



# ESCAN

Your FREE Community Newsletter



Eatons Community Association - Registered Charity No.1110148

May to September 2017

## Eatons May Day Celebrations

Monday May 1st 2017

on Eaton Socon Green 12 noon – 4pm

12 noon -  
Stalls open

2pm - Crowning  
of the May Queen

3pm - Award of the  
Eatons Community Cup

4pm -  
Drawing of  
the Raffle



If you wish to find out more about the entertainment or stalls on May Day please contact ESCA (Eatons Community Association), 3 Collingwood Rd, Eaton Socon, St Neots, Cambs, PE19 8JQ or email [eatonsca@gmail.com](mailto:eatonsca@gmail.com)

**New this year - Then and Now Book 3** following on from the success of Parts 1 and 2 this new book will once again look at old photographs and explain what can be seen.

## Local History Exhibition

### St Mary's Church, Eaton Socon

Saturday 29th April and Monday 1st May 10am – 4pm

This year several small exhibitions are planned

**Then and Now Photographs** – including scenes from the sites of the new shops, the Great North Road, the Health Centre corner, Duloe Road and many more. Discover more about how the Eatons have changed.

**Old bottles found on the Lidl site** – Find out about local bottles, Eiffel Tower Fruit Juice, Camp Coffee and Garton's HP Sauce. Can anyone help with our Haza Tomato Sauce bottles?

**Floods and Pubs** – this year marks the 70th anniversary of the 1947 flooding in St Neots where many pubs were under water. Discover where it was possible to get a pint of beer and a pint of petrol!

- Buy local history books and trails
- Research local history archives for families and buildings



*Eaton Socon at a much quieter time*



*Hinsby bottle from St Neots*

## Eatons Events

**Lock Up/Cage Opening** – Free admission  
School Lane, Eaton Socon

May 28th	2pm – 4pm
Jun 25th	2pm – 4pm
Jul 30th	2pm – 4pm



**Eatons Open Gardens Sunday June 11th 1.30pm – 5.00pm**  
Programmes available from Eaton Socon Green from around 1.00pm.

Spend an afternoon exploring local gardens.  
All money raised goes to local Eatons good causes.

**Neat Street July 2017** Entries deadline June 17th

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TEL: 01480 356665

## Lots more news and views inside.

If you have any news or views please send to the Chairman no later than 26th July 2017 for inclusion in the next issue.

**We look forward to hearing from you.**

**Follow us on Twitter: @EatonsCA**

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



**C & A Hurst Opticians**  
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359, Great North Road Eaton Socon  
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## Useful Telephone Numbers

<b>Street Lighting</b> report the number on the lamp-post, the street name and town.	<b>0800 253 529</b>
<b>St Neots Town Council</b>	<b>01480 388911</b>
<b>Police</b>	<b>01480 456111</b>
<b>Gas Emergency</b>	<b>0800 111 999</b>
<b>Electricity Emergency</b> 24 Seven EME	<b>0800 783 8838</b> <b>0800 056 8090</b> <b>08457 145 145</b>
<b>Water Emergencies</b>	
<b>Huntingdonshire District Council</b> General Enquiries Out of Hours Emergencies Fly Tipping	<b>01480 388388</b> <b>01480 434167</b> <b>01480 388640</b>
<b>Local Halls</b> Jubilee Hall Duloe Village Hall St Marys Church Hall Eaton Socon Eatons Community Centre Eaton Socon Sports Assoc Hall	<b>01480 392733</b> <b>07768 303373</b> <b>01480 352154</b> <b>01480 388922</b> <b>0791 7017048</b>
<b>Doctors Surgeries</b> Eaton Socon Health Centre Cedar House Surgery	<b>01480 210000</b> <b>01480 406677</b>
<b>Eaton Socon Children's Centre, Bushmead Rd</b>	<b>01480 358340</b>
<b>Bushmead School</b>	<b>01480 375375</b>
<b>Crosshall Infants School</b>	<b>01480 475980</b>
<b>Crosshall Junior School</b>	<b>01480 475972</b>
<b>Community Car Scheme</b>	<b>01480 476047</b>



## Useful Websites

ESCA	<a href="http://www.esca.org.uk">www.esca.org.uk</a>
St Neots Town Council	<a href="http://www.stneots-tc.gov.uk">www.stneots-tc.gov.uk</a>
Eaton Socon Health Centre	<a href="http://www.eatonsoconhealthcentre.co.uk">www.eatonsoconhealthcentre.co.uk</a>
Cedar House Surgery	<a href="http://www.cedarhousesurgery.net">www.cedarhousesurgery.net</a>
St Neots Archives	<a href="http://www.st-neots.ccan.co.uk">www.st-neots.ccan.co.uk</a>
Paxton Pits	<a href="http://www.paxton-pits.org.uk">www.paxton-pits.org.uk</a>
Sudbury Meadow	<a href="http://www.sudburymeadow.org.uk">www.sudburymeadow.org.uk</a>
St Marys Church	<a href="http://www.eatonsocon.org">www.eatonsocon.org</a>
Pightle	<a href="http://www.eatonsoconpightle.org.uk">www.eatonsoconpightle.org.uk</a>
Bushmead School	<a href="http://www.bushmeadprimaryschool.org.uk">www.bushmeadprimaryschool.org.uk</a>
Duloe, Staploe and Honeydon	<a href="http://www.staploeduloeandhoneydonparishcouncil.bedsparishes.gov.uk">www.staploeduloeandhoneydonparishcouncil.bedsparishes.gov.uk</a>
St Neots Time Bank	<a href="http://www.stneotstimebank.org.uk">www.stneotstimebank.org.uk</a>
River Church	<a href="http://www.riverchurchstneots.co.uk">www.riverchurchstneots.co.uk</a>
St. Neots Children's Centres	<a href="http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/childrenscentres">www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/childrenscentres</a>



## Who's Who at ESCA

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

### 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

### Eatons Open Gardens

Sunday June 11th 1.30-5pm  
Tickets available Eaton Socon Village Green

### Ex Services Fete/Fun Day

Sun 3rd Sep 2017 from 12 noon to 4pm on Ackerman Green. Free entry. Includes Stalls, Dog Show, Mini Fair, Army Cadets, Car Boot, Tractors. The club and bar will be open.

### St. Neots Choral Society and Sinfonia

Jun 24th 7.30pm **Last Night of the Proms**  
at St Mary's Church Eaton Socon

### St Mary's Eaton Socon

May 13th - **Groundforce Day** 9am - 1pm  
May 29th - Jun 2nd - **Week of Prayer**  
St Mary's is open for prayer  
Jun 25th - **Church BBQ on the Green & Open Church Sunday**  
Sep 16th - **Scratch Vivaldi Music Event** -  
in support of the St Mary's Piano Fund  
For more details see website: [eatonsocon.org](http://eatonsocon.org)

### Events in the Town

Apr 23rd **St George's Day event**, Regatta Meadow 11.30am-5pm  
Jun 9th-11th **Folk Festival**  
Jul 1st **Armed Forces Day**, Regatta Meadow 12 noon-6pm  
Jul 15th **History Festival**, Market Square, 11am-4pm  
Aug 19th **Dragon Boat Festival**, Regatta Meadow, 12 noon-6pm

### Little Barford Church Service

#### Ascension Day service

Thursday 25th May at 7.00pm.

Please wrap up warm if it is a chilly evening as there is no electricity in this church. Directions for the car park will be signposted on the day from Little Barford village – A lovely little church and well worth a visit.



## Protecting older or more vulnerable residents in the Eatons



Do you know that Eaton Socon has two No Cold Calling Zones – Baron Court and Duloe Brook. These zones were set up to discourage cold callers and to give residents the confidence to say 'no' to uninvited sales people – helping to prevent people falling victim to distraction burglars and rogue traders.

Whilst the zones were originally introduced by Cambridgeshire Trading Standards, it is recognised that community-led action is much more effective in protecting local people from unscrupulous tradespeople. Indeed, the best prevention and support for residents comes from within their own community.

We can offer a range of materials for your residents including door stickers, advice on how to spot a rogue trader and tips to prevent unwanted mail and phone calls. We invite a local coordinator to disseminate this information and look after a NCCZ on behalf of its residents. This would preferably be someone living within the zone but could also be someone residing close by. Could that be you?

If you feel you can help, even if your time and ability is limited, we would love to hear from you. A NCCZ can really be reinvigorated with a little community action; just a good neighbour keeping an eye out makes all the difference.

For more information please contact Elaine Mountfort, Community Protection Officer at [elaine.mountfort@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:elaine.mountfort@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or on 01954 286006 or 07810 153604.

**Copy date for the next edition of ESCAN for news, adverts and information – 26th July 2017.**

Please send ESCAN letters & Adverts to ESCA, 3 Collingwood Rd, Eaton Socon, St Neots, PE19 8JQ Email – [eatonsocon@gmail.com](mailto:eatonsocon@gmail.com)

# Chairman's Spot

Welcome to another copy of ESCAN, your free community newsletter from the Eatons Community Association (ESCA).

2017 is once again a year full of celebrations and festivities with - St George's Day in April, May Day in Eaton Socon, the Folk Festival and the Eatons Open Gardens in June, the Armed Forces Day, the History Festival and Rowing Regatta in July and Dragon Boat racing in August. There are also various church events so there are lots to see and do in the next few months.

Keep a look out on our ESCA website, in the newspapers, on the village green noticeboards and the town council website for current information on these events. This town has something for everyone to enjoy. Hope to see you there.

**Sue Jarrett, ESCA Chairman**

**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  
Derek Giles - 01480 731321  
Bob Farrer - 01480 404014  
Gordon Thorpe - 07956 878780

**EATON SOCON**  
Barry Banks - 07710 209950  
Roger Harrison - 07717 666238  
Ben Hicks - 01480 700463,  
mobile 07528 227964  
Colin Maslen - 07810 481941

Councillors' surgeries: Cloisters, Priory Centre  
Sat 13th May - Eaton Socon Ward Sat 15th July - Eaton Ford Ward

## Encore!

"Encore! Concerts for all, big and small" meet in Eaton Socon Church on the third Thursday of the month to bring live music to everyone from babies to grandparents in a relaxed and informal environment. Everyone is encouraged to react to music however they want - jumping up and down, dancing, sitting, lying down or drawing pictures inspired by what they have heard. But above all, they learn that music is fun and there's something very exciting about hearing it live. The concerts feature professionals from the local area as well as from London. Adult tickets cost £6 which includes tea and homemade cake, and pre-school children are free.

## 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](http://www.stneots.foodbank.org.uk)

## 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**

## 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](http://www.ruralcambscab.org.uk)

**citizens  
advice  
bureau**

## 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

## Eaton Socon Charities

Each year at Christmas time the charities help some residents with money and/or a hamper and 2016 was no exception. The trustees were delighted to receive some letters of thanks including the following - 'I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people involved in the charity gift. It was wonderful! Mr and Mrs C Pope'

## 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 **£900** has been received since September. All money received comes to ESCA and will be shared by local groups in the Eatons.



## 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](http://www.cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk)

## 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](mailto:firefire@cambsfire.gov.uk) or the website [www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk) to book an appointment.

## Doctors Appointments

Have you ever tried had difficulty getting a doctor's appointment? If so I am sure that you will be horrified to find that at the Eaton Socon Health Centre there were 348 missed appointments in January and February - this is more than 8 appointments each day and means that an average of 58 hours were wasted in two months. So, please, if you manage to get an appointment - try not to miss it!

## 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](mailto:stuart.ross3@ntlworld.com)

# The Eatons Community Centre



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

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

01480 388922

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Opening Times: Mon - Fri; 9am - 5pm (Please ring for an appointment)

[www.all-eyes.co.uk](http://www.all-eyes.co.uk)

## Open Gardens Sunday 11th June 2017

Last year's Eatons Open Gardens was a great success and the money was used to extend children's environmental activities. We are still looking for more gardens to make this event bigger and this year the date has been set for the afternoon of Sunday 11th June, so if you have a garden you would like to share with others and help to raise money for local good causes please let ESCA know at 3 Collingwood Road, Eaton Socon or email [eatonsca@gmail.com](mailto:eatonsca@gmail.com). Tickets and programmes will be available nearer the time. Watch out in the local newspapers and noticeboards for exact timings nearer the event.



FRIENDS  
OF  
SUDBURY  
MEADOW

## Sudbury Meadow

My experience as a volunteer at Sudbury Meadow  
By Othelia Agar Stallbom

"When I first started volunteering at Sudbury Meadow, I had no idea what to expect. I had only discovered this lovely little patch of public meadow, formal gardens and orchard a few weeks before – hidden from general view next to Cavendish Court. Quiet and secluded, it offers somewhere to wander around and enjoy both formal areas such as the butterfly garden, and less formal areas like the meadow itself. The other volunteers I met there were friendly and approachable, and I had no trouble settling in. Not having my own garden, or much experience of gardening, it was a great way for me to learn from others who do. During each work party there was something else to turn our hands to – from trimming hedges, weeding, planting, coppicing and apple picking. There are tools available for each job, and a lot of friendly banter. A cup of tea half way through the morning, and lunch or a pint at the Barley Mow afterwards is also not out of the question. Each year the volunteers are also invited to take part in the Big Garden Birdwatch. Getting up early and coming out in the cold is definitely worth the experience of spending some time recording which birds frequent the meadow and how many, and being part of this nationwide project. I have learnt so much since joining the Sudbury Meadow work party as a volunteer – about solitary bees, snakes, pruning, sowing, and growing. But most of all, I have enjoyed the opportunity of spending time in nature, in a friendly, peaceful environment, where the work is sometimes physically hard, but always very rewarding."



If you want to help out at Sudbury Meadow, check out the Friends of Sudbury Meadow's website [www.sudburymeadow.org.uk](http://www.sudburymeadow.org.uk) for more details or phone Alison on 01480 374792. You can also find details of work parties on the site notice board. We look forward to seeing you!



**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



# HELP WANTED!

The Pightle is used by many people to walk their dogs or just 'to wander round' The Pightle is NOT a council run facility but is funded by local residents for all to enjoy.

The general maintenance is carried out by a very small team of volunteers who enjoy spending a few hours each week to 'potter about' doing essential jobs so that you can enjoy your walks. The Pightle needs more helpers and here is how you might participate.

When you visit The Pightle take a pair of secateurs with you and trim off any overhanging brambles or branches. Ivy is great for birds but it can kill our trees. Why not 'adopt a tree' and cut back the ivy and inter-growing elder and return the tree to its original glory. One or two helpers do a couple of hours per week. That time is so well spent. Perhaps you could help keeping the paths mown using one of our motor mowers. That takes a couple of hours every two or three weeks in the summer. (Training given!)

Loads of work opportunities and not many people to help. So can you help? Contact Derek Giles on **731321** or have a chat with a volunteer next time you are in The Pightle.

## St. Neots & District Gardening Club

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

- May 25th **Alpines and other Rockery Plants**, by Barry Gayton  
Competition - One stem of a Foliage Plant
- Jun 1st **Visit to Jordan's Mill**, near Biggleswade
- Jun 22nd **Dig For Victory**, by Twigs Way  
Competition - One stem of Roses
- Jun 25th **Trip to Marks Hall Gardens and Beth Chatto's Gardens in Essex**
- Jul 27th **Topical Presentations**  
Competition - One pot plant
- Aug 12th **Annual Summer Show at Eatons Community Centre**,  
open to visitors at 2pm
- Aug 24th **Trip to Edible Ornamentals Chilli Nursery at Chawston**
- Sept 28th **A.G.M.** and suggestions of topics for open meetings and places to visit for next year  
Competition - One Vase of Cut Flowers



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**T NEAT STREET**

This popular event is now in its 14th year with Spencer Close winning the competition for the second time last year. It is now time to enter your street for this year's competition so get together with your neighbours and enter for Neat Street 2017. Streets will be judged on (1) the absence of weeds on kerbs and gutters, (2) no litter, (3) maintained front gardens or frontages and (4) unobstructed pavements. Contact ESCA by phone or email and enter your street by June 17th. Longer streets can be split into smaller sections.

**Fly tipping**

If you spot something that is flytipped then take a photo and send it to [clive.durston@huntingdonshire.gov.uk](mailto:clive.durston@huntingdonshire.gov.uk) saying where the location is.

# 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

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

## Nails by Claire Pateman

### Fibreglass & Silk Nail Enhancements

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St. Neots Area

Tel: 0787 944 6463

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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](mailto:timevolunteers@hotmail.co.uk) or Tel: 07590909057.

[www.stneotstimebank.org.uk](http://www.stneotstimebank.org.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/timebankstneots](http://www.facebook.com/timebankstneots)

tweet: [twitter.com/StNeotsTimeBank](https://twitter.com/StNeotsTimeBank)



## Eaton Socon Trefoil Guild trip to Mexico October 22nd – November 6th 2016

Did you enjoy guiding when you were younger? Four of our local Trefoil Guild visited Mexico last October and had a wonderful time. The trip included time in Mexico City and at Our Cabana (a World Guide Centre).

At Our Cabana the theme was Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead) – new crafts were learnt, local places were visited and new guiding friendships were forged. At a pool party and an international evening information, gifts and food were shared from each country. The group also took part in a 'service project' where crafts and games were played with children from a local children's home.

The final day saw a visit to the pyramids in the mountains at Xochicalco which has its own observatory and the Pyramid of the Feathered Serpent. The whole trip resulted in new found friends and many amazing memories.

The next trip to a World Guide Centre is being planned!

## "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](http://www.bit.ly/snbikerides) and for the next bike ride see [www.bit.ly/snnext](http://www.bit.ly/snnext) or phone Richard Cooper, Volunteer Liaison Ranger, email - [ranger@ridingbike.co.uk](mailto:ranger@ridingbike.co.uk) or Tel 01480 718818.

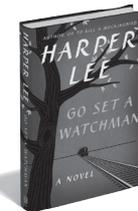
## Eaton Socon Trefoil Guild

Our Trefoil Guild continues to meet on the first Tuesday of the month and we have a varied programme planned for the coming year including a quiz night, walks, a visit to Kimbolton Castle, punting, a BBQ on the Pightle and a talk from the RNLI. If you are over 18 and enjoy meeting others, this group may be for you – whether you have been in the Guide or Scout movement or not. There are also regional activities, trips and excursions available to all members. The venues for our meetings vary depending on what we are doing so for more information please email [eatonsocontrefoilguild@gmail.com](mailto:eatonsocontrefoilguild@gmail.com)

**We look forward to meeting you!**

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:Janine.usher@littlemiraclescharity.org.uk) or phone 07446 992591



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Written by Louise Roche

# 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

- May 5th **One of the Few – the story of a Spitfire Pilot**, by John Shipman  
May 21st (Sunday) **Beating the Bounds** – a 14 mile walk around the St. Neots parish Boundary  
Jun 2nd **The Kimbolton Iron Age coin hoard**, by Liz Davies  
Jul 7th **Visit to Castor** – St. Kyneburgha's Church and Surroundings, by Jackie Cook  
Aug 4th **Guided walk around St. Neots Parish Church**, by David Rudd  
Sep 1st **Industrial Archaeology, the story of the former Cheddars Lane Pumping Station, Cambridge**, by Alan Denney

## Colmworth & Neighbours History Society

All meetings held in Colmworth Village Hall, Fridays from 7.30pm to 9.30pm unless advised differently.

- May 19th **The Making of the Bedfordshire Countryside**, by Brian Kerr  
Jun 16th **The Inexhaustible Paxton**, by Russell Bowes  
Sep 15th **AGM at 7pm**, followed by a light meal (ordered in advance) and the Palace of Curiosities

## Roxton & District Local History Group

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

- Apr 6th **Amy Wonderful Amy! the life of the early air pioneer Amy Johnson**, by Roy Smart  
May 4th **Bletchley Park**, a talk by guide Bob Lovsey  
Jun 1st **The Development of Coins with Trade**, by Nigel Lutt  
Jul An Outing to be arranged  
Sep 7th tbc



## "Friends of Roxton Congregational Church" Group

Roxton's unique Grade II thatched chapel has been used for worship for over 200 years and it now needs help to maintain it.

It is proposed that a new group is formed - "Friends of Roxton Congregational Church", which will operate independently to provide support for the building by working with the worshippers to identify priority needs and raise funds. You may know the building, have a family connection or may just be keen to support an historic building. Anyone will be able to join the "Friends" group – to support the church, serve on the committee or perhaps advise the group in some way.

If you wish to help in some way to protect this ancient building for the future, please contact Stella Gibbs tel. 01480 3651931 for more information and the date of the inaugural meeting of the 'Friends' in June (date to be advised).

## The Eatons Then and Now Book 3

The new book this year is once again full of new and old photographs of scenes around the Eatons. Past photographs are compared with modern photographs and there are written explanations about each picture so the reader can identify past buildings. This scene shows a very quiet scene near The Wheatsheaf on Eaton Socon village green – when horses were the main transport and double telegraph poles stretched the length of the Great North Road linking Edinburgh and London.



Views in the book include where the new shops have been built and of the archaeological finds, Chapel Cottages, the Great North Road near the Black Horse and the White Lion, the Health Centre corner, Duloe Road and many more. So why not come along over the May Weekend, buy a book and discover how the Eatons have changed.

# ESCA Local History Books and Information

Now that Spring is with us, enjoy an afternoon in the garden reading one (or some) 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
<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"/> The Eatons Then and Now	£5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> The Eatons Then and Now Book 2	£5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Eaton Socon - Limited Edition Glass	£8.99
<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"/> Tea Towel	£3.95
<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"/> <b>The Eatons Then and Now Book 3</b>	£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)

**Only a few left of our limited edition tea towels showing farms around the Eatons area. £3.95 each – only available from ESCA or St. Neots Museum.**



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