



Eydon Village News

SEPTEMBER 2026

ISSUE 470

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Next Issue

Deadline for October
newsletter is 23rd September
2026

Please email to:

evn@eydonparish.gov.uk

HEYDON VILLAGE FETE

FROM NOON ON SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER

THE FOOD VILLAGE

DOG SHOW & TERRIER RACING

CLASSIC CAR SHOW

GRAND DRAW

THE CHILDRENS FANCY DRESS THEME IS
"FAVOURITE BOOK CHARACTER"

DELICIOUS HOME-MADE CAKES

GAMES - BOTTLE TOMBOLA & MORE

QUENCH YOUR THIRST AT THE BAR

LIVE MUSIC

'MADE IN EYDON' PRODUCE FOR SALE

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Notes from St Nicholas



SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday 6th September

Fete! No Service at Eydon

9.30 Holy Communion /Harvest St Leonards Aston le Walls
11.00 Holy Communion St Mary's Woodford halse

Sunday 13th September

9.30 Holy Communion

Sunday 20th September

10.00 Animal Service

Sunday 27th September

No service in Eydon

9.30 Holy Communion (BCP) St John the Baptist Boddington
11.00 Holy Communion St Mary's Aston le Walls

We are having an animal service at church on the 20th September. You and your 4 legged pets are very welcome at this informal service followed by refreshments.

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

St Nicholas Church Kneelers



Over the years people have made colourful kneelers for our church and they are part of the history of the village and the building. Many were made to commemorate a special event or person and tell their own story.

Sadly, some of our church kneelers are looking a little tired and therefore not suitable for regular use anymore, so we would like to gradually make some more.

Would you like a project for the long winter evenings?

Perhaps make one in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special event or anniversary?

If you would be interested in making one for the church or perhaps sponsoring one if you would rather not make one - please contact Lyn Evans for more details. 01327 261164, lynandsimon@hotmail.co.uk



LITTLE ANGELS

A time of simple worship for families with babies and pre- school children.

In St Nicholas' Church, Eydon, usually on the 3rd Tuesday in the month in term time, 2—2.45pm.

There will be a short interactive story, one or two action songs and a simple prayer, then activities and toys for the children - and time for a cup of tea and a chat!

BUT 4th Tuesday in September (22nd), then 20th October, 17th November

For further details contact Lesley on 07941 328535 or Lyn 01327 261164



EYDON LADIES



Eydon Ladies met on Wednesday 19th August 2026 in the Village Hall.

Our speaker was Laurin McDonald who is an experienced and enthusiastic teacher of Tai Chi Chih. She talked of how she began her involvement with the art, how it helped to centre her and give stillness and peace but, at the same time, energy. She was accredited to teach in 2018 and holds a mixture of classes from beginners to experienced students as well as helping in the community with adults recovering from lifetime disabilities.

Tai Chi Chih consists of 19 stand alone movements and one pose, it focuses on health, meditation and gentle movement and is completely non-violent. She demonstrated and taught us some of the moves, they are gentle and can be done by anyone regardless of age or how fit they are. At the end of the talk, we finished by going through the movements we had learnt to soothing music. The evening was enjoyed by all and gave us something to think about.

The next meeting will be in the Village Hall on Wednesday 16th September 2026 at 7.30pm. We will have the opportunity to get creative with a needle felting workshop. Our speaker Michelle Hayes will talk of the history of wet and needle felting before letting us loose to make our own felt pieces.

The meeting will finish with Tea/Coffee and a raffle. This meeting is open to Ladies only, with guests paying £5.

Ann Lane

FIRST WEDNESDAY CLUB - OUTING

Our trip this year was to Waterperry Gardens just East of Oxford. The Cheney coach took 18 of us to this very comprehensive site. Not only does it have delightful gardens but it also includes a teasop, garden shop, gift barn and old potting shed, a gallery, large orchards, a museum, a Saxon church and a manor house (which was closed for an opera event).

Apparently the gardens have been a gardeners' delight for over 80 years.

Fortunately, the weather was not too hot and one couple took a picnic with all the accessories! Some of our number were even spotted having an ice cream!

Richard Forsyth



SUPPORT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE'S BEAUTIFUL CHURCHES

RIDE, STRIDE & DRIVE

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Saturday 12th September 2026

between 10am and 6pm

Do something different – walk, cycle or drive round Northamptonshire's beautiful churches and raise money for NHCT and your own church



50% of initial sponsorship money received will be returned to the church or chapel chosen by you
Sponsorship forms and a list of open churches and chapels are available from your local organiser: -

Lyn Evans lynandsimon@hotmail.co.uk

Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust

Registered Charity No 1021632 For more details see our website: www.nhct.org.uk



The Freedom Of Eydon Awards

On a balmy evening in the village hall, Keith Simmons (Chair of Eydon Parish Council) was delighted to host over 50 villagers and family members to honour posthumously David Kench, Kevin Lodge & Alan Watson with the freedom of Eydon Award as well as current villagers John Grindlay and Judith Watson. The evening was fuelled by wine and canapes and many anecdotes about those honoured from all those in attendance, with a financial contribution from ex villager Neil Stewart.

The awards were presented by Councillor Fiona Baker (Chair of West Northants Council) with introductions made by Keith Simmons and Carrie Bedford.

Keith offered fond recollections of David Kench and will be eternally grateful for all his help over the years.

David served the village in various capacities over his lifetime including Clerk and then Chair of the Parish Council, Trustee of the village hall, overseeing the purchase of the cricket field, and one of the founding trustees of the Eydon Educational Trust.

As well as being a valued member of the church and church warden, David was a founding member of the First Wednesday Club and Eydon Historical Research Group.

David sadly passed away in April this year and Councillor Baker presented Linda Willis (David's daughter) with a framed award, who accepted on his behalf.



Keith then reflected on the contributions to the community from Kevin Lodge, who sadly passed away in 2018.

Kevin was an avid Morris Dancer and Eydon Mummer and was a founding member of the Eydon Historical Research Group, also editor of the Eydon Village News. He played a large part in helping to create the village design statement and was a member of the Parish Council.

After a few anecdotes from Keith, Sue (Kevin's wife) and his brother, emotionally accepted the award from Councillor Baker on his behalf.



tasters (NEWTS). Judith, also a member of Eydon Players was instrumental in making sure productions ran smoothly, directing and producing, and her artistry on set painting was renowned. As a gifted artist she has also produced work for the Eydon Historical Research Group and was secretary of the Village Hall Committee for many years as well as being an active member of the Garden Society.

Judith and her daughters accepted both awards on behalf of herself and Alan.

Carrie then handed the baton back to Keith to reflect on John Grindlay; the final recipient of the night's awards.

Many people will know some of John's life through his regular articles in the Eydon Village News, however his connection with village communities is rarely mentioned. John has been involved in the Cricket Club for many years and served on the Sports Field Committee, being instrumental in the purchase of the land now known as Eydon Sports Field.



John was a parish councillor and member of the parochial church council and is closely involved with the village Fete.

Living in the village for 58 years he is one of the stalwarts of community life. John was presented with the Freedom of Eydon award by Councillor Baker and thanked the Parish Council for the award stating that it takes a whole village to make Eydon what it is, not just a few people and had many recollections on past community members which I am sure we will read more about in his monthly articles.

The evening concluded with the unveiling of the honours board and more wine and canapes.



Lesley Mansfield



Keith then introduced Carrie Bedford who was going to reflect on the contributions to Eydon from Alan & Judith Watson.

Alan was a member of Eydon Players, directing, writing and lighting many productions.

He also enjoyed playing cricket for Eydon village, eventually umpiring the matches. He was also involved in the Royal British Legion and could be seen around the village selling poppies and arranging the Remembrance Day service.

An enthusiastic bell ringer Alan eventually became tower captain and helped to found Eydon Wine

THANK YOU KEITH

I am sure you will all join me in expressing our gratitude to Keith Simmons, Eydon Parish Council Chairman for everything that he has done in connection with the water outage in May with Anglian Water. It is impossible to underestimate just how much time and effort Keith put in on our behalf involving not only Anglian Water itself, but our local MP and others.

These organisations are often so obstructive that they wear individuals down but Keith has demonstrated almost super human levels of perseverance and tenacity to achieve a positive outcome, hopefully for all of us.

Thank you very much Keith.

Lucy Yates

Opportunity to Learn Tai Chi Chih in Eydon

Laurin McDonald is an experienced and enthusiastic teacher of Tai Chi Chih. She was accredited to teach in 2018 and currently holds a mixture of classes from beginners and experienced students in different villages, as well as helping in the community with adults recovering from lifetime disabilities.

Tai Chi Chih consists of 19 stand alone movements and one pose, it focuses on Health, Meditation and Gentle Movement and is completely non-violent.

Laurin has offered to hold a course of six sessions for beginners in Eydon Village Hall if a sufficient number of people are interested.

To register your interest or find out more information, please contact Laurin directly on laurin@breatheintolife.co.uk

**Have you been
somewhere nice this
holiday?**

**Soon it will be back to
your studies ...**

....**So don't forget** when it's time to return to your studies the Eydon Educational Trust Fund may be able to support you with a small grant towards your educational expenses. If you are under 25, and you or your parents live in the Parish of Eydon you can apply for a grant using the Trust's application form. The closing date for receiving an application is 31st October.

So the summer break has almost gone so make sure to check out the rules (*there are always some rules*) which can be found on The Parish Council website, the Village Notice Boards, or obtained from the Trustees by emailing: eydo-netf@yahoo.com

Rev Clare Glover	Chair
Mrs Sue Lodge	Treasurer
	261535
Mr Mike Jackson	Secretary
	261749

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

EYDON
200 CLUB

Prizes

1st Prize:	Sarah Sellick
2nd Prize:	Julie Holman
3rd Prize:	Caroline Bedford

Bonus Prizes

Kim Keeble
Ann Morphew
Jonathan Walker

LAST CALL FOR AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP TO TAKE ON THE ORGANISATION OF THE EYDON 200 CLUB

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.

September Bin Collections



Tuesday 1st September
Blue and Green Bins



Tuesday 22nd September
Black Bin



Tuesday 8th September
Black Bin



Tuesday 29th September
Blue and Green Bins



Tuesday 15th September
Blue and Green Bins

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

A Personal View... September 2026

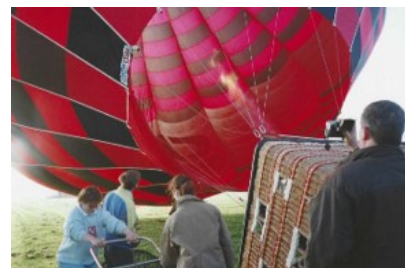


Up, up and away.....

It was a typical September morning 20 years ago, very early morning, in fact. Pre-dawn, the sun was glowing beneath the horizon as we drove into the Northampton Marriott hotel car park near Brackmills, off the A45. In the early morning light, we could see a group of anorak-clad enthusiasts grouped around what looked like a large wicker laundry basket.

So, this was our rendezvous, a present from my wife was manifesting itself. The hot air balloon was unrolled onto the dew-damp grass, a gas cylinder was ignited and the resultant flame directed into an opening of the balloon lying on the ground.

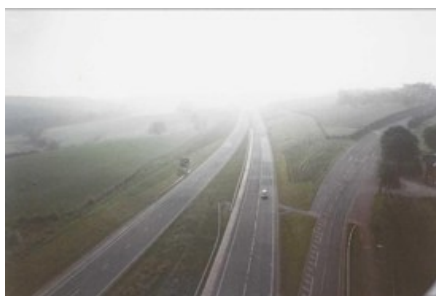
The balloon Skipper introduced himself as Steve, and explained that the weather forecast was good. High pressure, light north-west wind, clear skies. The sun came up and illuminated the scene. There were to be six of us on this morning's flight: two crew, and four passengers, apparently the safe maximum for this size equipment. It didn't take long for the red and black fabric to start forming into a balloon shape, and soon the globe was beginning to lift itself a few inches off the ground.



Steve, the Skipper, gave us passengers a briefing. 'Brace yourself, and hang on to the sides of the basket with both hands, when we take off.' Once into level flight, it would be a smooth ride, we were reassured. 'You can let go, but do not try and walk about or change places'. Then, a tug on a rope, and the balloon assumed a near vertical position. We were told to step into the basket, and a box was quickly placed for us to one-by-one step up and over into the compartmentalised basket.

More hot air was jetted into the balloon, the ground crew let go of the two anchor ropes, and we were up and away. The first impression was the quietness, the acute lack of noise. Then suddenly, a 'whoosh', when Steve gave the balloon a further boost of hot air. Of course, there was no control which direction we went. We were at the mercy of the wind. And, this is where our troubles started.

The sun by now had increased in height, and this must have caused some meteorological disturbance, as the wind increased. We passengers were unaware at the time of this as we were travelling at the same speed as the wind. Only by observing the speed the ground below us went by, did we realise that we were moving quite rapidly. To make matters worse, we were heading for a big bank of fog.



Steve appeared quite calm, but in retrospect he must have been very worried. Soon we couldn't see any ground, we had no idea of our height, or indeed just where we were. We looked at each other, without saying too much, waiting for events over which we had no control, to manifest themselves. Steve pulled a couple of ropes, and gently released some hot air from the balloon. Very slowly, the basket was descending foot by foot. One could only sense this, as we were still in the fog. Then suddenly below us when we came below the fog, was a series of grey fields. But they weren't fields, they were the huge factory and warehouse roofs of Milton Keynes. Steve said we should land at the first opportunity, so he gave us the landing briefing. 'Face the outside, brace yourself with both hands, bend your knees before impact, if you are

thrown out, cover your head with your arms and hands.'

Steve was consulting a map. 'We'll clear the factories, and if we maintain this course we'll be over the A5 around Little Brickhill, where I'll find a suitable landing spot', he confidently advised us. Sure enough, we crossed the A5, and some threatening power cables, when the balloon dropped rapidly over a hedge. We hit the field on the other side with a hefty bang, the basket tipped over, and we were down unscathed!



Steve called the ground crew, who had temporarily lost sight of us, and advised them of our safe landing. Then a farmer drove up, and was rewarded with a couple of notes from Steve. In spite of the twenty quid, the farmer hurried us off his land, so we sat on the side of the old A5, waiting for the ground crew to collect us (photo, author centre in cap). By which time, the sun was out, the fog seemed to have dispersed, and we were rewarded by a couple of glasses of champagne for breakfast. We had travelled just over 19 miles in a flight time of 45 minutes.



I'm keeping my feet on the ground in September....!

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
randiforsyth@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 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

West Northants Councillor

Alison Eastwood
07967 867726
alison.eastwood@westnorthants.gov.uk

Eydon Parish Council

CLlr Keith Simmons, Chairman
01327 263014

CLlr Luke Alexander

CLlr Andy Reynolds

CLlr Kim Keeble

CLlr Howard Carter

CLlr Lisa Genovese

CLlr Nic Esselen

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