fairy lights twinkled, the glitterball spun and an atmosphere of expectancy hung in the air like the opening bars of a Gershwin tune. Presiding over proceedings was Eydon resident and the BBC's own Al Ryan - all-round impresario of mirth, who managed the feat of being host, performer, and genial master of ceremonies simultaneously with aplomb.

As for the band, the brass section blazed with heroic confidence, the saxophones purred and the rhythm section swung like a well-oiled pendulum.



Before the evening was out respectable villagers, many of whom had arrived with the measured demeanour of people intending to merely "tap a foot once or twice", found themselves executing fox-trots, jives, and various other manoeuvres – transporting us back to the days when ration books were still a topic of conversation.

There was something delightfully democratic about the whole affair. Young and old alike abandoned dignity with admirable enthusiasm. One gentleman, who shall remain nameless to preserve domestic harmony, was observed attempting a spin of such ambition that nearby dancers instinctively cleared a radius of several feet around him!

Yet the true triumph of the evening lay not simply in the quality of the music or the exuberance of the dancing, but in the unmistakable sense of community and inclusion. In an age of screens and solitude, 70 people gathered together in a village hall to share laughter, conversation and the irresistible urge to dance when the band struck up another number.



As the final notes faded and folks drifted home beneath the midsummer moon, one felt that Eydon had achieved something rather splendid; proof if proof were needed that life, when accompanied by fine music and excellent company, is indeed a thoroughly capital business!

Clarence P. Swingthorpe
EVN's Musical Correspondent (& Occasional Dancer)

**Eydon Fete - Sunday
6th September 2026**

'Made In Eydon' – Jams, Pickles, & Foodie Treats

**The 'Made in Eydon' produce stall
needs your help again!**

Sue and Annabel are looking for donations of homemade treats, from jams, marmalades and chutneys to mouth-watering savoury pastries and sweets, for the Made in Eydon produce stall and would love to hear from you.

Also, we can turn any spare fruit from your gardens and allotments into jam so if you have an excess of fruit this year and would like to donate it, please let us know – we can collect anything you wish to offer.

Thank you!

Sue Jobbins: suej1@talktalk.net 07718 226947
or
Annabel Goodwin: Annabel.goodwin@btinternet.com
07789 054600

Thank you

"I'd like to give a vote of thanks to all involved in the EV100 Committee for two superb music events organised as part of the village hall centenary celebrations.

Back at the end of February we had the Winter Blues evening with the incredible Alice Armstrong and her band, and on Saturday 20 June a very different event with the Midsummer Dance to the village's very own Al Ryan and his big band. What a night - the 15-piece band were amazing and they certainly got us all "in the mood".

A huge amount of work will have gone into organising, promoting and arranging these events, which have brought so much pleasure to many in the village, and I would like all those involved to know how much it is appreciated."

Angie Simmons

Message from David Kench's Daughter, Linda.

Thank you so much to the lovely people of Eydon, and beyond, who took part in Dad's funeral. So many wonderful people gave up their time and energy to make it perfect for him; kind and gentle Rev. Clare, Tom and the bell ringing team, Lyn and Annabel who created the most beautiful floral arrangements, the mystery proficient organist, Simon with the mowing, Sue and Carrie with advice, David helping with the village hall and to the congregation who turned up and sang up! I feel we all gave David a good send off and I just wish I could tell him all about it. He'd have quietly loved it. Thank you so much for being there for him.

Linda

Wanted!

**Eydon Village News Editor
&
Social Media Coordinator**

**Social Media Savvy, able to use
Microsoft Publisher**

**6 Hours/Week
Approx £19:00/Hr**

Contact
Keith.Simmons@EydonParish.Gov.Uk

“Every day's a school day”

Back in nineteen-seventy-nine
The school closed for the very last time
That was that, one might suppose
That's until the assets were disposed
And in nineteen-eighty-five a new day dawned
When the Eydon Educational Trust was formed.

The “*raison d'etre*” of the Eydon Educational Trust
Has a broad; but simple thrust
To provide small grants to help students to grow
And follow their own “*forza del destino*”
Grants can be put towards lots of different things
But the link to learning is the key to everything

From school clothing and uniforms to get you in the door
Courses, and equipment, and there so much more
Applications for grants must be in by Halloween
But we will reminder you during the time in between
Visit the Parish Council Website or Notice Boards
for the rules
And enjoy the summer holidays while you're not a school

“For more information about the Eydon Educational Trust Fund pls contact eydonetf@yahoo.com .



A Personal View... July 2026



It's Grand Prix at Silverstone time again....

Love it or hate it, the time of year has come round once again when we face the road closures, extra traffic, the noise and excitement of the British Motor racing event of the year. And we are guaranteed that this will be the case at least until 2034, which means Silverstone circuit will have hosted the event for well over 80 years.

I remember my Dad taking me to watch grand prix events at Silverstone in the very early 1950's (see photo below). It always seemed to rain, rubber boots were *de rigour*, car parking was a lottery and when it rained hard, we always seemed to get the car stuck in the muddy field. As for the toilets, they were primitive beyond belief. Just a length of guttering on some bricks, emptying one end into a hole dug in the ground, which always overflowed. A canvas sheet held up by a few pieces of scaffolding, protected the modicum of modesty.

We soon got to learn not to sit in the front two or three rows of the temporary grandstands. The canvas roof collected the rain, and every now and then a gust of wind would empty several hundred gallons of water over the unsuspecting occupants below.

But, we enjoyed the thrill of the racing, something new to most of us. Glamorous foreign drivers competed with our amateur British entrants. Chiron, Farina and Fangio against Parnell, Moss and Hamilton. I must have been starstruck, as only a few decades later opted not for big time Formula 1 racing, but more sedate vintage stuff.



I entered a vintage car I had restored, for some overseas races. The idea was to have a continental holiday in the 1928 Bentley, and enjoy some motor sport at the same time. It all got a bit serious, and I was persuaded to enter the 1979 Oldtimer Grand Prix (photo right) in Austria. My wife Patricia and I drove it out there, where the car remained for the summer season of racing.



We both came back to the UK between racing, as we both had commitments at home and work. I left the car with a racing icon; 'Lofty' England of Jaguar fame was living in

Austria by then, and he kindly looked after my Bentley. I was lucky enough to race against the likes of Fangio and Schellenberg, and won awards for the car travelling the

furthest to the races. Fangio drove a 1954 Mercedes, some 25 years newer than my Bentley, and despite my valiant attempts to keep up with him he lapped me after some 5 laps of the 2.7-mile Salzburg-Ring circuit.

Nevertheless, being the only UK entrant that year, some 47 years ago, was truly satisfying leaving memories to be cherished.

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

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

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

Clr Keith Simmons, Chairman
01327 263014

Clr Luke Alexander

Clr Andy Reynolds

Clr Kim Keeble

Clr Howard Carter

Clr Lisa Genovese

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

Dodds Manor

Jonathan and Angela Walker
jonathan@doddsmanor.com

07747 018414

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

Facebook Page

Eydon Village Newsfeed

Eydon Village Newsfeed Whatsapp

07771 146412

St Nicholas Church

Churchwardens

Lyn Evans
01327 261164
lynandsimon@hotmail.co.uk

Matt Wheeldon

07968 092503
majwheeldon@btinternet.com

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