# The Wick 4-Weekly

## What, When, Where, & Who of Village Life

Check out this month's village news, and share your news items with us – <u>EWVA\_Committee@outlook.com</u>



D-Day Postbox Topper

Dear Eton Wick community,

Welcome to the June edition of the monthly newsletter.



Bell Lane had a haircut at the recent bank holiday. A quick tidy up session 'grew legs' and four and a half hours later it had been weeded, swept, and more importantly the grass area got a haircut. Like all haircuts that go from long to very short there will be a period when it looks a bit rubbish. Over the next few weeks, (weather permitting) it will dry out and can then be cut again to make it look better. Because the grass was so dense none of the wildflowers were growing. Thanks to Zak Williams (age 14) who did all the hard work of mowing for us.



Finally, summer seems to be here, although it appears to only be doing day appearances at the moment! I think we are all thoroughly sick and tired of the rain this year.



A lot has happened in the village this last month. We now have the beautiful hanging baskets in the centre of the village which, although initially quite underwhelming, are now blooming and becoming quite a feature. Huge thanks to those who sponsored a basket this year. One Stop Shop, Nisa, The Village Pharmacy, Hair by Us, Ella's Party Shop, Pipedreams, R3L Resourcing, Helen Branscome-Davies, Mary Griffins, Lindsay Pardoe, Sue Evans, Ken Robertson, Linda & Tom Maley, Jacqui Watts, and the Eton Wick Football & Social Club. The baskets are a very welcome

colourful feature. Our aim next year is to increase the number of sponsors so we can have hanging baskets all along the Eton Wick Road which will have quite an impact! Plus, the planters have been replenished and are being watered by volunteers.

The Community Participation event on Saturday 11 May at the Village Hall was well attended and showcased the various groups in Eton Wick. I spent quite a lot of time looking through the photo albums of the History Group showing Eton Wick over the last 100 years or so - really interesting stuff! The Allotment Association sold their plants outside and were really pleased with how it all went.

Eton Wick Waterways Group (EWWG) were also at the Community Participation Event answering queries about the wildlife supported by the waterways that surround our village, plus talking to residents about the recent flooding and sewage release issues. EWWG lead, Laura Regazzacci, is working tirelessly with our local councillor Mark Wilson, and others, to address the issues faced by local residents due to effluent dumping by Thames Water and flooding in gardens backing onto our village waterways. Laura and Mark are in constant dialogue with Thames Water and the Environment Agency.

The very successful children's football tournaments are back for another year on Sunday mornings during May and June, and the Youth Club on a Monday night continues to go from strength to strength. We also have the excitement of the forthcoming Corner Café at Bell Lane which will hopefully open at the end of June. Umit and his wife will be living in the flat above the shop with their children and supplying us with coffee and pastries. They are in the shop most days getting it ready so do pop over to say hi.

There is a planned litter pick in the next few weeks and the Bell Lane space will continue to be tidied and kept neat by volunteers.

In the next week or so a survey will be delivered to all homes in Eton Wick. This survey will enable residents to have an input into what is happening in Eton Wick. What is good, what is not so good, and what you would like to see going on. Please do take the time to complete the survey, even if you think your ideas may not be possible, or silly. The hanging baskets seemed a bit of a dream until we tried it. If enough people want something it could happen. Please let us know if you would like to volunteer for something, or you might have an idea to develop your own volunteer project or special interest group that will add value to our village community. Talk to us and we may be able to support you and help bring your ideas to life. The survey will be on the Eton Wick Village Association website, on our Facebook page, and in hard copy in the Village Pharmacy and Hair by Us. Once you have completed the survey, please return it to the Village Pharmacy or Hair by Us, or email it to <u>ewva\_committee@outlook.com</u>. We will publicise the survey results once we have collated all the information and please watch out for that over the next few months.

In the meantime, let's all pray for beautiful sunny warm weather for the next few months.

Lucy Ludovici Chair EWVA

Date for your diaries - Eton Wick Christmas light switch-on will be Saturday 30 November 2024



The Environment Agency (EA) finally erected an electric fence along the east side of the Roundmoor from the top of the common down to the cattle grid. This was not done to protect the cattle from the poisonous pollution that is still hanging around on the banks and the vegetation in the Roundmoor, but because they have won the legal case with the landowner to restrain cattle from breaking down the banks along this stretch (AKA Cattle Poaching). Note that cattle are still roaming other areas of the common that are flooded with polluted water.

Once again, we are seeing the level of water in our streams rise. This event occurs every spring and explains why we have water holding back on the common, making the lake even bigger than in winter. It is also the cause of the growing marsh on the field north of Colenorton Crescent, which then drains into the Colenorton Ditch and leads to flooding of the Moores Lane footpath. Councillor M Wilson is on the case with Slough Borough Council, who are responsible for this footpath, to find an immediate solution that will allow our residents to access Slough on foot, with mobility aids or bicycles. A team of independent scientists monitoring the rise and fall of water levels across our network for the past two years, using static monitors and visual evidence has shown that our river levels react significantly to the overgrowth of weed from April onwards with an equally significant drop in level after removal of weed in June and September.

We have been making EA flood officers aware of the flooding especially in the gardens of Lower Tilstone Close, Cornwall Close and Queens Road, by taking them to see it for themselves. We have pleaded for an earlier start to the weed pulling but have met with stubborn resistance due to the fisheries policy of not allowing working in rivers until the end of the spawning season (mid-June), even though the local angling association agree that some sections of the river should form the exception to this rule.

Because our group refused to enter the water due to the sewage release in January – March, Thames Water have agreed to undertake the weed clearance along the entire length of both the Roundmoor and the Boveney this year. The first cut will take place from 16 June when spawning season ends, and the second cut late August/early September.

This summer our group of volunteers will be continuing to monitor the streams and remove impediments to flow where we can access from the banks. We will organise litter picking events and take part in the annual 'Plastic Blitz' together with Wild Eton Wick and the Windsor River Watch group. We also hope to resume river fly testing and water testing for pollutants over the summer months once the sewage sediment has had a chance to flow away when the weed is cut.

There has been local concern about the flooding of fields around the village, where marshes have become established this year, notably to the south of the Boveney. The reason for this is to some extent due to the Boveney breaking its banks in January-February, but mainly because ground water levels remain high across all flood plains in the area and are unlikely to drain until a longer spell without rain. Climate change and wetter winters are said to be the cause. In our local catchment this is exacerbated by the high volume of water we receive from Slough Sewage treatment works, a situation which is becoming intolerable. There is some speculation that since the Jubilee was created, the flood plain has altered. This is unproven, but a scan of historic google earth maps from 2003 give some indication of the changes that have been taking place in our locality.

We ask residents to continue to put pressure on Thames Water and the Environment Agency to address the issue of both pollution and flooding and with elections coming up to also direct questions about flooding and pollution to the parliamentary candidates while they are out canvassing or at hustings.

#### https://www.gov.uk/report-an-environmental-incident

The EA have responsibility to respond to incidents on main rivers, which include the Boveney and Roundmoor, including the following:

- collapsed or badly damaged riverbanks
- damage or danger to the natural environment
- dead fish or fish gasping for air
- flooding from main rivers or the sea

- people taking water illegally from rivers, streams, canals or underground sources such as wells
- incidents at Environment Agency-regulated waste sites
- main rivers blocked by a vehicle or fallen tree causing risk of flooding
- poaching or illegal fishing
- pollution to water or land
- unusual changes in river flow

Environment Agency incident hotline – call 0800 80 70 60 (24-hour service)

Please contact us at <u>info@etonwickwaterwaysgroup.org</u> if you would like to join us in campaigning or volunteering in any capacity. Plus, find us on the village website, link below.

https://ewva.org.uk/https://www.facebook.com/EtonWickWG



The coordinator of our Eton Wick Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) scheme, John Connor, was at the Village Hall Community Participation Event on 11 May, with Valerie Pike the Chair of Windsor and Ascot NHW. Together they answered questions and handed out safety and security information, NHW window stickers, and much more to Eton Wick residents.

We still need coordinators for each road in the village or we won't be able to get the scheme fully up and operational. The time commitment is minimal following set up.

If you would like to understand more, find out how to get involved, please contact John Connor via the EWVA Facebook page. Visit the village website which has a section dedicated to NWH.

https://ewva.org.uk/



The next Eton Wick History Group meeting will be on Wednesday 31 July, 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The talk will be a "The Miracle of Bletchley Park" presented by Gillian Cane.



The History Group display at the Community Participation Event on 11 May had a steady stream of visitors throughout the day. The collection of photo albums of Eton Wick started by Frank Bond, one of the founding members of the History Group, are always very popular. It is lovely to hear peoples' stories, of Eton Wick in days gone by especially when they recognise themselves or a family member in one of the photographs.

Visit the website for lots more information on Eton Wick over the years. https://www.etonwickhistory.co.uk/



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Are you a village resident and local trader? Perhaps a beautician, plumber, electrician, mechanic, hairdresser, gardener, financial adviser, or something else. Do you want to advertise your services to our community? If yes, contact us for space on the Eton Wick Village website. PLUS, we can add a local trader's section to the bottom of this e-newsletter, again please contact us if you want to promote your services to the Eton Wick community.

EWVA\_Committee@outlook.com

Come along to the Eton Wick Football & Social Club, open Wednesday to Sunday evenings every week. It is great value and brings regular community activities and live music to our village. Forthcoming dates for your calendar:-



Friday 21 June – Afternoon Tea from 2-4pm

Wednesday 26 June – AGM at 7.30pm

Friday 28 June – UB40 Experience, Reggae + more with Kevin Ali Swoish from 8.30pm

See the EWF&SC Facebook page for more information on forthcoming social and soccer events.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/391970034327592/



Following a request from members we held a roller disco at the start of one youth club session. We have some competent skaters and one young person learnt to skate during the session! Whilst the skaters enjoyed sole use of the sports hall for part of the session, our other members enjoyed playing pool, table football, painting at the craft table, and we had other groups outside playing football and cricket.

We will plan activities to make use of the warmer and dryer (hopefully) weather over the next few months. Coming up we have a tie-dye creative session where members can bring a plain item of 100% cotton clothing (a plain T-shirt would work well) and fashion their own unique look which can be collected the following week.



Subs only £1.50 per session and a great value tuck shop. No additional charge for any activities.

If you can spare a couple of hours on a Monday evening during school term time to volunteer at the Youth Club, please contact us by email or via our FB page. We will have to restrict numbers if we lack volunteers.

EWYC-Committee@Outlook.com

https://www.facebook.com/EWYouthClub



The 2024 DNA Football Tournament kicked off on Sunday 19 May, and runs for eight weeks. This year, DNA are not only encouraging the children with their love for sport, but are helping young referees to gain valuable experience. Eton Town Council Mayor, Malcolm Leach, was cheering the children on and is pictured with some of the players who were awarded "effort trophies".

The schedule of regular bookings for our Village Hall is shown below. For full information visit the village hall website <a href="https://www.etonwickvillagehall.com">https://www.etonwickvillagehall.com</a> or call 07949 147846.

	Morning	After	noon	Evening		
Mon	Adult Ballet & Stretch	Indoor	r Bowls	Yoga/Pilates		
	11am – 12 noon	2	4pm	6 – 7pm & 7.15 – 8.15pm		
	Susan Handy	Chris 017	53 863190	Michelle Jones		
	07515 270432	Dave 017	53 863710	07791 346298		
Tue	Pilates Classes			School of Traditional Karate		
	9.30 – 10.30am			6.30 – 8pm		
	Simona Stojkova			Ashley		
	07917 103 856			07963 433643		
Wed	Body Conditioning Classes			History Group		
	9am			7.30pm		
	Michelle Jones			4 or 5 events a year		
	07791 346298			Eton Wick Village Assoc.		
				8pm		
				4 or 5 meetings a year		
Thu	Art Group			Susan Handy School of Dance		
	10am – 12 noon			from 4.30pm		
	Sandra Drummond			Susan Handy		
	01753 857492			07515 270432		
Fri	Fit Steps	3.45 – 4.15pm	Junior Theatre 4	unior Theatre 4 – 6-year-olds		
	9.45am	4.30 - 5.15pm	Senior Musical Theatre 6 – 10-year-olds			
	Michelle Jones	5.15 – 6pm Senior Dance 6 – 10-year-olds				
	07791 346298	Enchanted School of Dance - Marianne 07702 268 729				
Sat		*Availab	le for hire			
Sun		*Availab	le for hire			

If you are interested in any of the groups/classes held in the hall, they would be pleased to hear from you. Please note it is often necessary to book months in advance to hire the hall for a Saturday or Sunday booking.



PCSO Dave Bullock and PCSO Lewis Phillips held a community meeting on Friday 17 May for Eton Wick residents living in roads with frequently reported parking issues. The meeting was attended by residents from Alma Road, Inkerman Road, Northfield Road, and

Haywards Mead. RBWM Cllr. Mark Wilson joined the PCSO's to help facilitate the session.

The PCSO's advised that they have powers to deal with serious obstructions (including pavement parking), non-compliance with traffic signs, and double yellow line parking (although RBWM's parking wardens, NSL actually give out the tickets).

Community members advised that hot spots for parking issues included, but were not limited to :-

- Parking outside No. 3 Inkerman Road obstructing access to Northfield Road
- Haywards Mead particularly on "perfect storm" occasions eg events at Village Hall, Church, and football matches
- Sheepcote Road at school drop-off and collection times

Cllr Wilson and the PCSO's undertook to investigate options to ensure access is maintained, especially for emergency vehicles eg ambulance or fire brigade.

Cllr Wilson advised he would raise all issues with Neil Walter at RBWM Highways, and work to progress proposed improvements to Eton Wick parking that were submitted to RBWM by the Highways & Footpaths working group of Eton Town Council earlier this year.

SATURDAY 6TH JULY 12PM - 3PM

TON WICK COFE FIRST SCHOOL

## KIDZÓNES

Slime Workshops Inflatable Fun Penalty Shoot Out Face Painting Ice Cream Van Carnival of Games Toy Stall Sweet Treats \$ much much more!



**Donations** Welcome

Bar BBQ Raffle Stalls Tea & Cake Entertainment Tombola Wine or Water Game & much much more!

GROWN UP FUN

# SHEEPCOTE ROAD, ETON WICK

All proceeds go to friends of eton wick school charity registered charity number 309540



To keep you informed we will bring you details of planning applications for Eton Wick, with links for your convenience. The link below takes you to the "Find a planning application" page of the RBWM website.

https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/planning-and-building-control/findplanning-application

You need to enter the reference, shown below, to find details for each individual application.

Reference - 24/00895/Full – application validated 17 April 2024 – awaiting decision 27 Common Road, Eton Wick, Windsor SL4 6JE Single storey front/side extension with replacement roof to single storey element.

Reference - 24/00952/Full – application validated 19 April 2024 – awaiting decision 19 Sheepcote Road, Eton Wick, Windsor SL4 6JA Single storey side/rear extension.

Reference – 24/01151/Full – application validated 13 May 2024 - awaiting decision 1 Tilstone Close, Eton Wick, Windsor SL4 6NG Part single, part two storey side/rear extension following demolition of the existing elements.

Reference – 24/01099/Full – application validated 13 May 2024 – awaiting decision 12 Inkerman Road, Eton Wick, Windsor SL4 6LE Replacement dwelling.

Reference – 24/01346/Condit – application validated 29 May 2024 – awaiting decision Manor Farm House, Manor Farm, Common Road, Eton Wick, Windsor SL4 6QY Listed building consent for property repairs.



It would be great to have your feedback and suggestions, and please email <u>EWVA\_Committee@outlook.com</u> with any comments. If you have a neighbour who is not online, please let them know they can collect paper copies of this newsletter from Eton Wick Pharmacy and Hair by Us in the village centre.

If you are a member of a local group that would like to be included in this newsletter, please do get in touch. Our vision is for the newsletter to be all-inclusive, collaborative, and mutually supportive ... representing our whole community.

We include some useful local information links and the end of the newsletter for your information and convenience. Thank you for reading.

Helen Branscombe-Davies Secretary EWVA



Northern Lights over Eton Wick, May 2024

### CONTACT DETAILS FOR VILLAGE SHOPS & LOCAL SERVICES

The Village Phamacy – 01753 863575

Hair By Us – 01753 831957

Jade Garden Fish & Chips + Chinese Takeaway – 01753 850991

South Meadow Surgery, Eton - 01753 864545

### **USEFUL LINKS**

#### **RBWM Report-It**

https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/apply-pay-report/report-it

#### Thames Valley Police - Report a Crime

https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/

#### Local Bus Services

https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/transport-and-streets/public-transport/bus-routes
<a href="https://www.thamesvalleybuses.com/services">https://www.thamesvalleybuses.com/services</a>
<a href="https://www.slough.gov.uk/buses">https://www.slough.gov.uk/buses</a>

#### **RBWM Highways Works**

https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/transport-and-streets/roads-and-pavements/council-works-highway-week

For all local roadworks, including work by utility firms visit One Network https://one.network/

#### Household Waste Collection Information + Bin Collection Day

https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/environment-and-waste/recycling-and-rubbish/household-rubbish-collections https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/binday

#### Thames Water – Report a Problem

https://www.thameswater.co.uk/help/report-a-problem#/view-and-report-problems

Reporting environmental incidents, including pollution and damage to the natural environment. <u>https://www.gov.uk/report-an-environmental-incident</u> - or call the 24/7 hotline 0800 80 70 60

Age UK may be able to provide you with direct support. The services and facilities on offer vary from area to area, but can include: • information and advice • help at home schemes • befriending schemes • advocacy services • handyperson schemes • nail-cutting services • transport schemes • help with claiming benefits • exercise classes • day centres.

#### www.ageuk.org.uk - or call 0800 169 6565

Citizens Advice have a national network of centres offering free, confidential, and independent advice, face-to-face or by telephone. Visit the website for full information and to find the nearest Citizens Advice Bureau. www.citizensadvice.org.uk – or call 0800 144 8848

MoneyHelper - gives impartial information about financial products and services and offers tips on everyday money management.

#### www.moneyhelper.org.uk – or call 0800 138 7777

Action Fraud - National reporting centre for fraud and internet crime. Use the online fraud reporting service and get a police crime reference number. Call the helpline for advice on preventing fraud and how to report it if it happens to you. www.actionfraud.police.uk – or call 0300 123 2040

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