

November 2022

60p
FREE Digitally!

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Eastcombe, Bussage & Brownshill Newsletter

Welcome to November issue of the newsletter. Please send your news, updates and photos to eastcombenewsletter@btinternet.com by noon on the 20th of each month.

Read the newsletter online at www.bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk/ and www.chalford-glos.gov.uk/. Receive it FREE by email each month: contact eastcombebambnews@gmail.com to join the circulation list.

Printed copies are available to buy at 60p per copy (towards printing costs) from **Eastcombe Stores, Eastcombe Post Office, Frith Community Café** and **Chalford Parish Centre**. The newsletter is also available to customers of local businesses, including **Head First** and **The Lamb Inn**, Eastcombe.



40 YEARS OF STYLES & SMILES!

Hair stylist, Louise Price, of Eastcombe, is celebrating four decades of making hair look fabulous at her salon in Gloucester Street, Stroud.



Louise moved from Coventry to Stroud with her family when she was five years old and attended Manor School (now Thomas Keble). She joined the salon in 1982 as an apprentice, took over in 2000 and is still going strong. Louise told the SNJ: 'It is a testament to enjoying what you do and working with great people.'

Over the last 40 years, Louise has seen a wide range of hair styles; when she started, big hair and perms were all the rage, while some hairstyles are now coming back into fashion, including mullets and teenage boys requesting perms. She is amazed at how technology has improved the industry, with clients' records now available at a click of a button, appointments made via the website and text messages sent as reminders.

On September 30th, Louise celebrated her 40 years at the salon with a Macmillan Coffee Morning, which raised £490. Louise's mum, Edna Powell, who was well-known locally in connection with Stroud Country Show and the Cotswold Sewing Machines shop in Lansdown, sadly died in 2018 and Louise has been running coffee mornings for Macmillan in her memory ever since.

Louise said, "I'll be celebrating with my fabulous team and new and long-standing clients, many of whom have been with us from the start. Our success and longevity are down to exceptional level of customer service which runs through the team. We want each client to have the best experience and love creating a welcoming-all inclusive environment."

Contact Vogue: info@voguehaircare.co.uk or visit www.voguehaircare.co.uk

Eastcombe Baptist Clock Rings Out Again!

The chimes have returned! Eastcombe Baptist Church clock is once more ringing out over the village after a break of several months.

It took a team effort to restore the chimes to working order, with the clock mechanism needing considerable attention, kindly provided by David Duval of Old Bussage.

Put simply, the clock has 4 main parts, with two trains, both powered by weights. The main weight is extremely heavy but descends very slowly, only re-winding about once a week in normal service, with winding motors automatically switching on as the weights near the bottom and off again when the weights are rewound.

Recent problems saw the clock going train run down completely, and it would not rewind, despite manual operation of the switch. The weight suspension cable, which is very thin, was left under considerable tension, making it impossible to investigate what was wrong. Fortunately, helpers came to the rescue, lifting the weight from below (resting it, rather fittingly, on a Sunday School chair!). This allowed the cable to be disconnected and the clock dismantled and thoroughly examined, with several sections replaced, and the whole mechanism cleaned and re-oiled before being re-built. It was slightly reluctant to re-start, but the movement then settled down to smooth operation, and it is so far keeping good time and striking the hours correctly.

Special thanks go to the team who restored the clock to working order, particularly David Duval and Rev. Richard Mortimer, as well as the 'weight lifting' volunteers!

CAN YOU HELP? The clock will need continued monitoring and further occasional maintenance, so a new volunteer is being sought to help keep things going (literally). Initial support will be available, while an appreciation of how turret clocks work would be useful. For more information, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dr5XYle5PMc.

If you can help maintain this historic clock, please contact Rev. Richard Mortimer at Eastcombe Baptist Church:
revrpmecb@gmail.com or
01452 770595

See PAGE 7 for more about the Baptist Church clock.



REMEMBER WILDLIFE THIS NOVEMBER! See PAGE 6 for how you can help look after hedgehogs this bonfire night.



A Trip to the Holy Land

September 2022 saw me in the Holy Land, co-leading a trip postponed from 2020.

As a third time visitor I found great encouragement from those for whom it was the first time - the recognition that the places they had read about in their Bibles were here in front of them, albeit under several metres of stone (for everywhere remotely connected with Jesus, someone has put up a building).

For me, highlights were the view from the Mount of Olives, where beneath you is the city of old Jerusalem and you can trace the paths that Jesus must have followed, particularly in the last few days before crucifixion, a visit to the shepherds' fields above Bethlehem and to a Christian charity which provides a home and education for Palestinian children in need, the garden tomb and its reminder that Jesus is risen. Highlights also included floating in the Dead Sea, a walk through the streets of old Jerusalem, the Sea of Galilee - here was a place Jesus would have seen and where you could sense his presence now - and the River Jordan, with its reminder of baptism into the family of Christ.

The most lasting impression, however, was the love and care that each member of the group, some travelling alone, most not knowing very many others beforehand, brought with them, and it is that sense of journey, pilgrimage together, that will not leave me. Pilgrimage is where strangers become family.



A walk through the old city



View from the Mount of Olives



A boat ride across the Sea of Galilee

Rev. Sue Murray

WALKING THE FIVE VALLEYS

Sunday September 25th 2022 saw the return of Stroud-based charity Meningitis Now's Five Valleys Walk after a 2 year interruption, due to Covid. It was a wonderful sunny day, with many walkers descending from Minchinhampton Common and travelling up the Toadsmoor Valley, before heading off towards Slad.

In the 30 years since Meningitis Now was founded, they have funded research, provided support & worked to raise public awareness of the disease. Meningitis Now's vision is a future where no-one in the UK loses their life to meningitis and everyone affected gets the support they need to rebuild their lives.

MN is an effective and efficiently run charity, where a large proportion of donations are used to directly deliver support. Many local people support this local charity, either by taking part in events or by sponsoring others who do so. Gerry Moutrey, of Eastcombe, has completed the walk many times with friends (including cocker spaniels!). He told us: 'It's a fantastic way of celebrating the beautiful countryside we are fortunate to live in and to raise funds for a great cause.'

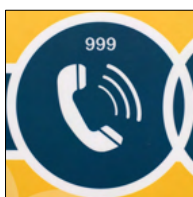
This year's Five Valleys Walk raised over £35,000 for the charity and is a really welcome source of income for MN after a couple of difficult years.

To support Meningitis Now, visit their website: www.meningitisnow.org/. After all, charity begins at home!

Meningitis
now



Community Support for Cardiac Arrest



Most of us are aware of defibrillators available in our local area. Some have attended training for using these defibrillators, although, even without training, defibrillators are relatively easy to use, with clear audible and visual guidance provided.

In the event of dealing with a cardiac arrest, it is essential that support is provided as quickly as possible. The use of a local defibrillator will 'buy' time for professional medical support to arrive on the scene.

Recognising that it can be challenging for lone individuals using a defibrillator in an emergency situation, the Community Heartbeat Trust has developed a Volunteer Emergency Telephone System (VETS) as support. This is a co-ordinated telephone system that backs up the 999 call and summons rapid local assistance to the person supporting the cardiac arrest victim. A more detailed explanation is available on the Community Heartbeat Trust web site: www.communityheartbeat.org.uk/

Frithwood Surgery are currently exploring setting up the VETS system in our community. To do this effectively, volunteers are needed. No formal medical training is necessary, but it would be helpful to be familiar with defibrillator use. A general training session will be held for VETS volunteers.

If you are able to support the community in this way, please complete the form at <https://bit.ly/frithwood> or give your details to Frithwood Surgery reception.

Thank you.



'WARM WELCOME'

at The Lamb Inn

Join us to share warmth, company and free refreshments

Every Tuesday & Thursday 2-5pm

(starting Tuesday 1st November)

ALL WELCOME!

Don't forget: you are also welcome to join us at the Community Coffee Morning, 11am every Wednesday at The Lamb Inn - coffee, tea and drinks on sale.

Going **GREENER!**

Make 2022 a bit Greener:

Take this energy improvement survey to see if there are ways you could save money:

www.gov.uk/improve-energy-efficiency

Bisley, Eastcombe & Oakridge Climate Action Network



CHALFORD PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER: November 2022

01453 887204; info@chalford-glos.gov.uk www.chalford-glos.gov.uk.

Follow us on Facebook.



As we write, Robert Hitchens' contractors are busy felling and pruning trees in **Frith Wood**. The felling of diseased trees is necessary to help prevent spread to other areas. Crowning improves the health of a tree and surrounding plants due to the increase in light and air. Hopefully, by the time you read this, the work will have been completed and life will have returned to peace and tranquillity. Unfortunately, there is also piling work being carried out on development land near Toadsmoor, which is adding to the noise.

For the last few months we have expressed hope that the transfer of **Silver Street car park** to Chalford Parish Council will have been finalised. At the time of writing, we are still waiting for the legal process to be completed. Maybe next month!

We are in the process of setting up a **'warm room'** for residents to gather over the winter months, with some wonderful residents coming forward to help manage the project. Hot drinks and (it is hoped) a simple meal will be supplied. The Frith Youth Centre has offered to host on a Friday, so we are nearly there. As soon as we have everything in place, we will publicise the project.

Many people have asked about the missing **dog bin** in Highfield Way. The bin was taken away by Stroud District Council as it was disintegrating. We asked for a new bin to be installed at the start of Accommodation Lane and this was agreed, however, due to stock problems, a replacement bin has taken far longer than expected. SDC has advised us that they now have the bin, so hopefully it won't be too long before it is installed.

The mobile enforcement camera van has been positioned 21 times at the top of Old Neighbourhood recently, with 27 motorists found to be speeding, 34 not wearing seatbelts and 3 using a mobile phone. We are urging the Police to make more regular checks. On 4th October, at 8pm, a vehicle, travelling away from Fourways crossroads towards Old Neighbourhood, passed SID at 80 mph. YES, 80!!! How they took the corner beggars belief.

The **Parish Centre** really is a little treasure trove - we have a large selection of books and a few jigsaws. If you have any jigsaws you don't need, please donate them. Thanks to generous residents, we also have a large supply of dry goods, including toiletries, tins of soup, pasta and much more. Donations are always welcome. 'Barry', our freezer of love, also has a wide variety of frozen meals prepared by the Long Table.

Marle Hill footpath - contractors employed by GCC Public Rights of Way (PROW) have finished work to fix a longstanding flooding problem on a Marle Hill footpath. The fix looks good, but we'll keep an eye on it. Repairing the damaged path surface has been added to the Footpath Volunteers' long list of jobs!

Finally, we are sure children have discovered the **new activity trail** that we have recently installed in Bussage Pleasure Ground.

Why Not Come Along to a Meeting? - Our next Full Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, 3rd November 2022 at 7pm, at The Parish Centre, Gerald's Way. Please contact the Clerk beforehand to let her know if you would like to attend, particularly if you wish to speak, so that she can make time for your issue on the agenda. Contact details above.

BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL: November Update:

Thomas Keble School: The plans for the re-development of the school have been passed by Stroud District Council and work is expected to start shortly. The new facilities will be built, and, once complete, the old buildings will be demolished. Full details of the plans and planning conditions can be found on the SDC Planning website, reference S.22/0918.

Woodland at Fourways: As you may have seen, an area of woodland at Fourways junction is up for sale, and the Parish Council is seeking to put in a bid. We are hoping to liaise with Chalford PC and other interested parties so that a realistic bid can be put together and the land secured for future use by the parish. The guide price is 'Offers in Excess of £25,000' and the **deadline for tenders is 2pm on November 4th**. Would you support this venture and is it a good use of Parish funds? To express your views or contribute towards the bid, please email the Clerk (admin@bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk) or the Chair (mike.eccott@bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk) in good time for the deadline of November 4th.



Remembrance Service: A short service will be held at the Eastcombe War Memorial in the Baptist Churchyard on Saturday 12th November at 10:45am. Wreaths will be laid by the Parish Council and the WI.

Neighbourhood Watch Crime and Community Survey: To take part in this annual survey, please visit our website, where you will find a link on our Home page: www.bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk/

The Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP): Thank you to everyone who took the time to comment on the NDP at the recent Autumn Shows. Comments on Draft Policies are extremely useful and we will now be analysing the comments and further refining the policies. For the latest information, visit: www.bisleyeastcombeoakridge-ndp2030.org.uk/

SDC Planning Meeting: A recent meeting between several Parish Councillors and representatives of the SDC Planning Department discussed issues surrounding how planning decisions were made, including case studies from past applications, both Approved and Refused, and the difficulties surrounding applications associated with Listed Buildings. Housing strategy was also discussed, along with the impact of climate change. Further details of these discussions will be posted on the Parish Council website, in the September minutes.

Snow Group: With winter approaching, a timely reminder that the Eastcombe Snow Group aims to ensure that roads and lanes not gritted by SDC are kept clear in the event of adverse weather. The group is co-ordinated by Louie Wilkes and Mike Dorey. If you would like more information or to get involved, please contact Louie: ms.louie.wilkes@gmail.com.

Eastcombe Baptist Church

A service is held every Sunday morning at 10:30am at the church in Dr Crouch's Road, Eastcombe.



christmas party

2 Course £27.95

3 course £32.95

Book now for your CHRISTMAS PARTY

Work party or family get-together
Available 1st - 23rd December

01452 770223
www.lambinneastcombe.co.uk



HILLTOP CAFÉ CHURCH

Christian Worship for those of all faiths and none.

Sunday 20th November

2.30PM

EASTCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

ESCAPE TO EASTCOMBE!

October saw the BBC1 programme *Escape to the Country* visit Eastcombe, as a soon-to-be-retired vicar and her husband sought a new home near their Gloucestershire-based grandchildren.

Watch the programme here:
www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001d80n




CHALFORD HILL SCHOOL PTA

BONFIRE NIGHT

SUNDAY 6TH NOVEMBER AT FRANCE LYNCH PLEASURE GROUND
BAR, BBQ & BONFIRE FROM 5PM, FIREWORKS 6PM

TICKETS: £15 PER FAMILY OF 4, OR £5 PER PERSON, UNDER 3'S ARE FREE
GET YOUR TICKETS AT WWW.PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/CHALFORDHILLSCHOOLPTA

Tickets are now on sale for the fabulous Chalford Hill School PTA Bonfire Night.
Advance purchase only—no ticket sales on the night!
Visit:
www.pta-events.co.uk/chalfordhillschoolpta/index.cfm#.Yzsq-NPTWE

St Michael's & All Angels, Bussage

Visitors are always welcome at our services.

Services for this month are:

November 13th - Holy Communion at 9.30am

November 20th - Morning Prayer* at 9.30am

November 20th - Hilltop Café Church at 2.30pm (Eastcombe Village Hall) - **see poster**

*Morning Prayer is a simpler and shorter service

On the other Sundays there are services in different parts of the Benefice. For full details please visit www.bisleybenefice.org.uk or sign up to our mailing list: pewslipsbisley@hotmail.com

For weddings, funerals and baptisms, please contact Rev Sue Murray: vicar@bisleybenefice.org.uk

FRITH COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The Community Cafe will be holding its **Christmas Craft Fayre** on **Wednesday 16th November, 10.15-12 noon at Frith Youth Centre**, in Brownshill, with local crafts on sale, including: scarves, aprons, wash bags, knitted items, plants, recycled items, Christmas cards, herbal products and much more...

Come and join us for a browse, a hot drink, festive fare and a chat to friends.

Carol and team



SAVE THE DATE!

On 14th December the Frith Community Cafe holds their popular **CHRISTMAS PARTY** with

Connect, a local Christian Group, led by Alisdair Longwill. Join us from 10.15am for Christmas Carols, live music and a Christmas Quiz. Wear a funny Christmas hat (there will be a prize for the funniest) and reflect on the real meaning of Christmas while enjoying a hot drink and mince pies. All welcome.



BUSSAGE SCHOOL COMMUNITY CAROLS, 6-6.30pm, Monday 5th December, Bussage Primary School.

You are warmly invited to join neighbours, pupils and staff at Bussage Primary School for our annual informal carol event, where the school orchestra and singers will help us celebrate Christmas with this popular **indoor event with an outdoor feel**. Festive mulled wine, squash and mince pies will be served. For more information contact the school on 01453 883205 or Alisdair Longwill on 07837 364003.

Bussage Primary School: November 2022

Quiz Night and Christmas Fair: Lots of fun was had by all at the quiz night on 15th October and we raised over £800 for the PTA. Congratulations to team Quizzzy Rascals who came in 1st place and won a month's membership at Golden Valley CrossFit!

SAVE THE DATE... Our Christmas Fair is Friday 25th November 5.30-7.30pm.

What happened in October? 'Eco campaigner Josie lights up her school' - A video produced by the Diocese of Gloucester, showing the visit of the Bishop of Tewksbury to talk to pupil Josie Tomlinson and some of her classmates, was published on the Diocese website on the 4th October. See it here: www.gloucester.anglican.org/news-events/. The video can also be viewed on our school website.

On Monday 10th October, the whole school spent time thinking about the importance of mental health and well being. Everyone dressed in green and brought in a donation to raise money for TIC+ (Teens in Crisis). The children enjoyed participating in a range of activities to promote good mental health: yoga, peer massage, outdoor learning, mindful colouring and emotion awareness, to name but a few. To see pictures from the day, please the school website at www.bussageprimaryschool.co.uk.

Visit us! If you are new to the area or have a child starting school soon, we would love to show you around our school, please contact us for more details on 01453 883 205.

EASTCOMBE WI: November Update

Although our numbers were depleted for our October meeting, quite an amount of business was dealt with. After tea and biscuits, and the raffle, we were introduced to our speaker, Phil Collins, although, as he said "not THAT one."



Phil is a proud Cheltonian and he entertained us with the history of the town, using a series of wonderful old postcards. On the first, messages had to be written around the front edges or on the pictures themselves. Only an address was on the back.

On the screen, we followed the development of the Spa culture and saw the official crest with the motto translating to Health and Education, a theme still ongoing. Pictures of many Spa sites, the Ladies College and the leafy streets and parks were shown.

The messages on the back of later postcards were also broadcast on the screen, making a reality of the past. We were all tempted by the thought of a tour round the history of the town.

Phil was thanked by Glenys and applauded by the members.

Eastcombe WI are a very friendly group of women who enjoy friendships, good speakers and outings. Most meetings are open to visitors for a small fee and new members are always welcome—**however, the next 2 meetings are only for members.** Visitors are welcome from January once more.

For more information please contact the Secretary, Glenys Sharpe, on 01453 886298.

District Council Notes for November:

Recycling: Stroud District has one of the best recycling rates in the country – 14th out of 338 local authorities in 2020-21 - but we can do even better. Glass, plastic, metals, paper/cardboard should be placed in recycling bins, but flexible plastic should not - it causes problems at the recycling plants. Plastic film should also be removed from food containers, but plastic bags can be used to line food caddies. Flexible plastics are recycled at Tesco, Co-op, Sainsbury and Morrisons, while items such as crisp packets and toothpaste tubes are recycled locally for profit, including at Bisley's Greenshop and the Stroud Valleys Project in Stroud. To find out more, visit <https://www.recyclenow.com/> and don't forget the 4 Rs: Refuse, Reduce, Re-use, Recycle! Extra recycling containers can be ordered on the council website.

Cost of Living Crisis: On October 20th, SDC declared a Cost of Living Emergency and supported the implementation of a crisis response with the allocation of £100,000, in addition to £252,000 of funding received from Gloucestershire County Council. More details, plus advice on financial concerns and energy-saving, and links to organisations such as Citizens Advice can be found on www.stroud.gov.uk/.

Bonfires: Complaints about bonfires increase at this time of year. SDC appeals to you not to light bonfires, which upset neighbours, harm air quality and can cause health problems, especially to people with respiratory conditions and contribute to climate change. Instead, we are encouraged to compost garden waste at home or at Bisley Community Composting Scheme (<https://bisleycommunitycompostscheme.org.uk/>) which contributes to the local economy and provides gardeners and allotment holders with high quality, peat-free compost.

Canal Restoration: The Environment Committee has approved a Canals Strategy, which now becomes a Supplementary Planning Document as part of the Stroud Local Plan (currently under examination by the national Inspectorate). The Strategy identifies diverse characteristics of the 3 canals in Stroud District: the Gloucester and Sharpness, the Stroudwater from Saul to Stroud, and the Thames and Severn from Stroud through Chalford to Sapperton and 'provides placemaking guidance and advice, for use by those preparing plans and proposals along the canal corridors, and officers making decisions on planning applications'. There was local concern about restoration of the section from Chalford to Sapperton due to harm to the rich wildlife habitats here. For this section - east of Brimscombe - the Strategy highlights its unique biodiversity, NOT any development potential (as it does for some other sections). The current Local Plan, with the Strategy as approved, thus does not contemplate or endorse any restoration work on this part of the canal.

As always, please contact me if I can help in any way:

Martin Brown, District Councillor, 01452 770878
cllr.martin.brown@stroud.gov.uk

EASTCOMBE VILLAGE GROUP

As I write this, we are looking forward to our Autumn Supper at The Lamb Inn on Saturday, 22 October. 51 people will be attending and I am sure we will have a most enjoyable time. Thanks to Sarah at The Lamb and to Louise for their help with the organisation, and to Michele for providing a picture quiz.

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 8 November at 8pm** in Eastcombe Village Hall annex. Everyone is welcome to help with ideas and suggestions for future events. In particular, the EVG want to plan how the village will celebrate the Coronation of our new King Charles III on or around Saturday 6 May 2023. If you have any suggestions, please come along to the meeting or contact me using the details below.

We are organising our usual **Christmas tree on the Green**, supplied by Gardiners of Middle Hill. The details of the lighting of the tree are still being worked out, but drinks will be available at The Lamb Inn and the Hill Top Band will provide festive music. Keep a look out for posters later in November.

Peter Scott
peterhscott@btinternet.com

Football Fun?

Joey is mad keen on football and is looking for any kids aged approx 7-11yrs from the village who might like to join him for a regular kickabout in Eastcombe park.

If you are interested, please text Joey's mum Annie on 07947 167305



Help to keep one of our most distinctive traditions alive & kicking!

Ragged & Old Morris are recruiting dancers (women and men) to practise with us and prepare for the 2023 dancing season.

If you've seen Morris dancing in the streets, at fetes and festivals, you'll know it's vigorous, colourful and fun. No experience is necessary – energy and enthusiasm are all that's required!



Drop in to a practice sessions: Wednesdays 8-9.30pm at Bussage Village Hall.

HILLTOP GARDENING CLUB:

The wonderful Indian summer has brought many of us out into the garden to collect fruit, plant bulbs, clear leaves and think about what to put into the greenhouse for the winter.

In October, Nick Morgan gave a talk on '**A Productive Year in a Small Greenhouse.**' An RHS Horticultural Specialist and former Superintendent of the RHS Wisley Glass and Propagation departments, Nick moved to Gloucestershire on his retirement and had to come to terms with a smaller scale greenhouse.

Nick's gardening year is all about management, with 3 key considerations: **light level, temperature and humidity.** Using images of his own modest greenhouse, Nick suggested where one might best be placed to maximise light, avoiding tall trees, hedges and the shadow of buildings.

Keeping the greenhouse CLEAN is important - 1% loss of light = 10% loss of growth in spring and summer. Nick advised that we wash the greenhouse twice a year, cleaning gutters and glass (inside and out) with soapy water. He spoke about what to grow, including tomatoes; it was interesting to hear that small greenhouses get better produce from old fashioned varieties, as opposed to the newer ones grown for commercial purposes. Space can be maximised with shelving and ventilation is essential; hydraulic ventilator arms, for a modest sum, will open and close the top windows, while louvered panels aid air circulation. Humidity can be increased on hot days by watering paving inside the greenhouse, while it is best to shade only one side. *'Keep plants uniformly moist'* was Nick's pet phrase.

Jobs for November:

- Winter is on its way, so it's time to wash pots and empty out clutter, lurking slugs and sleeping cats. The photo on the right shows what will become my winter log store!
- Check that windows fit well. Nick recommends using cardboard as insulation on lower panes, rather than bubble wrap.

Do join us for further events:

1st November: Jim Boccock: **Chalford Biodiversity Trail.***

6th December: Dr Mike Jones: **Mistletoe—Fact, Myth and Legend.***

During the winter months, meetings will be held at 1.30pm at the Scout Hut, Eastcombe (by the allotments).

The trip to Yorkshire in June 2023 is now fully booked—it sold out in one day!

For more information, see our website www.hilltopgardeningclub.org.uk.

Jenny Exley, Programme Secretary, shared with Kathy Eccott & Pam Meecham.

SCREEN ON THE GREEN

presents

TOP GUN: MAVERICK

Starring: Tom Cruise, Jennifer Connelly, Miles Teller

After 30 years, Maverick is still a top naval aviator, but he must confront ghosts of his past when he leads elite graduates, among them the son of his deceased friend Lieutenant Nick 'Goose' Bradshaw, on a mission that could demand the ultimate sacrifice...



Venue: Eastcombe Village Hall

Date: Saturday 19th November

Time: Doors open 7pm,
Film starts 7.30pm

Admission: £3.50 per person

Selection of Ice Creams £1.50 each

All welcome!



LOOK AFTER WILDLIFE THIS BONFIRE NIGHT!

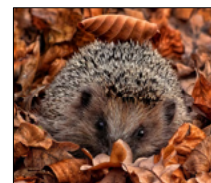
With bonfire night approaching, the British Hedgehog Preservation Society is urging us to keep hedgehogs and other wildlife safe. They advise that we:

- **Build bonfires on the day** (this may also stop it getting wet!).
- If a bonfire must be built in advance, keep wildlife out by **placing chicken wire, at least one-metre-high, around the bottom**, holding in place with stakes and ensuring the wire slopes outwards at an angle to make it difficult to climb. Hedgehogs are good climbers! Even then, **any pre-built bonfire should be dismantled and moved just before lighting**, checking for wildlife and placing it on clear ground (not on a pile of leaves under which a hedgehog might be snoozing), well away from anywhere wildlife might be sheltering. Hedgehogs tend to hide in the centre bottom of a pile, so gently lift sections with a blunt pole, using a torch. Listen for a hissing sound—the noise a hedgehog makes when disturbed.
- If hedgehogs are found, wear garden gloves (to prevent human smells getting onto them and to protect your hands from spikes) and put them and as much of the nest as you can in a lidded high-sided box with plenty of newspaper or old towelling. Make air holes in the lid, which should be secured firmly to prevent escape. Offer specialist hedgehog food, meaty cat/dog food and water and put the box in a safe, quiet place, well away from the festivities.
- **Light a bonfire from one side only**, keeping people away from the unlit side - this may allow any remaining wildlife to escape in peace.
- After the event, with the bonfire totally out, **release hedgehogs in a safe place**, such as under a hedge.

Going to an organised firework display is a safer option for both humans and animals!

OTHER WAYS TO HELP A HOG:

- Watch out for hedgehogs when driving at night.
- Create a hedgehog highway so hogs can forage in your garden (& eat your slugs!).
- Put out cat/dog food and clean water (NEVER bread and milk—it makes them ill).
- Visit www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk for more ideas.



Please **HELP** to
keep our hedgehogs
safe this Bonfire Night



CAROL'S COOKERY CORNER: PARSNIP AND APPLE SOUP

Tasty, nutritious and easy to make. Seasonal, gluten free and freezes well. 360k/cals per serving.

INGREDIENTS:

500g parsnips, peeled and chopped into small chunks
1 onion, chopped
40g butter
500ml hot vegetable stock
2 teaspoon curry paste
1 tablespoon chopped coriander
1 small cooking apple, peeled and chopped
Salt and pepper to taste

METHOD:

1. Melt the butter in a large saucepan.
2. Add parsnips and onions and gently fry for 5 minutes, stirring frequently.
3. Add the apple, curry paste and seasoning and fry a further 4 minutes until the vegetables are soft.
4. Add hot stock a little at a time and simmer with the lid on for 15 minutes. Check consistency and remove lid to simmer further if too runny.
5. Check the seasoning, adding more curry paste if too mild.
6. Add half the coriander and blend until smooth with a stick blender or food processor.
7. Sprinkle with the other half of the coriander and serve immediately. You may also wish to drizzle with crème fraiche.

To make in a soup maker:

1. Place all ingredients in the soup maker, except the butter (not needed as no frying required).
2. Switch on - and 20 minutes later you will have hot soup!

Using a soup maker is probably also more energy efficient.



WHO'S WHO ON THE HILLTOP?

Malcolm and Joyce Lambert lived in Eastcombe for 35 years. Sadly, Joyce died in 2019, but Malcolm retains fond memories of the village - and its history...

When Malcolm and Joyce Lambert bought a cottage in The Street, Eastcombe in 1975, it was as a country retreat; Malcolm remembers the view from the garden over Bismore as incomparable. However, the cottage did not turn out to be a retreat - Malcolm became a churchwarden at St Augustine of Canterbury Church, carrying out Church policy and helping to turn the dilapidated church hall into a village hall.

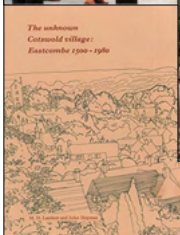
In this he found kind and unexpected allies: a Baptist architect charged nothing for vital advice, Gloucester-based Jehovah's Witnesses recommended an efficient gas convector heater, and unfailing support came from Rev. John Stevens, a priest with a late vocation, who began his career as an experimenter for ICI on dips and feeds for sheep. In addition, quiet help came from within the building trade itself.

Malcolm has a passion for local history, and Eastcombe village proved to have many gripping tales to tell. Its Baptist chapel, founded in 1801 by a dedicated minister, faced early opposition from villagers. In 1860, Henry Hook, a local stone mason, who had accrued a fortune by catching the tide of Victorian church building, gave his services as both architect and builder, doubling the chapel's height and adding a chiming clock. The clock's bell, dated 1747—although its provenance is unknown—became invaluable in an age when few had watches. In 1984, the reinstatement of this clock after repair was celebrated with a village pageant.

Below: pageant to mark the reinstatement of the Eastcombe Baptist Church clock, 1984.



Malcolm & Joyce Lambert with Lionel Walrond.



Above & top: Malcolm Lambert leads a tour of old Eastcombe, 1980s

Against the odds, Eastcombe became a staunch Baptist village, one of the reasons it was chosen by Barnardo's as a suitable place for the fostering of children from London. In the 1930s, Eastcombe was a village of orphans, some of whom were later sent on to Australia, and many children never forgot the kindness of their Eastcombe foster families - including John Lane, the author of *Fairbridge Kid*. Meanwhile, Anglican nuns at St Elizabeth's orphanage took in abandoned children and trained their orphan girls to take service in wealthy households.

Malcolm's fascination with local history led to a collaboration with fellow local historian Juliet Shipman, and the publication of *The Unknown Cotswold Village: Eastcombe 1500-1980*, in 1981. Malcolm remembers how colleagues donated their expertise on the wool trade and the history of building, with photographs and design undertaken as an exercise by students from the School of Typography at Reading University. The book told modern readers of the inordinately long working hours of poor families forced into factory work by the collapse of the Gloucestershire textile industry, and the compensations of the woodlands around their cottages. Malcolm found writing and researching the book hard work, but also a pleasure. He went

on to collaborate with Juliet Shipman on further publications, including *A Cotswold Village in Pictures*, in 1984. Malcolm and Joyce left Eastcombe in 2010 for Worthing, where they had spent many happy holidays. They left in tears, but with happy memories.

With grateful thanks to Dr Malcolm Lambert

VILLAGE HISTORIES: Lypiatt Park & the Gunpowder Plot

For generations, legend told how the infamous Gunpowder Plot was hatched in the small oak panelled room to the left of the main door of Lypiatt Park. However, like many legends, although it contains elements of truth, the story is not what it seems.

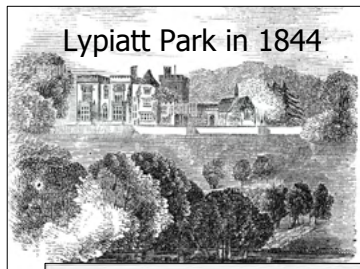
In the late 1500s and early 1600s, Lypiatt was owned by John Throckmorton, part of a leading Roman Catholic family, whose family seat is Coughton Court, Warwickshire. David Jardine, a 19th century antiquarian, traced that John was the eldest son of Anthony Throckmorton of Chastleton House (near Moreton-in-Marsh). If this is the case, then Robert Catesby, the charismatic ringleader of the Plot, was John's cousin, and all the main conspirators were related by marriage to the Throckmorton family.

It is known that John Throckmorton lent Robert Catesby money to raise a mortgage on Chastleton House between 1598 and 1600, but it was the discovery of letters among old manuscripts at the British Museum in 1840 that placed Robert Catesby at Lypiatt Park in September 1605, two months before the planned blowing up of Parliament. The letters, addressed to Robert Catesby at Lypiatt, came from Lord Mounteagle, and according to Antonia Fraser in her history of the Gunpowder Plot, made '...allusion to the impending conspiracy with its ominous repetition of words such as 'warmth', 'heat' and 'fire'.'

However, although John Throckmorton may well have been privy to the plot, he apparently played no active part. Following discovery of the terrible plans, many of his kinsmen were imprisoned, tortured and executed, but he was not arrested. David Jardine suggests that Throckmorton's 'intimacy with the Earls of Suffolk and Nottingham might have sheltered him from suspicion, or even point to a conjecture that he was employed as a spy!'

In the event, Throckmorton remained living peacefully on his estates, eventually selling Lypiatt in 1610. It is not known what became of him.

From *Lypiatt Park: a History* by Juliet Shipman



KEEP IT LOCAL!

The Gardiner family have been selling fresh Christmas trees on the hilltop for over 40 years - first in Eastcombe and now from Middle Hill Farm, between Eastcombe and Chalford Hill.

In addition, the farm shop sells local hand-made goods alongside bigger British brands, recently expanding into peat free compost and garden plants. Darcy and Freddie, the donkeys, also live at the farm.

The Barn Shop's Christmas range will be available from Wednesday 9th November, with fresh British trees (from Somerset) available from Saturday 26th November.

Visit www.the-barnshop.co.uk/ for updates & further details.





*Lamb Inn
Eastcombe*

**CHRISTMAS
CRAFT FAIR**

SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER
2PM-4PM
STALLS AVAILABLE £15 EACH

Refreshments available

WWW.LAMBINNEASTCOMBE.CO.UK
01452 770223

COACH HOUSE TUTOR'S

Established 1990
www.coachhousetutors.co.uk

**HIGH QUALITY
ONE-TO-ONE TUITION**

11+ EXAM SPECIALISTS

LESSONS IN-PERSON OR ONLINE

IN-PERSON LESSONS IN OAKRIDGE OR
NAILSWORTH, STROUD

WE ALSO RUN MOCK 11+ EXAMS

 You can find us on Facebook

ROS: **01285 760320**
ros@coachhousetutors.co.uk

CLAIRE: **01453 834153**
clairecoachhousetutors@gmail.com



COULD YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEXT NEWSLETTER?

- An update on your group?
- An article on local history?
- A day in the life of your job?
- Anything else local!

Please send contributions to:
eastcombenewsletter@btinternet.com

WHAT'S ON in NOVEMBER?

- 1 November:** Hilltop Gardening Club meeting, 1.30pm, Eastcombe Scout Hut
- 2 November:** Bisley-with-Lypiatt PC meeting, 7.30pm
- 3 November:** Chalford PC meeting, 7pm, Chalford Parish Centre
- 5 November:** Chalford Hill Bonfire, 5pm, France Lynch Pleasure Ground
- 8 November:** EVG meeting, 8pm, Eastcombe Village Hall annex
- 12 November:** Eastcombe Remembrance Service, 10:45am
- 16 November:** Frith Café Christmas Craft Fayre, 10.15am-12 noon
- 19 November:** Lamb Inn Christmas Craft Fair 2-4pm/Screen on the Green: *Top Gun: Maverick*, 7.30pm, Eastcombe Village Hall
- 20 November:** Deadline for articles for December newsletter
- 25 November:** Bussage Primary School Christmas Fair, 5.30-7.30pm

NAME THAT VIEW!



How well do you know our villages?

October's photo showed the view from Wells Road, Eastcombe, looking across to Fidges Lane.

November's photo is once again taken in or around the 3 villages.

Can you identify its location?

The answer will be revealed in the December issue.