



ESCAN

Your FREE Community Newsletter



Eatons Community Association - Registered Charity No.1110148

January to April 2024

Christmas Lights Switch On



St Neots Christmas Lights Switch On at the Market Square on Sunday 26th November was attended by hundreds, if not thousands, of residents, including many from the Eatons, and among the party on the stage for the actual switch-on were our May Queen Emmie Durrant and Princesses Allannah Monteish and Lucy Davies.

out over £1,800 to various well-deserving local causes.

This amount included the £1,400 given by St Neots Town Council to ESCA to distribute to local Eatons organisations on behalf of the Council, where the groups concerned do not qualify for standard grants from the Council.



Steve Down, Head of Bushmead School, with the May Queen & Princesses



Some of the grant recipients with the May Court

Dojo, Rumour Has It, SJ School of Dance and Black Cat Radio. The presentations were made by May Queen Emmie Durrant and May Princesses Allannah Monteish and Lucy Davies. It was also time to say thanks to Julia Hayward who stood down as Chair after serving for three years.



Mayor Rob Simonis addresses the crowd while Emmie and Lucy look on

ESCA Grant Presentations

At the recent Eatons Community Association Annual General Meeting, held on Monday 23rd October at Eaton Socon St Mary's Church, the Association handed

This year donations were presented to, among others, Eaton Socon Brownies, Eaton Socon Guides, Eaton Socon Pre-School, The Pigtlet, the Wednesday Club that meet at Hanover Close, the Wednesday Welcome Club that meet at St Mary's Church, the River Church towards their Christmas Meal, Little Miracles, St Neots Acorn Cancer Support, St Neots Friendship Bereavement Group, the Friday Friendship Club, and some of the artistes who came along to entertain the crowds on May Day such as Bushmead School, St Neots Sentinels Majorettes, Tenyo

Eatons Open Gardens

Sunday 9th June 2024 1.30 - 5.30 pm.

Spend some time exploring some lovely local gardens and have tea along the way. Programmes will be available from Eaton Socon Green from around 1.00 pm. All money raised goes to good causes in the Eatons. If you have a garden which you would like to show, it doesn't matter if it's big or small, please contact Carole Robson on 01480 218755.

We urgently need people to volunteer to open their gardens as if we don't have enough it can't go ahead!

Sweet Paradise
TRADITIONAL CONFECTIONERS
- EST 2000 -

Largest local independent stockist of Sugar Free sweets.

- Sweets • Drinks • Ice Creams • Chocolates •
- Wedding Cart Hire • Sweet Bouquets •

Visit us at 4 Cross Keys Mews, St Neots
or buy your sweets online from
www.sweetparadise.co.uk
TEL: 01480 356665

Lots more news inside.

Deadlines for all contributions
Monday 4th March 2024 for inclusion
in the next issue.

We look forward to hearing from you.

www.escan.org.uk

C & A Hurst Opticians
Registered Opticians
& Contact Lenses
359, Great North Road Eaton Socon
Telephone: 01480 406002

Please note – we are not a political group. We are supported by all political parties and are not part of one.



Useful Telephone Numbers

Street Lighting	0800 783 8247
report the number on the lamp-post, the street name and town.	
St Neots Town Council	01480 388911
Police	01480 456111
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999
Electricity Emergency	
24 Seven	0800 783 8838
EME	0800 056 8090
Water Emergencies	08457 145 145
Huntingdonshire District Council	
General Enquiries	01480 388388
Out of Hours Emergencies	01480 434167
Fly Tipping	01480 388640
Local Halls	
Jubilee Hall	01480 392733
St Marys Church Hall Eaton Socon	01480 352154
Eatons Community Centre	01480 388922
Eaton Socon Sports Assoc Hall	0791 7017048
United Reformed Church	07366 058861
Doctors Surgeries	
Eaton Socon Health Centre	01480 210000
Cedar House Surgery	01480 406677
Almond Road Surgery	01480 473413
Eaton Socon Children's Centre, Bushmead Rd	01480 358340
Bushmead School	01480 375375
Crosshall Infants School	01480 475980
Crosshall Junior School	01480 475972
Community Car Scheme	01480 476047
Foodbank	01480 475426



Useful Websites

ESCA	www.escan.org.uk
St Neots Town Council	www.stneots-tc.gov.uk
Eaton Socon Health Centre	www.eatonsoconhealthcentre.co.uk
Cedar House Surgery	www.cedarhousesurgery.net
St Neots Archives Group	www.st-neots.ccan.co.uk
Paxton Pits	www.paxton-pits.org.uk
Sudbury Meadow	www.sudburymeadow.org.uk
St Marys Church	www.eatonsocon.org
Pightle	www.eatonsoconpightle.org.uk
Bushmead School	www.bushmeadprimaryschool.org.uk
Duloe, Staploe and Honeydon	www.staploeduloeehoneydonparishcouncil.bedsparishes.gov.uk
River Church	www.riverchurchstneots.co.uk
St Neots Children's Centres	www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/childrenscentres



Who's Who at ESCA

<i>Treasurer</i>	Dave Jarrett	01480 216065
<i>May Day Administrator</i>	Lisa Coyne	
<i>ESCAN Co-ordinator</i>	Carole Robson	01480 218755
<i>Editor</i>	Sara Foyle	

Dates for your diary

Services at St Mary's Eaton Socon

For all enquiries, please contact the church office
office@eatonsocon.org

Tel: 01480 352154 (Tues-Thurs 9:00am – 11:30am)

Weekly services:

Sunday 9am (Traditional)

Sunday 10.30am (Contemporary)

Wednesday 9am (Reflective)

Sundays 28 Jan; 25 Feb; 24 March; 28 April - 6pm

Sharing Life through Learning. An opportunity to go deeper into God's word. Refreshments from 5.50pm.

Sundays 4 Feb; 3 March; 7 April - 3:16 Service

A service open to everyone using interactive worship and fun activities to help us learn more about God and grow together. Come as you are, whether you've been a Christian for years or are just searching for something, young, old, everyone in between, all are welcome to join us.

Sundays 14 Jan; 18 Feb; 17 March; 21 April - 2pm

HIVE - This group is aimed at children (of any age) who have additional needs or disabilities and their siblings and parents/guardians

Thursdays 25 Jan; 29 Feb; 28 March; 25 April - 12noon - Thursday Lunch Club.

Fellowship and Food with a two-course meal.

£4.00 pp for adults available during the day. Booking essential.

Easter Services:

March 28 Maundy Thursday Service at 7:30pm.

March 29 Good Friday Family Service at 10:00am with Hot cross Buns.

March 29 Reflections at the Cross. Come along at 2:00pm and reflect on the meaning of Easter.

March 30 Easter Eggstravaganza Family Event. Come and join us at 2:00pm for Easter themed fun and games.

March 31 Easter Day Communion at 9:00am.

March 31 Easter Day Family Communion at 10:30am.

Eaton Socon Methodist Church

Services on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, commencing at 10.30am

Update on River Church St Neots

River Church meets at 10:30am every Sunday at The Eatons Centre, St Neots, PE19 8ES. For more information please visit: www.riverchurchstneots.co.uk or contact Rob McFarlane on 07904 101 720.

Visitors are always welcome. We invite you to join us!

Choral Society

23 Mar Spring Concert, 7.30pm at St Mary's Church

Sinfonia Concert

2 Mar 7.30pm at St Mary's Church.

Copy date for the next edition of ESCAN for news, adverts and information – Monday 4th March 2024

Please send ESCAN letters & Adverts to ESCA, 3 Collingwood Rd, Eaton Socon, St Neots, PE19 8JQ Email – eatonsca@gmail.com

CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS

If you would like to ask your councillor a question or have any concerns then why not email them – using the contact details on the Town Council website or phone them on:

Barry Chapman – Crosshall ward – 07803 134 565

Clare Mascarenhas – Eaton Socon ward –

claire.mascarenhas@stneots-tc.gov.uk

Rob Simonis – Eaton Ford ward – robert.simonis@stneots-tc.gov.uk

John Dunford – Eaton Ford ward – john.dunford@stneots-tc.gov.uk

Vivienne Hitchin – Eaton Ford ward – vivienne.hitchin@stneots-tc.gov.uk

Colin Maslen – Eaton Socon ward – 07810 481 941

Barry Banks – Eaton Socon ward – 07710 209 950

Visit the town council website <https://www.stneots-tc.gov.uk> to find the latest on who your councillor is.

Councillors' surgeries: Cloisters, Priory Centre
see Town Council website: www.stneots-tc.gov.uk

Fit for life St Neots

Mondays 2-3pm at Jubilee Hall,
Eaton Socon – Only £5 per session

Contact Dawn: **07971 182 261**

**Healthy Mind
Healthy Body
Healthy**

Designed for seniors, **Fit for Life** is a safe way to increase muscle strength, balance, mental health and your range of movement for daily living. All while minimising impact on your joints.

Cambs Backgammon Club



Come and play the world's oldest board game! We meet at The Waggon and Horses in Eaton Socon alternate Mondays from 7.00pm and at other locations in the area on other evenings. Everyone from beginner to Grandmaster is welcome. Drop us a line at julia@juliahayward.com to find out more.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE HEARING HELP

NHS Hearing Aid Maintenance Centre

We clean, re-tube and supply batteries for NHS hearing aids.
We do not provide hearing aids or hearing tests.

Meeting on the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Library,
Priory Lane, St Neots PE19 2BH. From 10 am to 12 noon.

This is a drop-off and wait service, by appointment only.

To book an appointment please use our online service at:

www.cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk

or phone the office: **01223 4166 141**

or text: **07852 699 196**



Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

Adviceline: 0808 278 7807

Monday to Friday 09:30 to 15:30

Universal Credit Help to Claim line: 0800 1448 444, for
anyone seeking to make a new claim for Universal Credit

Webchat or Email via:

www.citizensadvice.rural.cambs.org.uk

Information also available on our website at

www.citizensadvice.rural.cambs.org.uk

or at www.citizensadvice.org.uk



Appointments, including face-to-face, where
required for advice at either our main centres or outreach
sessions are made after a telephone assessment.

Café on the Green

10am-noon every Monday (Term Time Only)

Eaton Socon Church Hall

Why not pop in and have a chat,
a cuppa and cake



Cricket for 1.5-8s

Fun sessions for boys and girls that will give your
child an introduction to cricket whilst also developing
co-ordination, agility, athleticism and confidence!



Get in touch with us...

info@littlecrickets.fun

07305 003044

littlecrickets.class4kids.co.uk



St Neots Probus Club

A luncheon club for retired or semi-retired business or
professional people, normally aged 60 or over, which
meets monthly.

If you are interested please contact the Secretary **01480
812938** or email stneotsprobussec@gmail.com

St Neots Singers

St Neots Singers is an established Community Choir, singing a variety of songs from musicals, pop songs and choral works.

We meet on **Thursday evenings at 7.30pm** at the United Reformed Church in St Neots. First session is free!

We love welcoming new members so if you fancy joining a relaxed and friendly group to make new friends and sing, please get in touch:

StNeotsSingersCC@gmail.com



Come and Dance!

St Neots Scottish Country Dance Club meets on Monday evenings during term time at Eynesbury C of E school Montagu Street St Neots from 7.30pm to 9.30 pm. All are welcome regardless of dancing experience - we are a very relaxed, friendly group! Hope to see you there!

**For further information please contact Anne Walker
07798700840**



SUPPORTING
MENTAL HEALTH



Walk & Talk 4 Men St Neots

We're going to run weekly Saturday morning walks from the Riverside park (meet at the Ambiance cafe for 9.15am and walk at 9.30am).

And we'll run a Sunday morning walk from Paxton Pits on the 3rd Sunday every month (meet at the Visitor centre car park for 9.15am and walk at 9.30am).

Bellringing

The most significant ringing events since the last issue was the sad passing of our former tower captain Wendy Piercy, who had held the office for over 40 years. We rang a half-muffled quarter peal (48 minutes ringing) in her memory and also rang half-muffled for her funeral the following day. Earlier this month we again rang half muffled on Remembrance Sunday.

I am aware that there are a number of former bellringers living locally and we, at St Marys, Eaton Socon, would be delighted to see you at our practices nights Wednesday 8.00-9.00 pm and for service ringing Sunday 10.00-10.30am.

If you feel you would like a try out before joining in ringing with others Sue and I would be happy to arrange this. Alternatively we would be happy to teach anybody from the age of 12 years upwards.

In either case please contact me by email on
michael-j-matthews@hotmail.com.

St Neots Library



You're guaranteed a warm welcome at St Neots Library, with something for everyone throughout the week.

Library membership is free, and we have a large selection of books to borrow, along with free online books, magazines, newspapers and audiobooks.

Our friendly and knowledgeable staff are always on hand to help find information about local services and resources. The library has free Wi-Fi, public computers and study space, along with seating areas and daily newspapers to read.

We have activities through the week for all ages, including rhyme time and story time, family activities and clubs for children. We have a knitting group and regular talks for adults.

On Tuesday mornings we have an IT drop-in session for those who need a little help with using technology such as mobile phones, tablets and laptops. This runs from 10.00-12.00, no booking required. Staff can also

assist with renewing or applying for a bus pass at any time.

For more information about the library and our events, please visit: **www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library** or pop into the library during opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9.30am-5.00pm
Wednesday: 1.30pm-7.00pm and Saturday: 9.30am-4.00pm



FREE Twilight at the Museum

FREE event - explore the museum by torchlight
Friday 23rd February 1700 to 2000 - book online



St Neots
MUSEUM

Tues - Sat
11 - 4pm

stneotsmuseum.org.uk
manager@stneotsmuseum.org.uk



St Neots Museum Friday 23rd February

St Neots Museum, 8 New Street, St Neots
Tel: 01480 214163
Admission Free to Local Residents
Other visitors:
Adults £5.00, Seniors £4.00, Children £2.00
f @stneotsmuseum

Family Walks Events Exhibitions

Girlguiding Eaton Socon

Here is what has been happening in Guiding in the Eatons over the autumn. All the units took part in the Christmas Concert and did really well.



During Space Week they trained to be astronauts and did some spacewalking. They also pretended to be pirates on "international Talk like a Pirate Day" and practiced packing their bags like a Pirate might do. They did an excellent job of selling poppies the week before remembrance service. They have celebrated Diwali by making paper lanterns



Have done Science experiments and learned about germs. They have also made pizzas and had a fancy dress party. The week before Remembrance Sunday they did some remembrance activities and did well during the service. They finished their term with a Christmas Party.



Had a fundraiser for McMillan coffee morning and Raised about £140. Were lucky to be able to have a tour round Little Barford Power station which they found interesting and inspiring. They took part in a Ghost walk organised by the St Neots museum. At the end of term treat they went bowling for a Christmas treat.



If you feel you might like to get involved. We have flexible volunteering opportunities that let you make a difference on your schedule. You can help as much or as little as you want.

Textile Bank

In the current financial year we have received £914 to give out to local groups in the Eatons at our AGM, so when you are turning out your clothes please remember to use your local textile bank (situated at Tesco express opposite St Mary's Church). You can donate clothing, shoes, bedding and towels. All money received comes to ESCA and will be shared by local groups in the Eatons.



The Merrymakers Singing Group

Are you interested in singing and having fun? Then why not come and join us? We have been singing as a group for over 20 years now and are still going strong.

We entertain at care homes, residential homes, afternoon clubs, evening clubs, in Bedford, locally and various villages. We are not a choir just people who enjoy singing. We do not ask for an audition just be able to sing in tune.

We rehearse twice a week at the Methodist Church, Eaton Socon, opposite One Stop.
Mondays 1-3pm and Wednesdays 2-4pm



We sing with backing tracks, songs from 40's upwards. We sing group songs, duets, and solos. We also like to put some humour in certain songs. We also do recitations, sketches etc.

Please do come along and see what we do. We are hoping some men out there would be interested as well as the ladies.



Litter Picking

SNARL meet regularly around St Neots, and all their various picks are advertised on Facebook.

FB event details are here:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/370925185064713>

Join us and help your community!

for more information on SNARL visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/StNeotsLitterPick>

Can YOUR GROUP help us Keep People Healthier & Stronger for Longer

HDC are looking for community partners ...

- With new, innovative and sustainable ideas for activities that will prevent or delay frailty or cardiovascular disease

or

- Groups that would like to work locally with our Active Lifestyles Team

To find out more use the QR code or contact: health.inequalities@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Computer Ink Cartridges

First I would like to thank you for your continued support for our collections of cartridges and phones. So far the bowlers at SNIBC together with others members of the community have raised in excess of £2,500.00 which we have donated to the St Neots food bank.



Please don't throw your computer ink cartridges away – just pop them in a bag and take them to St Neots & District Indoor Bowls Club in River Road, Eaton Socon. Money is being raised by one of their members for local good causes. Donations can also be left at 30 Beatty Road, PE19 8PT and left in the blue box outside the front door.

Would you like to try a new hobby or activity? Perhaps you would like to hone your current skills, or just get out and meet people?

u3a
St Neots & District

Then you should join the St Neots and District u3a. It is a thriving organisation with over 50 different interest groups. For example there are two types of "Dance Groups", Line Dancing and Modern Jive.

There are many other "active" groups such as, Tai Chi, Walking Football, Golf, Walking/Striders, Walking/Hikers and Walking to spot Wildlife!



Line dancers

There are several intellectual groups such as Current Affairs, Egyptology, Heritage and Culture, Music Appreciation and many more.

If you are struggling with modern technology there is an IT help group. In fact there are so many groups and topics covered that the list seems endless. Of course if there is something you are interested in, there is always the possibility of starting up a group covering that topic.

In addition to these groups, that generally meet once a week, there is also the Monthly Meeting (2.00pm at the Priory Centre, St Neots, on the 3rd Tuesday of the month), where there is a guest speaker. About 150 people attend these meetings, they offer a great opportunity to meet and greet other like minded people, have a chat, a cuppa and a biscuit.

Everyone is welcome to join the **u3a**, we only have one stipulation, you should not be in full time employment, we charge a modest annual fee (circa £20) and there is a fee for every meeting (circa £1).

Lots more information can be found on our website <https://u3asites.org.uk/st-neots/home>

Tai Chi group



Youth Cafe

All term time only
NEW Mondays 3.30-5pm
St Mary's Church,
Eaton Socon PE19 8EJ
Tuesdays 3.30-5pm
St Neots Evangelical Church,
Cambridge Street PE19 1PL
Wednesdays 3.30-5pm
Loves Farm House,
Kester Way PE19 6SL *
* run by Loves Farm Church

Our Youth Cafes are free for those in School years 7-13. Join us for:

- games
- cafe (small charges will apply)
- a space to hang out with friends
- homework area

For more information, scan the QR code or email Ange on ahoille@cambridgeyfc.uk

Cambridge & District YOUTH FOR CHRIST cambridgeyfc.uk/st-neots

Happy New Year. Why not make one of your New Year Resolutions to join the team who look after the Pightle? We are a small team of friendly volunteers and anyone who can spare an hour or two and use a pair of secateurs will be welcome.

The tasks vary throughout the year, and we meet every Monday morning between 9am and 11am for general upkeep of the Pightle with occasional sessions for larger projects on other days. We have a wide variety of equipment, tools, and safety gear.

Winter: time to get the mowers serviced for the next season; paths to be protected with bark chippings; weeding of our hedges and around the younger trees; pruning hedges; completing projects before the frosts make the ground undiggable.



Spring: once the frosts are over, we can start planting trees again; later, we'll mow the paths and lawn areas for the first time; we might paint preservative on the fences; projects continue



Summer: mostly mowing the paths and clearing the ever-growing brambles from the paths; watering the trees that aren't yet established; creating new paths and open areas.

Autumn: a chance to progress with projects that we are too busy to do for the rest of the year; fixing fences, installing benches, kissing gates etc; a good time to plant trees; the last mowing of the paths.



The Pightle team xxx

If you'd like to get involved, please just turn up on a Monday morning or contact Peter Bradford:

Email: chair@eatonsoconpightle.org.uk
or call: 07747 807002.

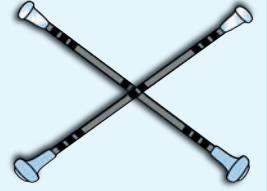
Dog Walkers

It is great to get some exercise and walk dogs in and around the Eatons but please remember to pick up your dog's mess and don't let others suffer with mucky smelly shoes and clothes. It really is not pleasant and has been proved to be a health hazard – **so please don't forget to clean up after your dog!**



Sentinels Majorettes

Supported by NHS Audiology and Cambridgeshire County Council Sentinels Majorettes are rehearsing again and looking for new recruits! For more details contact Ann Steel on **07956 311828**, or email: steel1932@outlook.com



Pal of the Pightle

<http://www.eatonsoconpightle.org.uk>

The Pightle here in Eaton Socon is enjoyed by many and relies on volunteer help to keep it maintained for the enjoyment of us all. The Pightle is NOT a Council owned facility and therefore has to rely on volunteer help.

We need regular finance to pay for items like grass cutting, maintaining the paths, planting new bulbs and trees as well as the annual insurance that has to be paid.

Can you help by becoming a "Pal of The Pightle"?

A "one off" donation or a small regular monthly contribution would be of great benefit for the long term success of The Pightle. To become a Pal, please download the 'Pal of the Pightle' form from our website eatonsoconpightle.org.uk/Pals.aspx then send this, or your donation, to ESCA, 3 Collingwood Road, Eaton Socon, St Neots, PE19 8JQ

Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Watch

What is our purpose?

Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA) works as a team, where everyone comes together to make their communities safer and improve the wellbeing of our residents. We work with the Police, Local Authorities and many other voluntary and professional organisations, but most importantly we work with residents. The Association is a not for profit organisation, non-party in politics, non-sectarian in religion, and we operate equal opportunities and non-discriminatory policies embracing the diversity in our communities.

What we do

We aim to help prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime. We do this by developing a greater understanding of how to prevent crime, and by improving community vigilance and reporting suspicious incidents. We also aim to improve well-being in the community by encouraging activities aimed at improving neighbourliness, reducing loneliness and by fostering a community spirit.



What can you do?

We are always looking for unpaid volunteers to join us, at all levels of the organisation, particularly at local level. To join us visit our website <https://cambsnw.org.uk> and become a registered member. Once you are a member, you also then have the option to join a scheme in your specific area.

Find out more at <https://cambsnw.org.uk>

Your FREE Community Newsletter

Would you like to advertise in the next issue of Escan?

Then contact us here: eatonsca@gmail.com



St Neots Astronomical Association

Meeting at Paxton Pits visitor centre on the First Monday of the Month (Second Monday if it's a bank holiday).

Astronomy sessions start at 7.30.

- ◆ Our winter observing sessions include a number of telescopes setup in the car park and laser sky tours to find your way around the night sky.
- ◆ If its cloudy we have presentations and demonstrations inside the visitors center
- ◆ Do you need help setting up your telescope or finding stellar objects then come along to the St Neots Astronomy club. we can help set up your telescope in minutes and show you how to find stellar objects.

SNAA.co.uk



Non Members welcome – The first visit is free.

Contact peter at: peterhowarth@yahoo.com.

St Neots & District Gardening Club

St Neots & District Gardening Club meetings @ St Mary's Church Hall, Brook St St Neots.

All meetings start at 7.30, members £2.00, Non members welcome £2.50.

Thursday 25th January Fascinating Fungi, a presentation by Peter Walker

Thursday 22nd February House Plants, a presentation by Rebecca Chambers of The Shopkeepers Daughter

Thursday 28th March The Making of a Fenland Garden, a presentation by Neil Callan

Thursday 25th April Herbs Culinary, Cultivation and Folklore, a presentation by Jacqueline Aviolet

For more information and latest news visit:
www.stneotsgardenclub.org.uk



British
Gymnastics
Foundation
Love to Move

When?

NEW! EVERY MONDAY FROM 8th Jan 2024
Love to Move 10am, everyone welcome.
No need to book, just turn up, its FREE

Where?

McNish Court, Grenville Way, Eaton
Socon, St Neots, PE19 8PE
Come along to the Lounge Room

For more info:

Jane Thomas 07731097236
Anne Taylor 07702363898
jane.thomas@britishgymnasticsfoundation.org
anne.taylor@housing21.org.uk

'Love to Move' with Jane & Sylvie
A gentle, fun, seated movement to music programme that will make you smile.
Stay for a cuppa.

EATONS HOME, GARDEN & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE Co.

Providing an efficient, professional local service

Contact Don Morizzo (your local handyman)

Tel 01480 406130

Mob 07718 95281

Email d.morizzo@ntlworld.com



Library@Home Service

Are you struggling to get out and about* and love reading?

We can provide you with:

- Monthly visits by a friendly volunteer
- Tailored choice of books/audiobooks
- Useful health information
- Time to have a chat
- A free service – donations welcome

lib at home
library



To find out more contact:

volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 01223 706803, 07425 615685 or 07342 700308

If you could spare some time to volunteer and visit a reader, please contact us (above).

* e.g. physical/mental ill health, caring responsibilities.

Cambridgeshire
libraries



Be there for cats by becoming a

fosterer volunteer

St Neots, Huntingdon & St Ives Branch of Cats Protection needs fosterers to provide temporary homes for cats and kittens who are waiting for a forever home.

If you could open your door to a cat in need, contact the branch to find out more about fostering and other volunteer roles.

E: volunteering@stneots.cats.org.uk

www.cats.org.uk/stneots/volunteering



Reg Charity 203644 (England and Wales) and SC037711 (Scotland)

St Neots Volunteer Centre & Community Car Scheme

St Neots has a great community vibe with lots of local groups and activities, from lunch clubs to miniature railways, environment watch groups to entrepreneurship, walking groups to man caves.

And at the Volunteer Centre we want to help support and build on this, working with other organisations in the area to bring the help and activities to those who would benefit.

If you are a community group, charity, or not-for-profit we can help find you the volunteers you need, advertise your events, and help with networking.

Want to volunteer?

We can give guidance on some of the volunteering roles in the area, helping match you and your skills to suitable opportunities. You can learn new skills, build experience, and meet new people.

Volunteering looks great on your CV, but its benefits are much more wide ranging than that; helping alleviate loneliness, improving mental and physical health, enhancing your community, and helping others.

But we are not just a volunteer brokerage system...

We have an active **Community Car Scheme** based in our office, run by a great team of volunteer drivers and administrators.

This service is for anyone who needs to make essential journeys (e.g. for appointments etc) where no suitable public transport exists, and for individuals with mobility difficulties. And we cover not only the local area of St Neots, but further afield such as Cambridge, Peterborough, & Bedford Hospitals.

If you think the Community Car Scheme may be able to help you, or you know of anyone in the St Neots area who could benefit from it, please get in touch with the office.

Our drivers all have one thing in common – their dedication to the community of St Neots and their willingness to give up their free time to support that community. Drivers use their own vehicles and are all DBS checked; journeys cost just 45p a mile (min £2) plus a £1 booking fee.

If you would like more information on the Car Scheme or wish to register for the service please telephone **01480 476 047 / 07869 714 680**.



*To learn more about volunteering, how we can help your organisation, or the work of the Volunteer Centre in St Neots you can email stneots@hunsvs.org.uk or telephone **01480 476 047***

Defibs in the town

There are more than 10 defibs in the town and some are more accessible than others as some are in shops or other buildings which may be closed. If you think you need to use a defib then phone 999 and they will tell you where the nearest one is that is accessible and the code to open the cabinet to get the defib.

If one is not available then this is recorded on their system and they should not send you to that location.



ST NEOTS MAN CAVE

With the first year complete, the St Neots Mancave is becoming a big part of the community support network. The year has seen us play a huge part in the St Neots Festival, creating a number of the signs and probably the most photographed blocks St Neots has ever had.

Schools, church groups and the NHS have all benefitted from Cave projects. At Christmas we concentrated on making Christmas Trees made out of pallet wood. January will see us back focusing on bird boxes, Hedgehog houses and planters, as well as refurbishing bikes and furniture.

Interested? We are open Tuesdays 09.00 until 13.00 and Thursdays 13.00 until 17.00

Find us at Cemetery Road, St Neots PE19 2BX

Eaton Socon Trefoil Guild



Anyone over 18 is welcome to join Trefoil Guild we are a small friendly group with average of nine members attending so please get in touch and come along to visit one of our meetings.

We usually hold our monthly evening meetings on the **first Tuesday of each month from 7.30pm**; venue varies depending what we are doing that month.

In addition to our monthly meetings we are often invited to join with other local Trefoil Guild groups for various activities and events including day trips and breaks away. We also get invited to assist with Girguiding activities during the year. Each January we plan our activities for that year.

Please e-mail: eatonsocontrefoilguild@gmail.com for more information.

We look forward to meeting and making friends with new people.

Judith Follon, Chairman Eaton Socon Trefoil Guild

Friendship Club

We call it *The Tea and Coffee club* although there's no formal membership. There is no charge but we do ask for a donation towards the refreshments. I lead the group but I do ask the group to say what they would like to do on Friday mornings.



We are open on Friday mornings between the hours of 10am-12pm.

We serve tea, coffee, cake, bacon rolls, hot dogs and occasionally the odd snack bar is thrown in.

We are a non-profit organisation – what money we do receive is from the regulars and floating visitors, and pays for our Christmas meal which is usually attended by 20-30 people.

Please pop in if you're passing the Ex-Service Club, School Lane, Eaton Socon. Most of the people who come to us are mature and happy, so you will get a warm welcome (we don't turn anybody away).

ESCAN Deliveries

Thank you if you have offered to deliver our newsletters. It would be wonderful to have one or two more volunteers – especially in Crosshall Road and the north end of Monarch Road. We also need volunteers to deliver to Wyboston - The Lane and Rookery Road, Duloe and Staploe, Edinburgh Drive etc. Eaton Socon, Crosshall Road from the end of the Meadows up to the top plus Saville Close and The Golf Club, Great North Road from the Eaton Oak up to the new houses beyond Crosshall Manor plus Eaton Close.



We deliver to over 6,000 homes, three times a year. We have a staunch band of volunteers but it is becoming more difficult for some of them to take on any more, plus two or three have stepped down for various reasons.

If you think you could help out, just to do part of a road will be fine, please contact Julia Hayward on **(01480) 210 097** or Carole Robson on **(01480) 218 755**.

Groups in Eaton Socon Parish Church

You may be surprised to know that there are many active groups within Eaton Socon church for all ages – art and craft groups, bellringers, men's groups, prayer meetings, life groups, toddlers, children's and youth groups. There is also a 'Café on the Green' every Monday morning and a social group for older people on a Wednesday afternoon (Wednesday Welcome).

To find out more about all these groups please see the church website www.eatonsocon.org

Wednesday Welcome

Meets on Wednesday afternoons (term time only) 3 – 4 pm in the Church hall at St. Mary's Church, Eaton Socon.

All are welcome for tea/coffee cake and friendly conversation. Sometimes there is a planned activity.

Please come along and join us.

Community Cup Retirement

Those of you who attended 2023's May Day celebrations will have noticed that we now have a new community cup, named after the late Derek Giles, and the first winner was Jim Fitzgerald. The old one had run out of space to engrave any new names, so it has now been retired and will be handed over in perpetuity to St Neots Museum. Here is a list of all the well-deserving winners of the old cup over the last nearly 40 years.

1984	Mrs Kay Raby	2003	Shirley Lee
1985	Mrs Helen Gow	2004	Brian Payne
1986	Mrs Bee Skinner	2005	Sue Williams
1987	Miss Sarah Wilcox	2006	Joan Foley
1988	St Neots Art Group	2007	Chris McKay
1989	Swavesey Camera Club	2008	Colin Jackson
1990	St Neots Flower Club	2009	Jean Searle
1991	Carol Moon & Frank Tory	2010	Jeannette Cadney (Girl Guides)
1992	St Neots & District Camera Club	2011	Alison Pearson
1993	Betty Conner	2012	John Wright E.S.C.C.
1994	Jean Searle	2013	Ian Bygraves
1995	Heartsease Folk Dancers	2014	Brian Elliott
1996	Colin Jackson	2015	Sylvia Stonham
1997	Carol Moon	2016	Surjit Singh
1998	Dennis & Betty Conner	2017	Jane Gogarty
1999	1st Eaton Socon Scouts	2018	Riverside Miniature Railway
2000	Eatons Holiday Scheme	2019	Neville Cooper E.S.F.C.
2001	Brian Payne	2020	n/a
2002	Pightle Volunteers J Lawson S Webb M Sewell	2021	n/a
		2022	St Neots Community Support



2 past winners - Jean Searle (2009) and Jeannette Cadney (2010)

Dates for History Groups

St Neots Local History Society

Normal meetings held at Eynesbury Primary School off Montagu Street, Eynesbury starting at 7.30 pm.

5th January – Another day in St Neots in 1949 - a new illustrated talk - *Rodney Todman*

2nd February – “*Fine Healthy Leeches*” - Victorian Medicine in St Neots - *Liz Davies [+ AGM]*

1st March – Watermills between Brampton and Hemingford Grey - *Bridget Flanagan & Keith Grimwade*

5th April – The History of Ramsey Abbey, 969AD to 1539AD - *Clive Beeke* [NB - Location - Eatons Centre]

For further details see www.stneotslhs.org.uk

Colmworth and Neighbours History Group

Fridays Colmworth Village Hall 7.30pm

19th January – *Andrew Bamford* on ‘Edward Montagu - Courtier, Rebel, Courtier’

16th February – *Dr Jonathan Rodell* on ‘History of Methodism in Bedfordshire’

15th March – *John Day* on ‘Racing for Victory’

19th April – *Dr Kris Lockyear* on ‘Mapping Verulanium’

Roxton & District Local History Group

Thursdays Roxton Village Hall

4th January – Christmas Meal

1st February – Mammoths Monks and Miracles or even St Neots in the time of Jane Austen

7th March – From cesspit to water closet - How your ancestors dealt with the basics of life.

4th April – Zulu Wars The People at home’s Experience a Victorian Political Cover up!!

Eatons Art Group – Every Tuesday morning between 9.30am and 12pm at The Scout Hut, Mill Hill Road Eaton Ford. Tel: 07914 928 469

Evergreen Club – Tues 1.30pm Ex-Services Club, School Lane. Tel: 01480 215 499 or 476 216

St Neots Acorn cancer support group – First Wednesday of each month, 10.15am at McNish Court at Eaton Socon

Wednesday Morning group – Wed 10am at Hanover Close. Tel: 01480 350 063

Wednesday Welcome – Wed 3pm at Eaton Socon Church

If you would like your group mentioned please email ESCA: eatonsca@gmail.com

ESCA Local History Books and Information

All these booklets are available for reference in the St Neots and Huntingdon Reference Libraries and the County Archives offices in Bedford and Huntingdon. Many are also available to buy at St Neots Museum.

The ESCA books are written by ESCA for anyone with an interest in the Eatons. All profits are used to support ESCA projects within the Eatons and no profits go to Committee members. If you wish to buy these books they can be obtained from “ESCA”, 3 Collingwood Road, Eaton Socon, St Neots, PE19 8JQ using the form below.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Eaton Socon at Work	£2.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eaton Socon in Character	£2.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Eatons at War	£2.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	The River in the Eatons	£3.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	A Year in the Life of the Eatons (1992)	£2.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Church and Churchyard Survey	£7.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eaton Socon Burials Registers 1813 - 2002	£6.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recalling the Great Church Fire of 1930	£3.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	School Admission Register 1910-1969	£3.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eaton Socon School Punishment Book	£2.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Ways and Wherefores of the Eatons	£3.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Little End Hamlet	£3.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cross Hall Ford Hamlet - The Osborne Empire	£4.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maltmans Gardens - (Health Centre Area)	£7.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eaton Ford - The Millers and the Masons	£7.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cross Hall - The Lost Hamlet of Eaton Ford	£6.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eaton Socon - The Village Lanes	£8.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great North Road - Part 1 (Texaco Garage to Nelson Road)	£7.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great North Road - Part 2 (Nelson Road to Andersons Butchers)	£7.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great North Road - Part 3 (Wagon & Horses to Bushmead Road)	£7.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great North Road - Part 4 (Bushmead Road to George & Dragon)	£7.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	To the Glorious Memory – Eaton Socon War Memorial	£9.95
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eatons keyrings	£1.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mediaeval Mishaps and Mayhem in Eaton Socon Parish	£2.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eaton Socon in the Great War	£6.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inns and Outs of Eaton Socon Parish	£6.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Floods are Out (St Neots Community Archive Group)	£2.99
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Eatons Then and Now	£5.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Eatons Then and Now Book 2	£5.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Eatons Then and Now Book 3	£5.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eaton Ford Trail	£2.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eaton Socon Trails	£2.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bushmead Secondary School	£5.00

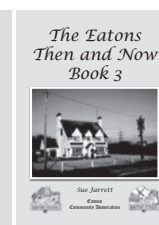
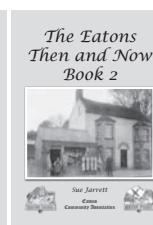
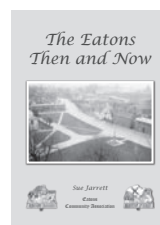
I enclose a cheque for _____ made payable to:
Eatons Community Association.

Name _____

Address _____

Eaton Socon Censuses and Electoral Registers are available on request (Postage and Packing free to Eatons and St Neots residents)

Why not treat yourself or a friend to a set of ‘Eatons Then and Now books’ and discover how the Eatons have changed.



For your free trial quote "ESC2023"

REALFIT CENTRE

Join our community and enjoy our extensive range of PT lead, fitness classes. All levels of fitness welcomed.

Our classes include:

Mum & Baby	HIIT	Circuits
Over 60's	Strength Club	X Session
Boxing	Womens Lift	and more...

Call Us Today! 07864 364037
www.realfitcentre.co.uk

Anna Hayward (she/her) MNCS(Accred.)

Not Like the Others, Counselling & Training
– Specialist counselling for Neurodivergence (autism, Aspergers, ADHD)

<http://www.notliketheothers.co.uk>

Chef inspired catering for all types of events at the venue of your choice

Mobile number — 07545 175837
email — jim@chefstablesolutions.co.uk
Website — www.chefstablesolutions.co.uk

St Neots Tennis Club

St Anselm Place, St Neots, Cambs PE19 1AP (past Waitrose car park)

4 Floodlit courts • Clubhouse and bar • Social and team tennis • Coaching

New members of all ages welcome.

To contact us please email: stneotstennisclub@gmail.com
www.stneotstennis.co.uk

YOUR GUIDING LIGHT IN FINANCE
YOUR FUTURE IS NOW

Chartered Practice | Discretionary Fund Management
Over 10 years of Ethical Investments | Award Winning

01480 869466
www.beaconwm.co.uk

Financial Planning | Pensions
Investments | Portfolio Management

THE Spice VILLAGE

FOOD HYGIENE RATING: 5 (Very Good)

Our aim is Quality and Customer Satisfaction

WE USE 100% FRESH DOUGH on all our pizzas and nan breads

HIGH QUALITY INDIAN FOOD, KEBABS, PIZZAS, BURGERS AND SOUTHERN FRIED CHICKEN

BEST SERVICE, BEST FOOD, BEST TASTE

Open 7 Days a Week

Monday - Thursday 5.00 pm - 11.00 pm
Friday and Saturday 5.00 pm - midnight
Sunday and Bank Holiday 5.00 pm - 10.00 pm

FAST FREE DELIVERY SERVICE

In St. Neots, Eaton Ford, Eaton Scon and Little Paxton on orders over £10.00 and in the surrounding villages over £15.00

Any order over £20.00 gets FREE Bottle of Pepsi With Collection Orders Only
Excludes Set Meals and Meal Deals

01480 212 767
154 St. Neots Road
Eaton Ford, PE19 7AD

xlpress

Passionate About Print

DESIGN LITHO DIGITAL FINISHING LARGE FORMAT

**Live Local
Think Local
Support Local**

We are here to support you.

#keepitlocal
#supportinglocalbusiness

The Printer with more to offer Local Businesses

Alington Road, Little Barford, St. Neots, PE19 6WE
t: **01480 474787** e: sales@xlpress.co.uk
w: www.xlpress.co.uk