



ESCAN

Your FREE Community Newsletter



Eatons Community Association - Registered Charity No.1110148

September – November 2017

May Day Celebrations

(photos by Tony Summerlin)

What a wonderful day. Once again people flocked to the annual May Day Celebrations on Eaton Socon Village Green. Hundreds of people enjoyed our traditional 'May Pole Dancing' by Heartsease Folk dancers, twirling by the Sentinels Majorettes, dancing by Langdale Dance Arts and SJ School of Dance, line dancing by St Neots U3A, dancing and singing by Riverside Theatre, singing by Jamie Gilman-Lewis and live music by the local band - 'Rumour has it' who sang and played many well known songs. Also on the village green were a BBQ, raffles, stalls and small fairground rides. Inside Eaton Socon Church were refreshments, children's activities and the history exhibition.



At 2pm the Heartsease Folk Dancers led the May Court procession to the arena and Derek Giles, St Neots Mayor, presented the crown and sash to the new May Queen Alicia Ferguson who was escorted by the two princesses Hollie Evans and Shannon McElhone. The Mayor then opened the event, which was followed by local entertainment.

At 3pm the Eatons Community Cup was presented by the May Queen to Jane Gogarty who is very well known in the community. When her sons were at school she played a very active role supporting Bushmead School and helped with the Eatons Holiday Scheme. Added to this she ran St Mary's Church Sunday School for about 15 years, was a church warden for 6 years, organises many church events and is now a group leader for St Neots U3A running the Modern Jive group. Jane is a very friendly, enthusiastic, reliable and helpful member of the community and ESCA's Chairman Sue Jarrett said 'We are delighted to be able to award the Eatons Community Cup to such a hard working person who is always smiling and gives so much to everyone.'



Open Gardens

Another brilliant day - the sun shone and many people from miles around came to visit our selection of beautiful gardens. If you opened your garden we thank you very much for all your efforts. Every garden was wonderful and with cups of tea and home made cake the afternoon passed very quickly and lots of money was raised. A big thank you to all the gardeners and all the visitors. All the money raised this year from the Open Gardens will be used for a new bench in Eaton Socon and local children's groups.



NEAT STREET

Award 2017

Well done Whistler Road – the winners of this year's Neat Street Award. This year once again the roads were difficult to judge and after a lot of thought the overall best street was considered to be Whistler Road. Once again there was very little litter and many people had tried hard to keep cars off the pavements and their gardens maintained. Well done if you made an effort with your street – and a very big well done if you are keeping your street weed free along the kerbs, which are very difficult to keep clean.



Thank you to all the streets who entered and who made a difference to their area. And a big thank you to anyone who picks up the odd bit of litter on our streets. It makes the Eatons a better place to live.

ESCA AGM

Monday 23rd October 2017 – 7.30pm – Eaton Socon Church

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Lots more news and views inside.

If you have any news or views please send to the Chairman no later than 20th October 2017 for inclusion in the next issue.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Follow us on Twitter: @EatonsCA



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Useful Telephone Numbers

Street Lighting	0800 253 529
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
Duloe Village Hall	07768 303373
St Marys Church Hall Eaton Socon	01480 352154
Eatons Community Centre	01480 388922
Eaton Socon Sports Assoc Hall	0791 7017048
Doctors Surgeries	
Eaton Socon Health Centre	01480 210000
Cedar House Surgery	01480 406677
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	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.staploeduloeandhoneydonparishcouncil.bedsparishes.gov.uk
St Neots Time Bank	www.stneotstimebank.org.uk
River Church	www.riverchurchstneots.co.uk
St. Neots Children's Centres	www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/childrenscentres



Who's Who at ESCA

<i>Chairman</i>	Sue Jarrett	01480 216065
<i>Treasurer</i>	Dave Jarrett	01480 216065
<i>May Day Administrator</i>	Julia Hayward	01480 210097
<i>Open Gardens</i>	Sue Jarrett	01480 216065
<i>History Co-ordinator</i>	Sue Jarrett	01480 216065
<i>ESCAN Co-ordinator</i>	Carole Robson	01480 218755

Hanover Knitters

Meets on the first Tuesday of the month at Hanover Close in Eaton Ford. Evening meeting, all ages welcome. For details please call Angela on 01480 534680

Dates for your diary

St. Neots Choral Society and Sinfonia

Nov 11th – **Concert to include Cimarosa - Overture 'The Secret Marriage', Beethoven - Violin Concerto in D Major and Mozart - Symphony No 40 in G minor** - 7.30pm at Eaton Socon Church
 Dec 2nd – **Handel - Chandos Anthem No.9, Purcell - Come Ye Sons of Art and Bach - Missa Brevis**, - 7.30pm at Eaton Socon Church
 Dec 23rd – **Joint Carol Concert** - 6pm at Eaton Socon Church (Buy tickets early)

St Mary's Eaton Socon

Sep 16th – **Vivaldi's 'Gloria' Day** - come and sing. Rehearsal 10am, Concert @ 5pm.
 Sep 23rd – **Groundforce Morning** 9am - 1pm – volunteers welcome to help tidy the churchyard
 Sep 30th – **St Mary's Bake-Off** - 2pm
 Oct 1st – **Harvest Festival Service** - 10am
 Oct 29th – **Light Night Event for Families** - 5.30 - 7.30pm
 Nov 5th – **Service of Memories** - 6pm.
 Nov 12th – **Remembrance Service** - 10am;
 Nov 12th – **Community Remembrance Service** - 3pm
 Nov 18th – **Christmas Fayre** - 10am - 2pm

Events in the Town

(see Town Council website for more details)
 Sep 22nd – **Mayor's Civic Sunday Service**
 Nov 12th – **Polish Service and Tea**
 Nov 26th – **St. Neots Christmas Lights switch on**
 Dec 9th – **Mayor's Carol Concert**

ESCA

Sept 24 – **Lock Up open**, School Lane 2.00 -4.00pm
 Oct 23rd – **AGM** - 7.30pm Eaton Socon Church
 Oct 28th – 10am **Bulb Planting** - contact ESCA for more info

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 -

EATON FORD	Charles Bober – 07948 706958	EATON SOCON	Barry Banks – 07710 209950
	Derek Giles – 01480 731321		Roger Harrison – 07717 666238
	Bob Farrer – 01480 404014		Ben Hicks – 01480 700463,
	Sophie Taylor – 07771 964605		mobile 07528 227964
	Gordon Thorpe – 07956 878780		Colin Maslen – 07810 481941
Councillors' surgeries:- Cloisters, Priory Centre 18th November 2017, 10am-midday – Eaton Socon Ward			

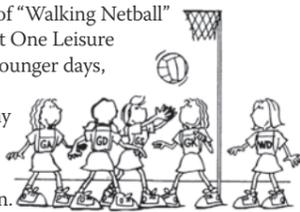
May Day Thanks

May Day cannot take part without a large amount of work behind the scenes from the committee and all those who help to make the event special. Thanks are due to Karen Morrizzo of Endersby Awards for the engraving of the Community Cup, Don McKay for compering, Johnsons Jewellers for the necklace, Tony Summerlin for the photographs, St Mary's Church for the use of the church over the weekend, members of the St Neots Local History Society for their help, St Johns for the First Aid, Eaton Socon River Mill for the BBQ fuel, H.E. Payne of Wyboston for the use of a lorry, St Neots Town Council and the Priory Centre for all their help, and many volunteers who made the afternoon such a success. Thanks are also due to local shops and businesses who gave raffle and tombola prizes.

Walking Netball

Are you aware that an organised session of "Walking Netball" takes place every Tuesday from 9-10am at One Leisure St Neots? If you enjoyed netball in your younger days, or want to try something new, and your body is not as sprightly as it was, then why not join in for some fun and exercise – only £3 per session.

Call 01480 388111 for further information.



Chairman's Spot

This summer has flown past and events in the town and in the Eatons have once again come thick and fast. We are very fortunate in this town to have so many events during the summer, such as the Folk Festival, Armed Forces Day, a History Festival and the annual Regatta. The Eatons have had their May Day celebrations, a successful history exhibition, the Eatons Open Gardens, the Neat Street Competition and our unique Lock Up has been open on several occasions. In July our May Court joined in with the Armed Forces Day and the History Festival where the girls ran bagatelle games and a wonderful old fashioned skittle game, made by a local carpenter. In August as I write this, other events are planned and I am sure that when we have all enjoyed our summer sunshine, we can look forward to a quieter autumn. If you would like to be more involved with the Community Association then why not come along to our AGM and see what we do.

Sue Jarrett, ESCA Chairman

St Neots Food Bank

Hungry and don't know where to go for help?

If you are hungry then you could qualify for the Food Bank. You will need a voucher and these can be obtained from Bushmead or Crosshall School, your Housing Association, Eaton Socon Health Centre, Pre Schools, The Children's Centre in Bushmead Road, Social Services or your Support Worker. Failing any of these you can obtain a voucher from the CAB in Tan Yard car park near Waitrose or the St. Neots Locality Team in The Bargroves, Cromwell Road. Vouchers can then be exchanged for sufficient food for 3 days at these distribution centres -
 Mon – 4 - 6 pm, Open Door Church, Suites 2-6, 31A St Neots Road, Eaton Ford
 Tues – 10 -12 noon, United Reformed Church, High Street, St. Neots
 Thurs – 4 - 6pm, Berkley Street Methodist Church, Eynesbury
 Fri – 10 – 12 noon, St. Mary's Church, Eaton Socon
 For more details see website – **www.stneots.foodbank.org.uk**



* DONATIONS FROM ESCA *

Once again, after our fund raising efforts we have money to share with local groups so if you meet in the Eatons and would like a small donation please write to ESCA, 3 Collingwood Rd, Eaton Socon, St Neots, Cambs, PE19 8JQ or email eatonsca@gmail.com and let us know how much you would like and what it is for. We will consider all requests, however small. Deadline for requests 30th September 2017 and donations will be given out at our AGM in October.

Eaton Socon Charities

Once again the Eaton Socon Charities are able to consider giving donations later this year. Formed from various church charities that once gave out coal and bread to people in the parish who might benefit, the charities now distribute funds and hampers in late autumn. These donations are available to people living within Eaton Socon Parish which includes Eaton Ford, Cross Hall, Duloe, Staploe, Honeydon, Begwary, Tythe, Basmead, Bushmead, Goodwick and Wyboston. If you would like to be considered for a small grant and/ or hamper please ask at the Eaton Socon Post Office for a form or if you have any queries please telephone Joan Squire on 01234 378894. Forms available from 1st October. Closing date for entries - 24th October 2017

Bingo at Hanover Close

Bingo is held twice a week at Hanover – Mon and Wed - 2pm – 3pm

If you would like to play bingo go along, play a few games and then enjoy a cup of tea afterwards with new and old friends. Everyone is welcome to sessions which are held in the lounge. If you fancy helping out with the calling of numbers please go along and offer to help, especially on a Monday afternoon.

For more information please contact Denise Gable, Estate Manager, Tel 01480 406 438

ST. NEOTS CAMERA CLUB

www.stneots-camera-club.org.uk



OPEN EVENING AND START OF OUR NEW SEASON
Tues 19th Sep - 7.30pm

St. Neots Bowling Club PE19 1AP (St Anselm Place - beside Tennis Courts)
 All welcome – no charge

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION Sat 21st Oct 10am - 4.30pm
The Priory Centre St. Neots PE19 2BH

£1 entry inc. programme under 16 free. Superb displays of photographs. Refreshments. All Hunts Post Newspaper Photo competition entries



Help with your Computer

If you need help with your computer, laptop or tablet then why not pop down to the library for help? Whatever your skill level - volunteers are happy to show you how to use a mouse, find information, read and send emails, buy from ebay or google for something. The younger generation may be fantastic at showing you how to access things but they do it so fast that you are left baffled by what is happening. If this is you then ask for some free helpful advice. No booking is required and volunteers are always keen to help. Free computer sessions – every Tuesday 10-12.30

Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

For free helpful, impartial advice on many matters please go along to the CARC portacabin in the Tan Yard car park, near Waitrose, PE19 1AN
 Drop-in Sessions - Mon, Tues, Thurs - 9.30am -12.30pm (NB. sessions may close early depending on demand or volunteer availability)
 Wed - Open for pre-arranged debt appointments only.
 Appointments - follow up appointments if needed are only made after a drop in or telephone interview.
 Advice helpline – Mon to Fri 9:30am to 3:30pm
 Tel: 0344 245 1292 Website **www.ruralcambscab.org.uk**



Hearing Aid Users

Free monthly hearing help drop in session in Eaton Socon Health Centre on the 3rd Friday of each month, from 2- 4pm. NHS hearing aid users can receive free replacement batteries and have their hearing aid cleaned and retubed. Free advice is also offered on hearing aid use.
 For further details please see – **www.cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk**

Textile Bank

Don't forget to use your local textile bank (situated at Tesco express opposite St. Mary's Church). You can donate clothing, shoes, bedding and towels. So far over **£1000** has been received since last September. All money received comes to ESCA and will be shared by local groups in the Eatons.



Doctors Appointments

Amazingly after our last reminder to keep those doctor's appointments we have found out that there have been **563 appointments missed** during April, May and June at Eaton Socon Health Centre. If you are someone trying really hard to get an appointment this is very frustrating - so if you do manage to get an appointment – try not to miss it!

Fire alarms

Are you concerned about your fire safety or anyone in your neighbourhood who may need support or assistance? The fire brigade can help with a free smoke alarm service for anyone with disabilities or if you're over 65. Contact us on 08009179994 (this is an answerphone service), email: **firefire@cambsfire.gov.uk** or the website **www.cambsfire.gov.uk** to book an appointment.

Hall/Function room for Hire

Eaton Socon Sports Association at River Road has a clubhouse which can be used for functions such as birthday parties, meetings etc. Very reasonable rates. One-off hire or regular bookings considered. For further details please contact Stuart Ross on 07917017048 or email - **stuart.ross3@ntlworld.com**

Copy date for the next edition of ESCAN for news, adverts and information – 20th October 2017.

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

The Eatons Community Centre



The Maltings, Eaton Socon, PE19 8ES
 priory.centre@stneots-tc.gov.uk

- Wedding Receptions
- Community Events
- Community Groups
- Private Functions
- Childrens Parties

01480 388922
 www.thepriorycentre.com



Apple and Blackberry Crumble – we cannot cook it for you but you can pick the apples and blackberries and make it yourself. Now is the time to wander around and pick the produce – all free of pollution and free to pick and cook. The Pightle is held in trust for the residents of the Eatons so please help yourself to the produce, but make sure that you know what is safe as there are many berries, including elderberries and sloes. We'd love to hear from you if you make anything with our produce. I'm a great fan of making elderberry jam, something you don't see in the shops and which has a unique taste – it's supposed to be good for warding off colds. The apples are a little sour to eat raw, but they do cook well. We always welcome helpers when there are jobs to be done – planting, mending fences, cutting back overgrowth all help to keep the Pightle pleasant and welcoming. We have joined up with St Neots TimeBank to encourage more people to get involved; give us an hour of your time and earn an hour's credit to use with a range of other volunteers. We hope it'll be a good way to get more people involved with the Pightle and keep alive some traditional skills. See you for bulb planting, if not before!



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St. Neots & District Gardening Club
 Meetings on Thursdays at St.Mary's Church Hall, Brook St. St.Neots at 8pm.

Sep 28th A.G.M. and suggestions of topics for open meetings and places to visit for next year Competition - One Vase of Cut Flowers

Oct 26th **The Wonderful World of Orchids**, by Robert Brett Competition - A photo of your garden etc. taken in 2017 size 6x4ins.

Nov 23rd **Social Evening** Competition - An Xmas Table Decoration

Pal of the Pightle

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. Please send this off to Mrs Julia Hayward (Trustee of The Pightle Trust) 11 Collingwood Rd, Eaton Socon PE19 8JQ

Julia Hayward
 Trustee – The Pightle Millennium Green Trust
 Website: <http://www.eatonsoconpightle.org.uk>
 Telephone: 0777 3918223
 Email: info@eatonsoconpightle.org.uk



Tree Faces – have you spotted them yet?

Around the Eatons are more than 30 tree faces of various kinds – in The Pightle, Beatty Wood, the village greens and on Regatta Meadow – why not see if you can find and photograph them? Send us your photos and tell us where you have found them.

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www.all-eyes.co.uk

FRIENDS OF SUDBURY MEADOW

Sudbury Meadow

As I write this, the weather is more akin to that of early autumn, rather than the last week of July! However, after the very dry conditions for the first half of the year, the rain I am watching is very welcome for the plants at Sudbury Meadow, if not for us or some of the wildlife.

Sadly it looks like one of the casualties of the dry period has been a Sorbus tree at Sudbury Meadow, alongside Crosshall Road. We cut the obvious dead wood out, but left the trunk to give it one last chance. However, it may well have gone by the time you read this.

On the positive side, the flowering plants in the meadow and orchard have had a good year. Cow Parsley started the show in lower meadow, followed by Yellow Rattle and Common Vetch in our orchard. Black Knapweed put on a lovely display of pink and in July we had the best display of blue Meadow Cranesbill that we have ever had.

The flowers supported lots of insects, notably cuckoo bumblebees which seemed to be everywhere this year. There were good numbers of Ringlet and Meadow Brown butterflies too. In July, Gatekeeper butterflies emerged and fed on the wild marjoram which we grow in the Butterfly garden. This plant is particularly good for insects, although it can be a bit invasive in a garden environment.

Autumn is a time for stocking up and no doubt many birds and mammals will take advantage of the berries and seeds at Sudbury Meadow. It looks like there will be plenty of Guelder Rose berries as well as Hazel nuts, which the squirrels will no doubt enjoy.

Early autumn can be a really lovely time to visit Sudbury Meadow, so if you haven't been yet, take a quick stroll round or sit and enjoy a spot of wildlife watching. You may even be inspired to come and volunteer for us!

Alison Pearson
 Chair, Friends of Sudbury Meadow, www.sudburymeadow.org.uk

Staploe & Duloe FC

Staploe & Duloe Football club are celebrating their 10th Anniversary in 2017/18 and are proud to be a Chartered Standard club offering football to Duloe, Staploe and The Eatons. They are also a partnership club with Cambridge United football club.

The club has teams for girls and boys of all ages – U7, U8, U10 (Duloe Foxes) for the 2017/2018 season, who will be playing in the Hunts Mini soccer league. Older teams - U15 and U16 play in the Hunts Youth leagues.

For more information on any of the teams please call Colin Bower 07786 625397 or Barry Cathrall 07707 301640

Riverside Miniature Railway

Have you spotted the train in the park and had a ride? There is a ticket office, trackside seating and a wonderful train to sit on and ride. Situated near the crazy golf in the Riverside Park this is a must for everyone to try. The railway plans to run every weekend until late October so why not go along and have a ride?

If you wish to sponsor a section of track or you would like to volunteer then visit the website – www.riversiderailway.co.uk. This is your chance to help with a new St Neots venture.

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Onsite Cafe
 fresh food with a chilli twist

Tours & Tastings
 see how it's all done

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Dear Trustee Julia,
 I would like to become a "Pal Of The Pightle"

A) Please accept a donation of £_____ as a "one Off" donation to help maintain The Pightle.

B) I would like to donate £_____ per month to help maintain The Pightle.(Please send me your bank details so I can set up a standing order)

Name.....(surname and initials)

Date.....

Address and Postcode.....

Email.....

Please make any cheques payable to 'The Pightle Millennium Green Trust'. If you would like to Gift Aid your contribution so that The Pightle trustees can claim back a tax contribution from The Government please read and sign below.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/ or capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signed.....

Community Car Service

Do you need a lift in a car to get to the doctors, hospital, shops or to meet friends where no suitable public transport exists or you have mobility difficulties? If so, then phone St Neots Volunteer Centre on 01480 476047 to book transport or leave a message on the answer phone. Please also mention, at the time of booking, if a wheelchair needs to be transported and do give as much notice as possible (minimum 3 working days).

Volunteers use their own cars to provide transport and a small charge of 40p per mile is made, based upon mileage travelled by the driver (minimum fee of £1.50 for short journeys). If you would like to volunteer - please phone 01480 476047 for more details.



Tiddlers & Toddlers

Every Friday in term time at Jubilee Hall, 9.30am-11.30am
Everyone Welcome

£2.50 per family (includes drink and biscuits)
Contact Benny on 01480 477838

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The guild of beauty therapists

St Neots TIME BANK

Reward yourself by sharing knowledge and skills with your community - volunteer for 1 hour and get 1 hour credit. Save your credits for those jobs you can't manage or don't have the skills or time for. Age and ability no obstacle. No money is needed other than for materials. No job too small. The time bank offers full insurance security, access to training and the opportunity to become involved in community projects.

If you wish to be involved, then email: timevolunteers@hotmail.co.uk or Tel: 07590909057.

www.stneotstimebank.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/timebankstneots

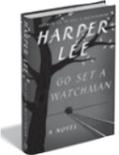
tweet: twitter.com/StNeotsTimeBank



Your "Library at Home Service"

If you are stuck at home and would like to read a book then why not ask the library for help - Cambridgeshire Libraries offer a home delivery service for people who can no longer use the library because of mobility problems, ill health or because they have full time (unpaid) caring duties. Volunteer library visitors will ensure that people who have particular problems in visiting a library do not miss out on a regular supply of books or audio books. Books can be chosen by the reader and delivered free of charge to your home by volunteers.

For more information contact Liz Sheppard
email - your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
tel 0345 045 5225 or ask at your local library



Little Miracles

This is a parent led support group and Charity for families that have children with additional needs, disabilities and life limiting conditions.

The group works with children and their families from 0-25 years providing support and activities, including trips and holidays. They also work closely with professionals for advice and support. A parents coffee group meets every Monday in term time at the Eatons Children's Centre, next to Bushmead School, from 1pm-2pm.

Most of the staff members are volunteers and if you are interested in receiving help or offering help then why not contact Janine Usher on - Janine.usher@littlemiraclescharity.org.uk or phone 07446 992591



Visiting the Lock Up

Once a month in the summer the village Lock Up in School Lane is open and often some interesting people visit - In July some of the visitors had been to the old school and remember other buildings which were used at that time. The grandson of Mr Addington who worked at the mill came along and a lady who remembered seeing the church burning down in 1930, she spoke of Rev Higham who was the vicar then.

Have you been inside yet? You never know who you will meet and we promise not lock you in. **Next opening Sunday 24th Sept 2.00 - 4.00pm.**

"St Neots Riders Group"

Free cycle rides of varying lengths for all ages guided by a Sustrans Rangers (children must be accompanied by adults).



WHEN - every third Sunday

WHERE - start at the Ambiance Café in the Riverside Park at 10.30 am (prompt start)

For more info see - www.bit.ly/snbikerides and for the next bike ride see www.bit.ly/snnext or phone Richard Cooper, Volunteer Liaison Ranger, email - ranger@ridingabike.co.uk or Tel 01480 718818.

Eaton Socon Trefoil Guild

The Trefoil Guild in Eaton Socon continued its programme of summer meetings with a Quiz night, a visit to Kimbolton Castle, a lovely walk around the Pocket Park and our annual BBQ in the Pightle (for which we are grateful to the Pals and ESCA committee) and in September we will be punting in Cambridge. One of the national trips next year is a cruise on the Danube, so if you are interested in meeting others and are over 18, Trefoil Guild might be for you. You do not have to have been in the Guide or Scout movement but need to believe in the values they hold. If you are interested, please email Allison at eatonsocontrefoilguild@gmail.com for more information.



Eatons WI - a new active group in the Eatons

Do you like chatting, eating cake and having a **giggle ... oh and trying** something fun? If the answer is yes then come and join the Eaton Belles WI.

With just seven months behind us Eaton Belles WI have had - a Valentine themed speed greeting for new members and quiz; followed by talks about Genealogy, WASPI, WI Resolutions, Chilli Farming, Bee Keeping, cakes, quizzes, egg decorating and time to chat!

In one meeting a lucky WI member had an hour of reflexology which had been her raffle prize at a previous month's meeting. The detailed tour of the human foot showed us how different parts of the feet relate to the rest of the body - who knew that you can tell what ailments a person may have from looking at their feet! It was a fascinating window into reflexology.

Upcoming events: demonstration of skin care and beauty tips, talk on folk medicine in Huntingdonshire, crochet poppies, wine tasting and the Christmas lights at Anglesey Abbey.

Join us every second Tuesday of the month at 7pm at Hanover Close Community Room, Mill Hill Road, Eaton Ford, PE19 7SG. **Meet new friends, learn new skills and make a difference on matters that are important today.** For more info see - www.thewi.org.uk or email at: eatonbelleswi@gmail.com



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Dates for History Groups

St. Neots Local History Society

Monthly meetings at Eynesbury C of E School Hall, Montagu St, Eynesbury at 7.30pm
Chairperson - Elaine Donaldson 01480 217492

Oct 6th **The Changing Face of Shops in St Neots**, by Sue Jarrett

Nov 3rd **Update on the Little End Excavations (Eaton Socon)**, by Jonathan House

Dec 1st **A Tudor Christmas, in Costume and Character**, by Katy Salmon

Colmworth & Neighbours History Society

All meetings held in Colmworth Village Hall, Fridays from 7.30pm to 9.30pm
Chairperson - Chris Walker 01234 771536

Oct 20th **Up the Cut - A Brief History of the Canals of England**, by Barry Tomlinson

Nov 17th **The Inexhaustible Paxton**, by Russell Bowes (previously scheduled for 16th June)

Roxton & District Local History Group

Meetings are at Roxton Village Hall (in the High Street) 7.30pm on the first Thursday of the month,

Oct 5th **Brampton Wood and historic woodland**, by George Cottam

Nov 2nd **My Life in Bedford Brickworks**, by David Szymanski



The thatched Chapel at Roxton

The chapel is a unique experience! Maybe you have visited it or you may even have seen inside it. At an Open Day recently some visitors were heard to exclaim "WOW!" as they stepped inside. That's because it is almost the same as when it was created over 200 years ago. At that time there wasn't a chapel in Roxton and the Lord of the Manor used to travel to worship at St Neots Congregational, now the URC. He and his young wife decided to convert a barn on the edge of his park and near the village main street into a chapel. So Roxton now has a lovely thatched chapel but which now needs re-thatching.

The chapel is open for :-

- Services every Sunday at 6pm (summer) and 3pm (winter)
- Coffee mornings on the 4th Thursday morning every month.
- Harvest Festival - 6pm on September 10th with traditional hymns and a fine display of produce and flowers:
- Coffee morning with sale on Tuesday September 12th at 10 am.

It is hoped that a grant towards the cost of re-thatching can be obtained but more help is also needed to help protect the building in other smaller ways. To find out more see website - www.FriendsofRoxtonThatchedChapel or phone Stella Gibbs on 01480 351931

Afternoon teas - Can you help ?

A charity called Contact the Elderly, plans to set up monthly Sunday afternoon teas later this year for isolated older guests in St Neots and Eaton Socon, but more volunteers and guests are needed before the group can launch. The groups are formed of around 6-8 older guests and their 3-4 volunteer drivers, who visit a different host's home each month. Each group will need -

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS - to drive an older guest to their tea party one Sunday afternoon a month from 3pm-5pm. Volunteer drivers also stay for the tea, before returning their guests home.

VOLUNTEER HOSTS - to host the group once or twice a year, and put on a spread of some tea, cake and sandwiches.

GROUP COORDINATOR - to oversee the running of the group (just an extra hour or two a month).

GUESTS - who are usually over 75, live alone, and struggle to get out or have become isolated for other reasons.

The tea parties are great fun, and make a real difference to the lives of the older guests that attend, many of whom struggle to get out otherwise. If you think you can help in any way please contact Jenny on 07379 519486, email jenny.bright@contact-the-elderly.org.uk or apply online at www.contact-the-elderly.org.uk/volunteer

ESCA Local History Books and Information

Now the evenings are drawing in enjoy time sitting in a comfortable armchair and a nice cup of tea or glass of wine reading one (or more) of ESCA's local history books.

All these booklets are available for reference in the St Neots and Huntingdon Reference Libraries and the County Archives offices in Bedford and Huntingdon. They 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, Hunts, 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"/> Trails Around 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"/> Eaton Socon Cemetery 1930 - 2002	£7.50
<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	£1.50
<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
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<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

I enclose a cheque for _____, made payable to ESCA.

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.



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Poppy Trail

In 2018 the St Neots Community Archive Group plans to create a Commonwealth War Graves Poppy Trail around the present town of St Neots.

Why?

1. In the present town of St Neots there are 25 Commonwealth War Graves of mainly local men and women who served in the 2 World Wars.
2. Their graves lie scattered in 4 cemeteries and 1 churchyard in 3 parishes.
3. Only 15 of the graves have recognisable Commonwealth War Grave headstones – the rest are private and nowhere is there a map of where they are.
4. 10 of these graves are of people not listed on the local War Memorials for a variety of reasons.

The project

It is planned to place a sculptured poppy at each grave and create a trail leaflet so that the graves can be identified and the story of the men and women told. This trail is unique as it joins the three parishes of this town which worked together during the war years before they were physically joined in the 1960s when part of Eaton Socon Parish joined the existing settlement of St Neots and Eynesbury. Thus the trail joins the former town and villages, in two different dioceses and in two former counties, people who served in the wars and some of whom are not listed on any War Memorial.

£500 has already been raised to support this project but more is needed so if you would like to help us recognise our Commonwealth War Graves and bring the stories of the men and women to life please contact Sue Jarrett on 01480 216065.

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