



Quarterly newsletter produced by your Parish Council and jointly funded by the Jessie Hughes Village Hall

# Parish Council News

## Your Parish Council

We still have a vacancy on the Parish Council, as we have six instead of seven Councillors. At the AGM in May, Councillor Arthur Nicholas stood down after 14 years of service. We owe Arthur a big thank you as, despite his busy life as one of our key dairy farmers, his presence at our Parish Council meetings always ensured that there was a cool head giving sound advice and usually seeking the sensible option that would enhance our community.

So, if you fancy representing opinions in our Parish and ‘doing your bit’ as a Councillor, please apply to Parish Clerk Lindsey.

## 2019 Best Kept Village Competition

Thank you to those who litter pick in our roads and rural lanes and also for the wonderful gardens that are on show for all to see. It’s a pity that we can’t say the same for our Village Green which, despite chase-ups, is left for five to six weeks between cuts by the Streetscene Department of CWAC. Of course, we could ask for a share of the savings if we did it ourselves! Anyone up for it?

The first round of judging for the Best Kept Village Competition has taken place and we will hear the results in October.

## Road safety and vehicle speeds

Dangerous driving and the unreasonable behaviour of drivers are still the number one concern of our residents. The lessons we’ve learnt from ten years of dealing with the Highways Department are:

1. Expect the answer ‘No’ as the initial response to any request .
2. Highways have little finance to spend on rural improvements.
3. Keep asking and don’t lose hope that things can get better.

We've made progress over this time and the personnel at Highways have a tough job to do and have helped in many areas. However, at the same time there's an increasing amount of traffic on our roads (and through our village) and there appears to be a growth in the number of unreasonable drivers who are happy to drive at 'their speed', regardless of the limits - endangering all in their path.

Your Parish Council is starting another new initiative and wants to focus on two key areas with the aim of achieving step-by-step improvements. Cllrs Emma Leslie and Mike Wilson are taking the lead in a new round of talks with Highways. The areas to be worked on were agreed at the July Parish Council Meeting and are shown below. The other arm to this is communications with our police contacts, to try and enforce limits and help to apprehend the small but dangerous element using our roads.

***1. Actions to lower the speed of vehicles within the village of Eaton***

***a. Speed Limits***

*The 20mph limit currently on the Village Green should be pushed out to where the existing 30mph limit is situated.*

*The 20mph limit currently sited before the Village Hall should be put out to where the current 30mph limit changes to 50mph. These were the originally agreed positions!*

***b. Road Marking***

*Improvements / maintenance are needed on all junctions but particularly the Cross Area and by the school.*

***2. Actions to try and reduce the number and / or speed of vehicles using Eaton as a 'rat run' between the Alvanley Arms (A49) and the 'Red Fox' (A49/A51).***

***a. Village approaches***

*On Eaton Lane and Royal Lane, the Parish Council would like to create "You Are Entering a Rural Village" structure with flower beds; beware signs; and gated impression (as used in French villages and increasingly in the UK to create a calming mood).*

***b. Speed limits***

*The Eaton Lane northern 30mph speed limit should be pushed further out of the village to include the new Red Lion development houses. (Note: the current pole is still not fixed after over two years.*

*The land owner wishes Highways to discuss a 'cranked arm'.*

***c. Road marking***

*More road marking is required on the approaches to the village with raised red areas, hatching et.c added to again stress that this is a non-pavement village with pedestrians walking between facilities. More small 'repeater' 40mph signs should be erected.*

**3. Smaller issues requiring attention**

*The Parish Council has a list of other issues (as itemised in the June minutes) that need addressing but it is felt that progress on the above is more important and those smaller issues can be discussed later.*

The vehicle-activated sign on Eaton Lane has now been repaired at quite some cost to the Parish Council but is felt to have a positive effect on drivers.

Cllr & farmer Eddie Shaw has managed (after years of trying) to get BT to move the pole at his farm entrance, which now allows certain potato trucks to turn left. This should reduce the number going through the village.

Many of the potholes have been repaired in the Parish but as stated before, the more news that Highways receive of potholes, the higher up the queue those repairs will rise. **SO, PLEASE GO TO THE CWAC WEBSITE AND REPORT ANY POTHOLES THAT YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT.**

## **Eaton Play Zone**

Having had its annual inspection by the original suppliers, Creative Play, their report has given both the Play Area and the MUGA a clean bill of health. Thanks, as ever, to our 52 Team, who ensure that the areas are checked every day of the year. It has been over three and a half years since the opening and everything still looks good.

## **Picnic Area**

The Eaton Primary School project, 'Birds, Bugs & Butterflies', launched in December by Councillor Mike Wilson and teaching assistant Miss O'Dwyer, has come to an end. Meetings of the School Council resulted in the installation at the Millpool Picnic Site of Bird Boxes, Bug Hotels, a mini fruit orchard and a wild meadow area. The star of the show is the meadow area, which has drawn praise from many visitors due to its colourful profusion of wild flowers. In June, members of the School Council, with Miss Beery, visited to see the results of their ideas. The project was funded by a £1,000 grant from Tesco: please go and look at it.

Plans are already afoot to 'harvest' the seeds at the end of August and to start preparing for next year. Anyone interested in assisting should contact Mike, who is creating a team of helpers.

## **Eaton Youth Club**

The issue of insufficient leaders and helpers is being addressed with a new rota system and the help of two Duke of Edinburgh candidates, Edward Harris and Sion Roberts. They are both doing a fine job by organising football and other games for the Juniors. However, we still need Volunteers who can either help to set up at 5.45 to 6.15pm or to be on duty with Juniors (6.15 to 7.30pm). Anyone willing to help should contact Julie O'Shea on [julioshea1@btinternet.com](mailto:julioshea1@btinternet.com).

## **Eaton Village Fun Day**

There won't be a Village Fun Day this year, as it's been agreed that this will be a bi-annual event. Last year's event was well supported and very successful but does take quite some organising. So put the second Sunday of September 2020 in your diary and we will try and make it the best one yet.

## Eaton Annual Golf Competition

Another highly successful event, held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June on the Portals Arderne course resulted in 16 keen golfers battling it out with a team Texas scramble competition.



The winners by a small margin were Nick Parker, Brian Oldham, Paul Clisby and Hugh Kelley, who were presented with the ‘trophy’ and wine prizes back at the Jessie. Mary, Wendy and Rosemary upgraded the usual bacon baps with fried eggs, which sealed the event as the best ever. Thanks to the ladies and to David Lilley for organising the day.

*Mike Wilson*

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**Rushton Parish Chair: Neil Thompson**  
**General Parish Council Matters - Contact the Parish Clerk,**  
**Lindsey Worrall, at [rushtonclerk@aol.com](mailto:rushtonclerk@aol.com). Tel: 01829 760653.**

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# The Jessie Hughes Village Hall

## Quiz Nights

*The 2019-2020 Eaton Quiz season starts on October 4th. Quizzes are held in the Jessie Hughes at 7.30pm on the first Friday of the months October to April. All are invited and you can be assured of a very warm welcome. You don't have to be Einstein to take part!*

*Feel free to bring your own team (six is the standard team size but larger teams can be entertained for a small points penalty!) or come along and we'll find one for you to join on the night. Brexit-proof entry fees have been held at an amazing £3 per player. Unbelievably, tea, coffee, sandwiches and cake are included in the fee! If you supply sandwiches or cake, you'll get in free – contact Jan (below) to benefit from this amazing offer! There are prizes for 1st- and 2nd-placed teams and there's a raffle each time.*

### **2019 dates for your diary:**

**October 4th** Quizpersons(!) – Paul and Hilary  
**November 1st** Quizpersons – Brian and Jane  
**December 6th** Quizpersons – Santa and his beautiful Helper.

*We look forward to seeing you at the Jessie. If you'd like to try your hand at running a quiz in the New Year, please contact Jan or John Freeman at [jnjfreems@btopenworld.com](mailto:jnjfreems@btopenworld.com).*

## Film Nights

*The Eaton Film Night team is starting to collect likely candidates for the films to be shown over the winter season of October to April. If you have any ideas, please let Mike and Mary know (email [mike.marywilson@btinternet.com](mailto:mike.marywilson@btinternet.com)). The December film will definitely be a musical, with supper included, to raise money for village activities - particularly focussing on the needs of our youngsters (note: tickets won't be on sale until the October film).*

## **Social prescribing**

*The village hall is fairly quiet at the moment with the schools being on holiday. So, what to write about? Well, what do you know about 'social prescribing'? The NHS is keeping us all alive much longer, but are we ageing well? Many older people become isolated, both physically and socially, particularly if a partner has died, and this isolation can lead to illnesses which are often hard to diagnose. This is often seen as a 'public health' issue – and such matters are usually funded by the District Council. However, the result often has an impact on the medical sector.*

*Social prescribing is about getting people out and about in their community, meeting people and joining in with what's happening locally. The Jessie has been doing this for ten years with our Tea'n'Chat mornings, but things are now getting more co-ordinated.*

*Most Eaton and Rushton villagers see a doctor at one of the two Tarporley surgeries. These now form a 'Rural Alliance' together with the practices in Kelsall, Bunbury, Tattenhall and Malpas. This 'alliance' has just under 40,000 patients and, as such, will get extra funding from the NHS. Some of this is used specifically to boost social prescribing. It's not quite at the stage where your GP can write a prescription for you to 'get out more' – but that's the drift.*

*One of the 'stakeholders' in this alliance is an organisation called 'Brightlife'. This is part of Ageing Better, a programme set up by The National Lottery Community Fund, the largest funder of community activity in the UK. Ageing Better develops creative ways for people aged over 50 to be actively involved in their local communities, helping to combat social isolation and loneliness. It's one of five major programmes set up by the fund to test new services that aim to make people's lives healthier and happier.*

*One of Brightlife's flagship projects is its Social Prescribing Scheme, which runs in four key areas: Chester, Winsford, Malpas and Tarporley. Acting as a link between formal healthcare services and the voluntary / community sector, this scheme refers lonely people to suitable activities and clubs in their local area.*

*So, what has this to do with the Jessie Hughes? Within Brightlife there is a 'Share Club', which brings people together once a month to meet others and enjoy several hours of social activity. The Jessie has been chosen as one of the best local places to do this.*

*You can choose what to do, but you get tea and toast at the start of the day and a cooked lunch later on. Sometimes there are structured exercises to improve strength and balance and sometimes some musical entertainment. Activities can be just what you want. I often do the crossword or try to finish the Christmas jigsaw – but the exercises are good!*

*The first session is free, then it becomes £5 per day. And transport can be arranged if you can't otherwise get out and about. There are many local residents who would enjoy these fun days. If you're interested, give me a call on 01829 733821, or talk to anyone else on the Village Hall Committee, and we can take it from there.*

Ron Chisnall (Village Hall Secretary)

## Local activities

### Eaton Bridge Club



Summer has arrived and brought cold weather, lashings of rain and feelings of lassitude and frustration at not being able to get outside. These feelings are dissipated by happy, smiling bridge players who enjoy excellent surroundings, refreshments and entertaining company in the Jessie Hughes Village Hall. A sumptuous feast was enjoyed at the recent summer party, followed by party bridge with prizes. For the future, the club will be enjoying duplicate bridge, teams and possibly a special evening involving a unique form of bridge.

If you'd like to join such dedicated intellectuals in a thriving bridge club in a modern hall, please contact me or Caroline Evans (01606 883660) or contact Caroline on [caromaur33@talktalk.net](mailto:caromaur33@talktalk.net).

*Martin Evans*

## Ballet



Congratulations to all 79 of the children who took their ballet exams during an extremely hot last weekend of June. It would have been 80 children, but sadly one little girl broke her collar bone the week before her exam, so was unable to take part. We wish her a speedy recovery.

The children taking an exam for the first time were so brave; they overcame their nerves and came out buzzing. Our examiner was Alexander Fitch, who travelled all the way from Spain to see our young dancers perform. Mr Fitch was full of praise for our beautiful hall and we are keeping everything crossed for a good set of results. The Royal Academy of Dance examinations that the children take at the hall are Ofqual accredited, so they hold real value for the children's education, and are somewhat of a 'dance passport' into future ballet training.

We are well under way with our Charity Showcase planning and have decided to donate all profits this time to Breast Cancer Care and Elsie Ever After, the bereavement charity. There will be two performances of 'The Snow Queen' at Northwich Memorial Court Theatre on 25th January 2020 to look forward to.

If you're interested in getting your child involved in our friendly dance school, please call me on 07900 303966, email [nicolle@pointeworks.co.uk](mailto:nicolle@pointeworks.co.uk) or visit [www.pointeworks.co.uk](http://www.pointeworks.co.uk).

*Nicolle Higgins*

## Yoga



Developing a yoga practice is one of the best things we can do to relieve tension in our bodies.

A yoga class is essentially an unravelling of physical and emotional tension through diaphragmatic breathing, mindful movement, stretching and specific relaxation techniques.

## **Tuesdays**

Gentle Flow Yoga

11am - 12:30pm

Any enquiries, contact Brenda

Mobile: 07876497664

Email: mccoeybrenda@gmail.com

Facebook: brendayogaclasses

Instagram: yogabmcc

*Brenda McCooley*

## **Up The Garden Path**



The summer months are the time when the Gardening Group visits both private gardens and those open under the National Gardening Scheme.

During May, we revisited Bluebell Cottage Nursery, a garden full of herbaceous borders and a beautiful wildflower meadow. In early June, members of the group enjoyed the gardens that opened for the Stretton and Tilston Open Weekend: a varied selection of beautiful and individual gardens, all well kept and inspiring. Woolerton Old Hall isn't only a lovely garden but the cafe is also worth visiting.

After all these visits, the group turned their attention to the Tarporley Carnival, where we had our annual plant stall, with a wide range of excellent quality plants being produced by members. The carnival plant stall is a fun day out for the gardening group and an important fund raiser for us, with a proportion each year given to Tarporley Hospital.

The Social 'Spud in a Bucket' competition was hosted in a beautiful garden this year (owned by Nick and Lesley). The winner of the 'Mounted Potato Peeler' trophy was John Kealey, with a whopping 11lb 2oz of potatoes from two seed potatoes. The summer evening was completed with strawberries and cream, and a glass of Pimms.



*Lindsey Worrall showing John's winning bucket*

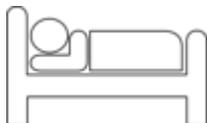
We have yet to enjoy a visit to Abbey Wood Gardens, and a produce show before we settle into the autumn programme of speakers.

The Gardening Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall. Members now pay £20 for the year to cover all club nights (but not garden visits which will be paid separately). The cost for guests is £3 per night.

For full programme details, please contact me on 01829 760653.

*Lindsey Worrall*

## **Tarporley War Memorial Hospital**



On June 29th, a group of villagers and over 300 guests celebrated the hospital's centenary at Cholmondeley Castle. It was a magical evening

and we raised over £50,000 for the Centenary Appeal, which was fantastic. My thanks to all who supported us.

Our wonderful hospital is 100 years old! War Memorial Hospitals were established in many communities after World War 1 to care for wounded soldiers, as there was no NHS. Tarporley is unique as we're the only remaining independent charitable war memorial hospital in the UK. Our Centenary Appeal aims to fund the developments that we've identified as essential to extend our range of services in order to serve you better. These include:

- Increasing in-patient bed capacity from 16 to 24
- A new dementia care facility
- Expanding our minor injuries service
- Widening the scope of our outpatient clinics
- Day-case procedures, including IV treatment
- Enhanced respite day-care services

To do this, we need to raise £1m over the next two years, and we've found a great way for everyone to help us via the Big Give Christmas Challenge. This is the UK's largest online match funding campaign and has raised over £103 million for charity since it started. It offers supporters of participating charities the opportunity to double their donations. For example, if you make an online donation of £100, it's doubled to £200. If Gift Aid is claimed, your donation would be worth £225. So, this is an amazing opportunity to double your donation for this outstanding community asset, which is free and serves health needs for all age groups.

To participate, please visit:

<https://www.thebiggive.org.uk/s/pledge?campaignId=a051r00001OZnxfAAD>. You need to pledge your donation by 30th August 2019 to qualify for match funding. The pledge doesn't need to be paid until 10th January 2020. If you need any help in making your donation, or for further explanation, please contact Brian Byrne on 01829 732255 or at [borisbyrne@btinternet.com](mailto:borisbyrne@btinternet.com).

*Brian Byrne*

## St Thomas' Church



As the Church's year rolls on with our regular and varied Sunday Services at 9.00am (to which everyone is invited), we're approaching the time when our farmers get their combines ready to bring the harvest home. We're very much looking forward to your presence at our own joyful celebration of this annual event at our Harvest Festival on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October at 7.30 pm**, followed by the usual delicious supper in the Village Hall.

Tickets will go on sale shortly for what is always an extremely well-attended evening, so please reserve the date in your diaries. There will be flyers to remind you, but if you aren't on the circulation list and would like to book early, please contact Rosemary (732948), Amelia (730155), or Chris (760750).

Just as the farmers hope for good yields to fill their barns, so we seek as much support as possible for this event to help cover our regular annual expenditure. It's becoming more and more difficult every year to do this, so if you can't join us, please consider making a financial contribution to support your village church.

*Mike Scott and Rosemary Lilley (Wardens)*

## Eaton Reading Group



We returned to Scotland for our May book. This novel, 'Sealskin', enjoyed by all and written by Su Bristow, friend of a member, is set in a remote Scottish fishing community. The storyline is based on the well known myth of the Selkie... a seal which takes on human form. This book tells of life on the margins of society, loneliness, forgiveness and acceptance.

Our book for June, again enjoyed by all the group and the inspiration for a spirited discussion, was 'All The Light We Cannot See' by Anthony Doerr. This takes us back to World War II but seen from an unusual point of view. It's the story of two children: a

blind French girl and an orphan German boy whose paths collide. It shows how people can become the product of their times and upbringing. It's quite a lengthy book but as the prose is good and the story line gripping, it carries the reader along.

The group won't meet now until September, when we will share our own summer reads. New members are always welcome

If you would like more details of books or meetings, please contact me on 732904.

*Tina Peel*

## Eaton Rambling Club



The Eaton Ramblers' annual away trip was a huge success, with 22 members and partners taking to the hills around the wonderful town of Malvern. Grateful thanks to the intrepid duo of Mike and Mary Wilson, who made sure the visit went like clockwork and even 'reccied' several pubs in the line of duty – the final choice being excellent for views and prices! The rainy weather wasn't noticed.... There was even a trip to the local Morgan Factory on offer which was enjoyed on our last day.



Our next walk will be local and led by Cathy Purchas, returning back to the Jessie for our summer barbecue - open to members, partners and friends. We're still looking for a volunteer to lead the November walk, so if you can help, let me know. We're always open to welcoming new members and encourage folk to come along for a free 'taster'!

**4 Aug (Sun)** – Cathy (and bring your own BBQ at JHVH. Non-walkers most welcome!)

**7 Sept (Sat)** – Linda

**6 Oct (Sun)** – Frank and Gill

**9 Nov (Sat)** – LEADER REQUIRED, PLEASE

**1 Dec (Sun)** and Christmas lunch – Mike and Mary Wilson

All weekend walks initially meet in the Jessie Hughes car park at 9.45am on Saturdays and at 10.15am on Sundays. Bring a packed lunch: new members always welcome.

*Gill Ellison (Secretary) - 01829 782693*

## Tarporley and District U3A



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A is all about enjoyment. Based in the Tarporley Community Centre, it now has over 440 members, about 100 of whom come along to the meeting on the fourth Thursday of every month. This starts at 10:30am but the doors open at 9:45am, when you can get tea etc and chat with fellow members. Visitors and new members are always welcome. We have a speaker on a topic designed to entertain as much as educate and the whole thing wraps up by about noon. This costs visitors just £1 for the refreshments – tremendous value!

We also have almost 40 'special interest groups'. There are four walking groups, language classes, a singing group, bridge, table tennis, play reading, concert goers, family history, creative writing, local history and many more. All of these groups are run by the members and we try to encourage you to join at least one. But you first have to be a member – which costs £15 for the whole year.

Every year, a foreign holiday is usually arranged. This year, several of us went to southern Spain and two Eaton ladies were amongst the group. We always stay in good hotels and all arrangements are carefully pre-planned and pre-paid for, so it's worry-free. That's just what you want as you join the 'third age' – and that's the only criteria: you need to be more-or-less retired. If you're interested and want to know more, just call me on 01829 733821 or have a look at the local U3A website at [www.u3asites.org.uk/tarporley](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/tarporley) – it may just change your life.

*Ron Chisnall*

## Eaton WI



Eaton WI has been very busy since our last report. In May, members enjoyed a very interesting talk by George Pilkington, an ecologist, who told members about various birds and numerous bees and their importance. Members also enjoyed a walking tour of Chester, finishing at the cathedral where they enjoyed lunch.

June is always a busy month, with members getting ready for the Royal Cheshire Show. Thanks to the members for all the hard work and dedication put into the entries. Some members went on a day trip this month to Port Sunlight, which they all enjoyed.

The speaker for our June meeting was Margaret Holbrook, an author who gave a talk on writing plays and running writing workshops. This was followed by delicious refreshments of shortbread biscuits washed down with a glass of Prosecco or fruit juice. In July, our speaker was Nina Olsson, who gave a very interesting talk on a Husky Sled Charity Challenge, which all the members enjoyed.

The speaker for August is Sue Taylor, who will talk on The history of Browns of Chester; the competition is for a perfume bottle. In September, we will be joined by the 'Funky Choir' from Crewe. We are making this an open meeting where we are inviting other WIs to join us.

Eaton WI welcomes visitors to the meetings; we meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. The full programme can be seen on the noticeboard in the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

If you require further information, please contact our Secretary, Celia Gregory, on 01270 528647 or myself on 01829 733639.

*Dianne Ouseley (President)*

## **Eaton Primary School PTA**

The Eaton Primary School PTA would like to welcome Mrs. Skellon to Eaton as our new Head Teacher in September. We wish our Year 6 leavers well in the next chapter of their education.

The PTA Committee for The 2019-2020 school year will be:

**Chair:** Katie Burrows

**Vice Chair:** Frankee Whitby

**Secretary:** Clare MacLennan

**Treasurer:** Sarah Wright

**Social Media:** Frankee Whitby

The PTA is already at work planning September's fundraising events, student and communal events and fairs. Please check the Parish noticeboards and Facebook for updated information. The PTA would like to thank the community and all our families for your continued support. We're looking forward to an exciting and amazing school year!

*Katie Burrows (Chair)*

### **Editor's Note**

**As always, many thanks to all of our contributors and to the distribution team.**

**Phil Allcock ([phil@phila.co.uk](mailto:phil@phila.co.uk))**

## EATON & RUSHTON DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Sun 4 Aug	EATON RAMBLERS	JHVH	10:15am
Tues 13 Aug	EATON WI	JHVH	7:30pm
Thurs 15 Aug	TEA'N'CHAT	JHVH	10.30 - noon
Thurs 22 Aug	U3A: The Mainwarings and Peover Hall	TCC*	10:00am
Tues 27 Aug	UP THE GARDEN PATH	Visit	tbc
Sat 7 Sep	EATON RAMBLERS	JHVH	09:45am
Tues 10 Sep	EATON WI	JHVH	7.30pm
Tues 17 Sep	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	JHVH	7:30pm
Thurs 18 Sep	TEA'N'CHAT	JHVH	10:30 - noon
Tues 24 Sep	UP THE GARDEN PATH	JHVH	7:30pm
Thurs 26 Sep	U3A: Radio Newsreader	TCC*	10:00am
Tues 1 Oct	HARVEST FESTIVAL	St Thomas	7:30pm
Sun 6 Oct	EATON RAMBLERS	JHVH	10:15am
Tues 8 Oct	EATON WI	JHVH	7:30pm
Tues 15 Oct	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	JHVH	7:30pm
Thurs 17 Oct	TEA'N'CHAT	JHVH	10.30 - noon
Tues 22 Oct	UP THE GARDEN PATH	JHVH	7:30pm
Thurs 24 Oct	U3A: History of Arighi Bianchi	TCC*	10:00am

*\*TCC = Tarporley Community Centre*

*\*\* Cholmondeley Castle Estate*

***Deadline for contributing to the next newsletter: Sat 26<sup>th</sup> Oct***