

Eaton and Rushton Newsletter

(Quarterly – Last edition August 2015)

NOVEMBER 2015

www.eatonandrushton.org.uk

(Rushton Parish includes Eaton Village and the Rushton Area)
Newsletter Funded and Produced by your Parish Council

Since our last Newsletter:

*AT LAST!! SOMEWHERE FOR OUR
VILLAGE YOUNGSTERS TO PLAY*



July 2013. The Start Up Team Meet.



18th October 2015
THE OPENING OF EATON PLAY ZONE see pg 3

OTHER RECENT VILLAGE HAPPENINGS !!!!

- **10th Aug – Our Vehicle Activated Speed Sign installed.**
after various hiccups, another improvement for village road safety **see pg 6**
- **22nd Aug – Annual Village Golf Competition**
another tough competition!!! **see pg 4**
- **6th Sept – Annual Village Fun Day**
- Over 120 villagers had fun; fun; fun **see pg 4**
- **19th September HOG Roast & Quiz for Tarp' Hospital**
Brian Byrne does it again!! **see pg 12**
- **29th Sep – Annual Harvest Service & Supper**
Full church followed by meal & beetle drive **see pg 16**
- **2nd Oct – First Quiz Night of the season**
Full House for a great quiz **see pg 13**
- **5th Oct – New Village Sub-Station**
Major road works begin. **see pg 8**
- **9th Oct - First Film Night of the season**
All enjoyed “The Theory of Everything” **see pg 13**
- **15th Oct – Cheshire Community Awards Evening**
Our village gets 3 awards!!! **see pg 5**

COMING UP:

- **13th Nov – Film Night (this Friday!!) see pg 13**
“2nd Best Marigold Hotel” sequel to film we showed 2012
- **19th Nov – Our regular Tea n Chat morning – see pg 14**
- **21st Nov – Leaf Clearance on the Green**
Our chance to tidy the village centre – **see pg 5**
- **4th Dec – Our now famous Christmas Quiz – see pg 13**
- **11th Dec – Our Christmas Film Show 13**
- **21st Dec – Carol Service at St Thomas Church - pg 16**
- **PLUS MUCH MORE – SEE LAST PAGE FOR DETAILS**

Welcome to the November edition of your Parish Newsletter.

1.0 News from your Parish Council

1.1 OUR NEW PLAY ZONE !!!!!

Yes! After 3 years of efforts, our own Village Play Zone was opened on Sunday 18th October. With circa 100 people in attendance, the children themselves opened the Play Zone with a bagful of thanks and a whole heap of wishes (you had to be there!). With free hot-dogs and drinks for all, this was a great social occasion with representatives from WREN (a major fund source), Cheshire West (fund providers and supporters), Creative Play, (our equipment suppliers & installers), Eaton School and our Parish Council. Our ward councillor Eveleigh Moore Dutton has been a great supporter of this project, helping to cut through the red tape barriers and also providing much needed funds from her “ward purse” and we were so pleased that she could be there. We were also pleased to welcome our Reverend Georgina Watmore. The children loved the new Play Area and also enjoyed tennis and soccer on the new MUGA (**M**ulti **U**se **G**ames **A**rea) which will be used by the school during “school time” resulting in sport all through the winter when normally many days are lost due to muddy conditions. Mike Wilson thanked all that had been involved and particularly the “Start Up Team” who have helped raise the £90,000 funds and to make this a quality facility.

As stated before, we are very mindful that the Play Zone is relatively near to houses and there will be strict rules on opening times and behaviour without spoiling the ability for youngsters to have fun. To manage the facility we now have a “52 Team” which has over 52 people that will each look after 1 week a year to ensure that the facility stays in good condition and any minor problems are sorted before they become a real problem. Thank you to all those that have volunteered and to Mary Wilson who is the Team co-ordinator. A much deserved thanks to Jade & Dave Plumbley (and son) who at very short notice, laid lengths of turf down each side of the path and a large area near the MUGA which was allowing muddy shoes to blemish our lovely new surface. Brilliant. The new management Team now meet and discuss any changes required but overall we have only received positive comments and we look forward to many years of happy use. Anyone wishing to volunteer or who have issues to discuss, please contact Mike Wilson 01829 760619 or email.

1.2 Our 6th Annual Village Golf Competition 22nd August

Another fine day, superbly organised by David Lilley with golfers of all abilities enjoying a sunny day at Portals Golf Course. All returned to the Jessie for bacon baps & coffee (thanks Jan & Mary) before the fabulous trophy was presented by David to the winning team of Bert Platt, Peter Earner & Mike Wilson.



1.3 Our 6th Annual Village Fun Day – Sunday 6th Sept.

This event goes from strength to strength and with over 100 people attending, and the weather good, all agreed that this is now an established village event for the community. Again we had over 30 people volunteering to help during the day with set up starting at 7am and after the final hot dog was consumed, all packed away by 7pm. Tina, Kathy & Val, plus others from our village gardening club, put on a great produce display finishing with “sales” later on. Nicolle Higgins and her groups of girls put on the best displays of ballet & dance that we have seen and there were many proud family members watching on. Mary & Mike Wilson were presented with a large cake as a local tribute (Mike received his MBE in May) for the work that they do for the village and a special present of a necklace was given to Mary.

During the afternoon Panita Clarke worked tirelessly as our “face painter” and the Bouncy Castle and Car Park Capers Games were as popular as ever. The lovely ladies of our W.I. manned the refreshments with endless drinks and the best cakes ever. Thank you. At 3pm, all moved over the road for the “Fun in the Field” sessions which saw many old fashioned sports, like welly throwing, horse shoe toss and bowling for a pig (bacon actually). This period was completed with the now much expected adults versus children tug-o-war which after 3 pulls, was won by the children yet again.

There are too many people to thank but mention must be made of Paul, Ken & Brian (our road safety marshals), John, Pam & Peter for cooking 120 hotdogs, our races marshal, Jan, the numerous helpers on stalls and sports, Frank & Kathleen Beaumont for the use of their field and Mary Wilson, the co-organiser for the fantastic effort put in before and on the day. Also thanks to your Parish Council for funding the event which means that all things are free except the ridiculously low priced refreshments and ice creams.

See you all next year!!!

1.4 Our Best Kept Village

“Community Pride Competition” – The annual awards evening was held on the 15th October at the beautiful Ellesmere Port Civic Hall. Our parish of Rushton / Eaton won 3 awards which for our size of village is outstanding. Jan Freeman, who this year organised the interviews with the judges for the Community Spirit award, accepted the runners up certificate as we were 2nd of the 53 villages in Cheshire West & East that entered. Mike Wilson accepted the runners up award for the “Best Kept Village” in our size range (401 – 600 population) and we also were awarded a “Little Gem” award for the “notice board and planted bank” area of the village green. A big thank you to all who help keep our village in good shape including the litter picker team, those who have worked on the Green, our dog owners who “clean up” and anyone else that helps.

Leaf Clearance Session: For the past 5 years a loyal band of volunteers has come along to the Green and collected up the leaves from the 2 oak trees. This avoids them blocking gutters and being a pain for local residents (these leaves are tough and don't degrade). Last year an amazing 30 volunteers turned out at 9am and the job was done in an hour and a half!! **So this year we call again for volunteers to come along on Saturday 21st November 9am to 11.30am to help us fill those bags for the council to collect later. Refreshments will be available afterwards through the kindness of the Burgons !!!! Bring your rakes, gloves & any spare 1 tonne sacks.**

Hedges on the Roadside : In October, for the first time, your Parish Council arranged to help 4 residents who have roadside

hedges, to get them cut to improve Road Safety. This worked very well, with Eddie Shaw and Mike Wilson doing the traffic calming and Karl carefully making a fine job of the trimming. The cost ranged from £15 to £25 (depending on hedge length) and all agreed that this was a much safer and cost effective solution. Although recently being accused of being a “panjandrum” we simply point out that all landowners/residents with trees/hedges bordering the highways have a legal obligation to keep them trimmed to avoid such things as driver/pedestrian visibility issues, contact with passing vehicles and coverage of safety/speed limit signs. We hope that more will join in the scheme when it is repeated next year. If you are interested and want to know more about it then email Cllr Wilson or call him on 01829 760619.

1.5 Rushton Picnic Area (by the Millpool)

At last this project is also underway and our legal advisors have been asked to complete the process to transfer the ownership of the triangular piece of land which was once used by the village as a beautiful picnic area. Unfortunately it fell into disrepute due to mis-use at nights and was locked off. We have plans to return it to become an asset to the village whilst ensuring that bad past practices are not allowed to be repeated. There will be opportunities for the community to have input into the plans through an “open morning session” which is to be arranged. The lead councillor for this project is Cllr Simon Roberts and if you have any ideas then **contact Simon through Parish Clerk Alex Stubbs**

1.6 Road Safety within the Parish.

The Eaton Road Safety Working Group (now a permanent sub-committee of the Parish Council) continue to meet to progress ideas put forward by the community.

The new Vehicle Activated Sign on Eaton Lane was erected in August and many positive comments have been received with multiple sightings of drivers hitting their brakes as they realise that they are speeding and need to slow down before approaching the 30mph area of the village. This is the latest type of device and has a data recorder which transmits to selected home computers all the data recorded. Thanks to resident and mathematician Paul Healey who volunteered to collect and analyse the data. Already we are getting records of volume / speed of traffic going through

and as we can analyse each hour, we will soon be giving information to the police of 10 minute time slots when “speedsters” are regularly going through so that they can be caught. This of course will not solve all issues but is one more step in trying to keep our village safe for all and to stop the “rat-runners” who break the law every day.

Other RS Issues: We are continuing our work with Highways and Cllr Eveleigh Moore Dutton to make progress on other areas under discussion. The possibility of a **20mph area**, certainly by the school, is still on the cards plus we have worked with Highways and our farmers to **reduce the effect of HGV's coming through the village** during the busy harvesting period. **Poor Parking** continues to generate complaints to councillors and we ask that all residents think carefully before parking near to road junctions or where they cause narrow road access for emergency vehicles. We are currently working with Head Teacher Paul Mitchell who is very mindful that the **new expansion of Eaton Primary School** which will take place over the next 2 to 3 years has massive implications regarding the number of vehicles travelling to & from school and he is working with the governors and the Parish Council to minimise the effect.

1.7 The Parish Website (& Twitter)

Work continues on the website and Rowan O'Shea and Barney Stubbs would like residents to send in ideas / records / photos which can be included. These should be sent to our Parish Clerk Alex Stubbs, who does a fine job in keeping the existing website up to date. Have a view on **www.eatonandrushton.org.uk**

1.8 Youth Club

The YC continues to work well on a Thursday with numbers of the juniors up to the mid 20's and thanks to the good responses received for holiday cover this summer by adults. Recently teenager Rhys Kelly has joined the team and is a great addition, working well with the children. With Mary & Mike Wilson retiring from “duties” next spring, we are looking for additional leaders and really need a Leader for the “juniors” from 6.15pm to 7.30pm each week. Anyone interested should contact Mike Wilson or Julie O'Shea.

1.9 Electricity Sub-Station (a more secure supply)

So, after 4 years of pushing, we are now seeing the project well underway which will result in the village having a brand new sub-station which should ensure continuity of supply for many years to come. In 2011 we objected to the proposed installation, first on the Green and then at the entrance of Elm Tree Court. After many meetings a solution was found on Edgewell Lane and we should thank Brian Birch for finding a home on his land.

Supplier SP Energy and their contractors Duttons, have gone out of their way to make this project as pain free as possible and at a meeting this week, I was asked to point out some up-coming issues:

1. A new sub-station was required as the old pole mounted transformers were near obsolete and we were at the capacity of the supply.
2. After inspection of supplies to houses at the beginning of the project, SP management agreed to an extra investment to remove many overhead lines and lay new cables underground. The Parish Council had been pushing for this to reduce wind damage and improve the look of the village.
3. This last point means that all of the old concrete posts will be removed plus some others. 8 of these posts held street lights which in some cases have to be re-sited.
4. The Parish Council see this as an opportunity to standardise on a more rural design of lamppost/light (we have at least 5 different designs!) and over the next few years it is hoped that all will be replaced throughout the village. Towards the end of November we have requested that 2 of the lamp options will be put up on Edgewell Lane so that the Parish Council and community can select their preferred option (we will publicise this event).
5. However SP Energy want us to point out that the extra work above means an extension to the project with a completion date extended from December to February!! Please be patient as we feel that the result will be worth the pain.

1.10 Oulton Park / Parish Council Liaison Team

Christmas Lunch Monday 14th December 12.00 for 12.30

If you are 60+(and partner) and resident in Rushton Parish you are invited to the OAP Christmas lunch at the Fogarty- Moss Centre, courtesy of Oulton Park (Little Budworth OAP's are also invited). Some transport available for those without a car. To book a place, call David Lilley 732948 or email daveandrosemary@thelilleys.freeserve.co.uk

CARFEST NORTH 2016

There was some surprise for our councillor reps when it was announced at a recent liaison meeting that Car Fest 2016 will be held at Bolesworth Castle. The following explains the move:

“The northern leg of Chris Evans’ charity CarFest show will be held at Bolesworth Castle, near Chester, from 2016. Located just 10 miles from Oulton Park, the venue for the 2015 CarFest North event, Bolesworth Castle is best known for holding an international equestrian show every year. Bolesworth will be the third location for the CarFest North event since its inception in 2012, with Cholmondeley Castle (home of the Pageant of Power) hosting the first festival. A CarFest spokesman reported that the festival had moved from Oulton Park, where it has been held for the past three years to “keep the festival fresh”. He also added that the CarFest organisers may feel Bolesworth is “more in keeping” with the original Cholmondeley event and the southern equivalent, which is held at former F1 driver Jody Scheckter’s Laverstoke Park Farm in Hampshire. Leaving Oulton Park means giving up the use of the race circuit, which is used in the British Touring Car Championship and in the British Superbike Championship, but the track will be replaced by a hillclimb much like the one used at Laverstoke Park Farm and at the Goodwood Festival of Speed.

The 2015 CarFest North event was marred by the tragic plane crash, which killed display pilot Kevin Whyman, 39, on the second day of this year’s event, but CarFest’s spokesman said the move was “absolutely nothing to do with the air crash” and that CarFest would “liaise with the CAA” and had “every intention” of featuring an air display at the 2016 event”.

1.11 The Red Lion Site – Eaton Lane

No progress here despite chase ups from your Parish Council and request to tidy the site. We understand that development is in their 2016 programme. We will advise as soon as we hear more.

1.12 Broadband Update – “Connecting Cheshire”

Cllr Neil Thompson continues to make our voice heard but little valuable information has been received. A joint meeting with other local Parish Councils has been organised by Neil for early December when issues such as rural broadband will be discussed with the intention of having a unified approach. Eaton School are also in conversation with us on this as they may go satellite which the community could perhaps benefit from.

1.13 Neighbourhood Watch

Many of you are on our list for the regular reports about crime in our area (if not email Ron on ron.chisnall@btinternet.com or call him on 733821). The Police continue to work on Rural Crime which needs all of our input if we see suspicious events. **Call 101 for non-urgent reporting** or 999 if appropriate. We have yet to officially meet our new local Police and the replacement PCSO but have invited them to our December Council Meeting (now always 2nd Tuesday of the month).

1.14 Pot-Holes; Non-Working Street Lights; Damaged Road Signs.

Just a reminder that it is no use grumbling about a particular pot-hole or light that isn't working unless you have reported it and received no action. There is an excellent reporting service on the Cheshire West website and it is far better that you report such problems (potholes, broken street lights, missing/broken signs etc) direct, rather than waiting for it being seen by the authorities. If you do not use a computer, call 0300 123 7036 (8am-7pm Mon-Fri).

With a computer:

- a. Google Cheshire West and Chester Council; go to home page**
- b. Click 1st tab “Residents”**
- c. Go 5 down to “Highways – Report a Problem” - click**
- e. Fill in form. Locate where problem is by zooming on map and then move little red flag to exact location**

f. By filling in form, giving your email address, you get a reply

It does work!! We have tried it.

1.15 “Friends of Little Budworth Common” – Paul Healey

Do you realise what a fantastic resource is right on your doorstep? Little Budworth Common is a lovely place to walk, exercise the dog, ride, run, orienteer, den build, search for fungi, a variety of activities have taken place in recent months and the area continues to be well used on a daily basis. But, as ever, help is needed!

The Friends of Little Budworth Common was formed several years ago to support the CWAC ranger service in maintaining the common for its many uses. A great deal of contracted work has been carried out over last Winter and this Autumn to restore part of the wooded area to lowland heath – it is the designation as heath that gives most of the area the status as a site of special scientific interest. This is a long term plan – it will take a number of years before the cleared areas are restored to health – but most of the heavy work has now been completed.

The Friends aim to help Steph – our new ranger – manage the new and existing heath, as well as improving the remaining woodland..... and there’s lots to do! Removing birch seedlings, path repair, fence building, regenerating areas of heather, bird box erection are just some of the tasks tackled by the growing band of volunteers on regular working parties. We are always pleased to welcome new volunteers to our ranks; **if you would like to become involved or simply might be interested in finding out more, contact Paul on p-healey1@sky.com.**

Meanwhile do come and enjoy what the common has to offer – see you up there. And if you would like to see a little more of what we do, check out **www.littlebudworth.com** and follow the links to the Friends page – or the Galleries for some great pics.

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Please note the following contacts for your Parish Council:

Mike Wilson - Vice Chairman Rushton Parish Council

mike.marywilson@btinternet.com Tel 760619

General Parish Council Matters Contact Parish Clerk:

Mrs Alex Stubbs rushtonclerk@aol.com Tel: 01829 733252

2.0 The Jessie Hughes Village Hall

Chairman – Ron Chisnall 01829 733821

Things at the village hall are back in full swing after the summer break – although half term for the local schools has been and gone already. So we are back into the autumn schedule and all those jobs which we meant to do in the warm summer months remain on our consciences. Below you will find a report on the new extension but some parts of the existing structure are looking a bit tired and we are already talking to our faithful decorator about a bit of freshening up.

New Extension for 2nd Storeroom

In the last newsletter I told you that work on the new extension was underway and would be completed while the hall was in its quiet period during August. Well, things didn't go according to plan and our relatively small builder suffered from what was a well-documented problem in that some of his long-serving skilled tradesmen were seduced away to work for companies with major construction contracts. However, work has proceeded apace during the half term break and by the time you read this we expect the work covered by the contract to have been completed.

Before we ask our builder to construct the shelves promised for our main user groups, we have decided that we need to get a 'feel' for the space to make sure that we make best use of what is now available to us. We shall do this fairly soon but our builder will have to work in the limited time available when the hall is not being used by our regular customers.

Hog Roast and Pop Quiz

You will remember that this took place in September and I can report that it was a great success. Over sixty tickets were sold and the musical quiz tested our knowledge of the tunes we were listening to in our youth. However, it seems that when a lot of this stuff was doing the rounds I already had two children and a mortgage so I clearly wasn't concentrating on the musical scene. Nevertheless it was all very enjoyable and the hog roast made up for any lack of musical memory. And as a fund-raiser for the Tarpoley Hospital it was well worth-while. Brian Byrne, who organised it, subsequently gave a cheque for over £600 to the hospital.

Quiz and Film Nights

So, the first Quiz Night and Film Night are already under our belts and both attracted good attendances for the first events of the season. The quiz had more than forty head-scratchers and was conducted by Paul and Hilary Healey. They chose a slightly different format which everyone seemed to agree worked well. Average scores were well up showing that it wasn't too difficult – but I was glad that I was on a table with clever people.

The November Quiz with Brian & Jane Byrne as quiz masters went well and the next quiz will be on Friday, 4th December with Santa John and his beautiful assistant Jan in charge. This is always one to look forward to so make a note in your diary now. And remember, don't be put off if you don't know anyone and think that you will be all alone. We regularly find welcoming tables for newcomers and they always leave having made a lot of new friends. And at just £3, which includes refreshments, it's the best night out you will find anywhere.

For the first Film Night of the season we chose to show **The Theory of Everything**. Almost fifty came to watch this terrific film which many had already seen but recognised that it was well worth a second viewing. As usual, there were refreshments available before the show started and, as in the old days, in the interval when ice cream is always popular. Available refreshments go from a cup of tea to a can of John Smith's or a glass of wine. And the refreshments undoubtedly helped during a slight technical glitch when the film wouldn't start properly. Replacement equipment was brought into use as the audience relaxed.

The next film night will be on Friday, 13th November - and, no, we are not superstitious. As usual, entry is £4 – but only £3 for concessions. The film this time is **The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel**, a sequel to the original which we showed in Nov 2012 and which was one of our best-attended showings. One critic described the cast as 'talented and effortlessly charming'. Some of the well known names appearing are Judi Dench, Bill Nighy, Penelope Wilton, Maggie Smith, Celia Imrie, Ronald Pickup, and Richard Gere. This is definitely a film that I am looking forward to.

Tea'n'Chat

This regular feature is picking up again after the summer months when the holiday season keeps numbers slightly down. Don't forget, it is always on the **third Thursday of every month**, with only occasional exceptions, and for 50p you can drink tea or coffee 'til the cows come home and scoff biscuits and sometimes cake. Little wonder then that there is a regular band of tea'n'chatters who obviously recognise a good deal when they see one. The next one is on Thursday, 19th November and goes from 10:30 until mid-day – so just pop-in for a quick cuppa and a biscuit.

Ron.

'Allo 'Allo

By popular request, the Kingsley Players will return to the JHVH on **SATURDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2016** to perform **'ALLO, 'ALLO**. (last time was Nov 2011!)

The evening will be a fun and laughter filled one, as the cast performs another of Rene's hilarious escapades in his French café. **Put this into your 2016 diaries now**, as it's sure to be a sell out at The Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

Details of the evening's dinner and entertainment, along with ticket booking arrangements, will be circulated in January. **You'll need to book early to avoid disappointment.**

Jan Freeman

3.0 Eaton Bridge Club

The Eaton Bridge Club continues to meet regularly on Thursday evenings at the Jessie Hughes Institute with play commencing at 19.00. Duplicate bridge is routinely played leading to the cumulative results being displayed as a ladder. At the end of the year prizes are awarded to the pairs who have achieved the three highest scores.

In addition to the duplicate form of bridge the club occasionally play other forms of bridge: these include teams (quarterly) and party bridge (twice a year). Recently the club organised a 'Swiss Teams' event hosted by David Stevenson who has a national reputation in a number of different areas including adviser to the English Bridge Union on the interpretation of the rules and etiquette of bridge. He is particularly well known to followers of bridge for his articles in the Mr Bridge magazine.

Eaton Bridge Club is a friendly club enjoying excellent facilities. There are spaces for a few additional people and **if you are interested in meeting new people and playing the most challenging and absorbing of games then please contact Martin Evans or Caroline Woodward on 01606 – 883660 or contact Caroline at cmwoodward@talktalk.net**

4.0 Ballet at the Jessie with Nicole

Pointe Works has got off to a busy start to the academic year with lots of new starters in Ballet & Jazz classes. A warm welcome to all those new students and congratulations on a great start at the school. This half term the Reception children have been studying 'Cinderella' and successfully telling the story through dance for the parents watching. Year One children have been working on 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' which has been great fun. On the run up to the end of term, we will be focussing on The Nutcracker to get us all in the mood for Christmas. Sunday the 8th of November we are welcoming Michael Berkin back to the hall with his professional dance workshops. Michael is an ex-professional dancer with an amazing career to talk about, but is also a fabulous teacher. Good luck to all the students taking their exams at the hall on the 5th of December, once again we have a very important examiner visiting - Miss Pauline King, who trained at the Royal Ballet School.

We have a new Pre-School Ballet class running from January at 4pm on Mondays so if you would like to enrol please get in touch. Other levels have some spaces including Junior Jazz at 4pm on Fridays.

If you want to get your child dancing please call me on 07900 303966 or email nicolle@pointeworks.co.uk or visit www.pointeworks.co.uk

5.0 Tae Kwon Do at the Jessie.

The tae kwan do group has been a stalwart of the village for a number of years. Currently they are experiencing the dip in membership that affects all clubs from time to time; however, they continue to offer high quality training for all ages and all levels of experience through well qualified and enthusiastic instructors. Why not try out a new sport? Details:
Meet at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

Mondays: Children 6.30 – 7.30 Adults 7.30 – 8.30

Wednesdays: Family training 6.30 – 7.30. All ages welcome.

Come along and try your **first lesson for FREE!**

For all other inquiries – please contact Mr Lightfoot on 07768642894

6.0 News from St Thomas' Church

It was wonderful to see the church so full for our joyful and meaningful Harvest Praise Service on 29th September and to share food and fellowship afterwards at the Jessie Hughes Hall. Thank you, to all who worked so hard to make the evening such a success. In all over £1,000 was raised to help towards the cost of maintaining your village church.

We have also seen several baptisms in St Thomas' in the last couple of months with more to follow. Such services are always a joy to conduct and a reminder that this church belongs to the whole village.

And now we look forward to a very busy few months. On 8th November St Thomas' hosted our usual Remembrance Sunday Service at 9am before the larger Parish event in Tarporley. In December, at 9am on Sunday 20th December we will have a service of carols as we retell the nativity story and build and bless the crib. This is a wonderful service for all the family but perhaps particularly young children and those of us who refuse to grow up!

The following evening **Monday 21st Dec**, we will gather for the more traditional lessons and **carols service** where our choir will lead us in singing in Christmas. This service will begin at 7:30pm on Monday 21st December. I'm told that afterwards we gather for refreshments in the Jessie Hughes Hall – something else to look forward to! And then on Christmas Day at 9am, yet more carols as we celebrate the gift of Christmas in an All Age Communion Service complete with quiz!

I do hope that you and your family will be able to join us for some of these celebratory services and of course, with the exception of 27th December when there will be no service, there is a service at St Thomas every Sunday at 9am throughout the year.

Georgina

Rev'd Georgina Watmore

7.0 Tarporley & District U3A

Tarporley and District U3A has continued to flourish and entered its 3rd year with a loyal membership of around 250. New members are always welcome. You are encouraged to visit one of the monthly meetings (normally 4th Thursday of the month) in the Community Centre. These are usually attended by over 100 of our members who are entertained by a speaker and plied with refreshments. The membership secretary will be there and you can join up if you wish.

Recent speakers have included: Doug Haynes on The Brassey Family, Roland Antonelli on The Romance of the Barrel Piano and Keith Warrender on Underground Manchester: The Secrets of the City. The next few months will see talks on: Humour in Court, The Policeman's Lot, The Life and Strange Death of Christopher Marlow, Cheshire before the Romans, The Trials of a Driving Instructor, Osteopathy for Everyone and The Civil war in Cheshire.

On 8th December 10-00 to 12.00 at the Tarporley Community Centre we will hold our **annual showcase event** when our many varied Interest Groups will be showing examples of what we do, and members will be available to explain their activities and aims and answer all your questions.

Groups include: Antiques, Art for beginners, Art Appreciation, Books, Bridge, Computing, Crafts, Creative writing, Digital Photography, French, Italian, Local History, Looking Gorgeous, Singing for Fun, Walking Groups (various levels). **Do come along** David Carter (note: Mike W holds flyers if more info required)

Visitors are welcome – why not come and see U3A for yourself!

More details at www.u3asites.org.uk/tarporley

8.0 Eaton Reading Group

August's meeting took us into non fiction with biographies. Each member introduced the rest of the group to a person of interest. These included William Wilberforce,(slavery) John Harrison (longitude) and Samuel Plimsoll (Plimsoll Line). It proved a very interesting and informative evening. September's read was the recently published book by Lee Harper 'Go Set a Watchman'. This book, a precursor to her more famous 'To Kill a Mocking Bird ', proved to be a much darker and controversial book for its time. It deals with the racial politics of the deep south. Though enjoyed

by the group, it was clear why the publishers rejected it first time round.

October's read was 'My Dear I Wanted To Tell You' by Louisa Young'. Though the core of the story is a love story, it is a book about WW1 and set in London and on the Western Front. Woven into this book were real people and events. Much was learnt of the work of plastic surgeon Major Harold Gillies and the effect of his work on men's life after the war. In contrast to that was the mental effect war had on people and how badly it was often dealt with. It was agreed that this book, though horrific in places, was a good read. November will find us discussing another war book, this time set in a POW camp on the Burma Death Railway....more about that next timeAfter that our programme moves on to books of a more light hearted nature !!

**New members are always welcome.
Contact Tina Peel 732904 for details.**

9.0 Up The Garden Path – (Our Gardening Club)

The weather in the last quarter has been mostly dry with the driest September on record for many years, and on October 31st daytime temperatures reached 18 degrees C. I think it must be a long time since we have had to water our outside plants at the end October. Notwithstanding the unseasonable weather the gardens have fared well, there has been abundant crops of fruit and vegetables and October has seen some of the best flower displays all year.

Club activities have been well supported. In August we made a visit to Tarporley Allotments to support them in their struggle against closure; it was a very pleasant summer evening and the variety and quality of the crops grown was amazing. In September we held our annual show, this was well attended with lots of exhibits in all the classes and prizes spread evenly between the members. The honour of most prize cards, 7 in all, went to Hilary for her excellent exhibits. September brought a return to the speaker nights with an informative and entertaining talk by Sue Beasley from Blue Bell Gardens at Dutton. The talk was supported and illustrated with detailed slides explained how Sue had transformed a neglected garden and nursery over a period of 8 years into a stunning garden and first class nursery, whilst at the same time winning gold medals at RHS Tatton and Chelsea.

Our speaker on 24 November will be Charles Bailey, formerly a Cheshire Ranger, talking on “Biodiversity” . The meeting will be at the Jesssie Hughes Village Hall cost members £1:50 and guests £2:00. I hope to see you all at the meeting and please bring along friends who will be made very welcome.

The final meeting of the year will be our Christmas Social so best wishes for the festive season when it arrives.

Derek Peel
01829 732904

10.0 News from the WI

Well it is that time again to give the news from Eaton WI, I can't believe how quick the time flies! In August, we had a talk by Hibberts Solicitors on the importance of having an up to date Will and also the benefit of arranging a Power of Attorney.

Our speaker for September was Rosie Sedgwick who enlightened members about the history of Egyptian Belly Dance. Some of our members had a go at the various parts of the dance and then we all enjoyed a dancing display from Rosie.

In the October, our speaker was Eric Jennings, the title of his talk was 'On the Fiddle'. Members listened to a very informative talk about the violin, its history and how it is made and how different sounds are achieved. Mr Jennings ended his talk by entertaining the members with various pieces of music.

November, our speaker will be Keith Vigurs, the title of his talk is 'Being a Mystery Shopper'; this will be followed by our AGM, and in December the year rounds off with a Christmas party, meal and entertainment.

Eaton WI welcomes visitors, we meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.30p.m. Should you require any further information please contact our Secretary, Celia Gregory on 01270 528647 or myself on 01829 733639.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Dianne Arden (President)

11.0 Eaton Rambling Club

Eaton Rambling Club

Although there have been many good walks this summer, lead by great leaders, we have not received reports of detail!!. **The next walk is the Christmas Special on Saturday 5th December** lead by Mike n Mary starting and finishing at Vale Royal Golf Club. There will be a lunch 12.30 for 1 pm.

However, the best way to be kept up to date about walks is to get on to the Ramblers email list. To do this, give our secretary, Gill Ellison, a call on 01829 782693 and she will add you to the list.

12.0 “Nomads Tennis”

Tennis Sundays have not really happened this summer due to the busy life that our regulars lead. It has been agreed that in the next Newsletter (Feb 2016) we will invite all those interested to a short meeting to assess whether we should try again next summer. Watch this space. Anyone with further ideas to attract more players should contact :

Mary Wilson email: mike.marywilson@btinternet.com

13.0 News from Eaton Primary School

I have been asked to write a short piece about developments on the school site.

Playzone and MUGA

The Playzone and MUGA are now here and in use.

Many thanks from all at the school for the fantastic resource that's now available for us to use. The MUGA is going to make such a difference throughout the year for our children.

Proposal for Eaton Primary School Growth

As you're aware, Eaton Primary School is being considered for growth as part of Cheshire West and Chester's school places strategy. We, along with several schools in this area, are being assessed as regards feasibility to grow.

The school is in the middle of the Consultation Stage on the proposal to grow – this process ending on the 19th November.

The proposal is for the school to extend from 105 pupils to 210 pupils on the current site. This will involve a redesign of the current building/front access plus a four class extension at the rear of the school.

You may remember that there was a proposal put forward by Oulton Estate for a new primary school but this was declined by Cheshire West and Chester Council following due consideration.

I will keep you informed of any further developments.

Regards

Paul Mitchell

Head teacher

Eaton Primary School

Editors Note The contributors hope that you enjoyed this Newsletter If you have suggestions for improvement or wish to add items for our next issue (planned for 1st February) then do contact :

Mike Wilson 01829 760619 mike.marywilson@btinternet.com

A Note from your editor:

The Wilsons are retiring!!

Next April, it will be 10yrs since in 2006, 11 of us met up to produce the Parish Plan for Eaton and Rushton. Since then it has been pretty full on, particularly for wife Mary & myself as we have tried to ensure that as many of the Plans agreed have had a fair shot.

With the opening of the Play Zone last week, came an agreement between us that we would withdraw from many of the Village Committees etc for at least a year from next April to have a rest and decide what's next. Consequently we need to get some volunteers to take over the jobs shown below (Mary has agreed on keeping a couple!!). see below. Please get in touch for details that are involved.

We have thoroughly enjoyed working with the various teams of hard working villagers and thank them all as we thank those that support the events that we enjoy in our great village.

Mike

Parish Council	Vice Chair	Resigning Apr 2016
Jessie H Village Hall	Committee & Maint.	Resigning Apr 2016
Parish Newsletter	Editor, Printer & Assem	OK till May 2016
St Thomas	Committee & Maint	Resigning Apr 2016
Eaton Youth Club	Joint Organisers	Resigning Apr 2016
Film Club	Organiser & Presenter	Happy to continue if required - 7x a yr
Annual Fun Day	Organisers & Equip	Happy to continue
No-Mads Tennis Clb	Mary organiser	Someone else?
Road Safety W.G	Chair for the RPCouncil	continue till Sept 2016
Play Zone	Chair Mngt Comm	Continue till Dec 2016
New Sub Station	First contact	Will complete
Red Lion Dev.	First contact	Handover to PCouncil
Litter Picker Team	Members	Continuing
Flyer/Newsletter	Distribution Team	Continuing

EATON & RUSHTON DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
NOVEMBER			
Frid 13 th Nov	FILM NIGHT – “2 nd Best Exotic Marigold Hotel” ”	JHVH	7 for 7.30pm
Tues 17 th Nov	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	JHVH	7.30pm
Thur 19 th Nov	TEA & CHAT Drink & a natter	JHVH	10.30 - Noon
Sat. 21 st Nov	“LEAF COLLECTION”	The Green	9.00 – 11am
Tues 24 th Nov	“UP THE GARDEN PATH”	JHVH	7.30pm
DECEMBER			
Thurs 3rd Dec	READING GROUP	Tba	7.30pm
Frid 4 th Dec	CHRISTMAS FAYRE	Prim School	4 – 7.30pm
Frid 4 th Dec.	QUIZ NIGHT	JHVH	7.30pm
Sun 5 th Dec	RAMBLERS CHRISTMAS WALK & LUNCH	Vale Royal Golf Club	10.15am
Tues 8 th Dec	WI CHRISTMAS PARTY	JHVH	7.30pm
Frid 11 th Dec	FILM NIGHT	JHVH	7 for 7.30pm
Mon 14 th Dec	SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCH	OULTON PARK	Noon
Tues 15 th Dec	“UP THE GARDEN PATH”	JHVH	7.30pm
Thur 17 th Dec	TEA & CHAT Drink & a natter	JHVH	10.30 - Noon
Mon 21 st Dec	CAROL SERVICE & SOCIAL	St T & JHVH	7.30pm
Frid 25 th Dec	CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE	St Thomas’s	9.00am