

The
Eastry
Village News



June July
2023



Photo - Pauline Dale

Village Contacts

Ambulance, Fire, Police **999**

Police Community Support 101
and non-emergency Police

Community Warden
Peter Gill 07703 454190
Peter.Gill@kent.gov.uk
Neighbourhood Watch
Simon Dundas 611320

Gas Emergency 0800 111999
Highways Faults 03000 418181
UK Power Network 105

Doctors Surgery 619790
The Market Place, Sandwich
Emergency out of hours 111

Eastry Twinning Association
Chairman: Nick Smith 01304 617035

Eastry Parish Council
www.eastry-pc.gov.uk
www.facebook.com/EastryPC
Chairman: Mark Jones
Vice-Chairman: Deborah Russell
Clerk to Council
Mrs. Joanna Jones 01304 746036
clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk
Thornton House, Thornton Lane,
Eastry, Sandwich, Kent CT13 0EU

C of E Primary School 611360
Head Teacher: Mrs. Sarah Moss
PTA Treasurer: Justine Crane

Eastry Ravens FC
Steve Booth 07864 925289
email: 27srb@sky.com

Eastry Cricket Club
chairman@eastrycricketclub.com
www.facebook.com/EastryCricketClub/

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Eastry Young People's Contacts

EASTRY YOUNG PEOPLES CLUB
(next to the Gun Park) *Have fun and
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Meetings

**Tuesdays and Wednesdays
for 12-19 year olds - 7pm to 9pm**

Contact - Chairperson of Eastry Young People's Club
Monica Laslett on 07902 303397

BUBBLES NURSERY

Contact Hayley Sanders on 01304 615487



Girlguiding
Eastry

Rainbows (4-7) and Brownies (7-10), meet
on Wednesdays
Guides (10-14) and Rangers (14-18) meet
on Fridays

Contact us



Join us



**We help all girls
know they can
do anything.**

10th Deal Eastry Scout Group - Scout Hut

Group Scout Leader - Graham Baker 07837 430167 or 01304 611487
10thdealeastryscouts@gmail.com

BEAVERS (age 5½ - 8)
Monday 6.00pm - 7.15pm
Leader Matt

CUBS (age 8-10½)
Tuesday 6.30pm - 8.00pm
Leader Jonathon

SCOUTS (age 10½ - 14)
Wednesday 7.00pm to 9.00pm
Leader Graham Baker

EXPLORERS (age 14+) Meet every other
Friday from 7.45pm - 9.15pm and focus
on the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.
Contact - Graham Baker

FOR HQ BOOKINGS
Contact: Marion Wanstall (617854)

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME
Scouting is fun for adults too.
If you would like to help then please
contact Graham Baker



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Fri 28th July From
5-8:30pm
ONLY £10PP

**Band and BBQs: Saturday 22nd July from 4pm, Live music from 5-7pm with Tony Johnson
Saturday 29th July from 2:30pm, Live music from The Six Shades Of Grey (Feat Sam, our barmaid!)**

Clairvoyant Eve 7pm start, Thurs 15th June, Sat 22nd July
Andy's Quiz Night 7pm start, Sat 24th June, Sat 29th July
Easby CAN Quiz 7pm start, Sat 10th June, Sat 15th July

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Eastry Village Coffee Morning **Village Hall 9.00-12 noon**



Fridays 9th & 23rd June and 7th & 21st July.

All welcome, free tea, coffee, squash and biscuits.

Hi Kent Hearing Charity attend the first coffee morning in the month, providing free NHS hearing aid aftercare, advice and battery supply. Mobile Library 09.30-10.00am.

Books and puzzle swaps available.

PCSO & Community Warden in attendance from 9.30-11.30

For more info: Contact the Clerk, Jo Jones 07903 739792

Volunteers wanted - Can you help?

Eastry Village Hall Council of Management is devoted to raising funds to keep this incredible recreational facility available to residents. Key to its survival are fund raising events and activities which need organising and facilitating.

If you feel that you could spare some time to support the hall and the local community by offering a couple of hours of your time a month please get in touch.

evhevents@outlook.com

Eastry Village News DEADLINE

is the 14th of the month prior to publication - i.e January, March, May, July, September, November. Please send copy to evneditor@gmail.com

Dover District Council - Bin Collections

Non recyclable waste

Black topped wheelie bin, food bin & green/garden waste

Tuesdays 6th, 20th June 4th, 18th July

Recyclable Waste *Blue topped wheelie bin and Food Bin*

Plastics, tins, bottles, paper and cardboard.

Tuesdays 13th, 27th June 11th, 25th July

Please double check your dates on the [DDC website](#)

Eastry Horticultural Society - Eastry Gardeners

Well, after an amusing and very interesting talk by Jeff and Sylvia at our March meeting, we now know more about that word **Phantasmagoria**. It was a word created and used back in 1802 by the newspaper moguls of the day and was from a conjunction of French and Greek descriptive words. During the evening the entertaining screen display and commentary took us to many staggeringly beautiful places around the world, starting at Plimoth in the States (the correct original spelling) where the Brits landed in the early 1600's, when they had to grow all of their garden produce in raised beds due to poor quality soil. We were also taken by pictorial screen shots to China, the Venice masked carnival, the beautiful Dutch Keukenhof tulip parks and our own splendid and ever changing Eden Project, which to anyone who has never been there is well worth making a visit.

Sadly in our own gardens the weather has still not been very good to us. The wonderful displays of Daffodils and early Tulips have taken a savage beating from the winds and heavy rains whilst the gorgeous Camellias were forced to shed their beautiful flowers rather too easily, however our pot grown competition potatoes are looking good. In Finglesham we even had a fairly lumpy tree blown down across the road by the wind, fortunately no-one was hurt and it was soon cleared. On the plus side the clocks were all put forward an hour and the resulting lighter evenings will now, weather permitting, allow us all a bit more time to get our gardens looking and producing as we really want them to.

Our Spring show took place on yet another very wet, windy and uncomfortable cold April evening but morale was boosted by the wonderful display of beautiful spring flowers, some gorgeous tasty looking cooking and many other goodies including floral displays and photographs. Despite the weather the attendance was extremely good with most of the members entering the various competitive sections.



Our three main Trophy winners were a very happy Brenda, Marion and Trevor who all won with magnificent items in their respective classes. As is now the norm the evening was made even better by the vast amount of work and preparations made by the hard work of your Committee and equally important is the refreshment and kitchen team who always manage to sustain us to a brilliant level. Our next meeting talk will be on the subject of 'How to commit the perfect murder', hopefully given by Guy Deakins, if he hasn't been arrested by then.

John Surridge

Dover Flower Club

We welcome new visitors to our club which is open to anyone with an interest in flowers. We meet on the fourth Monday of the month at 7.15 at
**Whitfield Village Hall, Manley Close (off Sandwich Road),
 Whitfield, Dover CT16 3LY**

A full programme of events is planned throughout the year, including flower arranging, demonstrations, talks, workshops and garden visits.

Monday 26th June - Demonstration Demonstrator **Gill Smaggesgale**
Title - Herbaceous Competition - "Picked from the Garden"

Monday 24th July
 Garden Visit - 6.30pm - Steve Edney's Garden, Sandwich

For all enquiries please contact:

Mig Kimpton 07831 838851 or mig@migkimpton.com

Items for use in flower arranging are on sale and free refreshments are available.

Northbourne & Betteshanger Horticultural Society

The Society recently held its Annual Spring Show in the Parish Hall which was open to both members & non-members. Despite recent weather conditions there was a good display of flowers which included both specimens & vases of daffodils, tulips & hyacinths as well as floral arrangements.



The presentation of cups was made by the Society's President Lord Northbourne and was awarded as follows:- The Russell Cup for best exhibit in the Show was won by Madelaine Cook, she also was awarded the Anne Denne Memorial Trophy for her winning entry of one basket of flowers and foliage



for all-round effect. The Burgess Cup for most points achieved in the Show was won by David Smith.

Our meetings for June & July are as follows:-

12th June Flower Mosaic Workshop by Gillian Ogden & Sheila Smith

10th July Success with Sweet Peas by Jean Coleman

**Meetings are held in Northbourne Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.
 Refreshments available.**



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Eastry Village News

The Committee of your village magazine, The Eastry Village News (EVN), has two vacancies which may be of interest to our readers.

1. The Treasurer who sends out the advertisement renewals and monitors the cash position at the bank.
2. The Distribution Manager who arranges the supply of magazines (about 1300 copies) to our volunteers who put them through all the doors in the village every two months.

If you are interested in taking on one of these roles, please get in touch with either our editor or myself. Our contact details are in the back of the magazine.

Many of you will know that the EVN has been published for the past 18 years. It has changed in appearance over time – it started out in black and white and now is printed in full colour. The one thing that hasn't changed is that it has always been run by volunteers, including the committee members. All the articles are written by Eastry residents and each issue is designed by our editor, who sends the finished magazine to the printers. The printed copies are then delivered by hand to every house in the village by our team of 32 Volunteers.

We rely entirely on advertising for our income, which pays for the printing costs. There are about 40 local businesses who support us and their subscriptions are renewed annually. Payments for advertising are organised by the treasurer, most of them are made online, so there is very little cash involved.

Brian Manton - *Chairman of the Eastry Village News*

Eastry Parish Council NEEDS YOU...

EPC needs two more Councillors. Every year Eastry's Annual Parish Council Meeting takes place to formalise the Council's roles and priorities. Don't worry if you missed it! If you are interested in helping your local community, we'd REALLY love to hear from you. We need individuals who can dedicate some of their time to help make Eastry better for everyone. You can still join Eastry Parish Council through a short application process involving an interview with the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Get in touch today clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk

Do you want to grow your own veg?

EPC has spare allotments at the far end of Gun park, get in touch if you want one. First come first served. Good news is that EPC recently repaired the burst water pipe at the allotment site.

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Eastry Village Hall AGM update May 16th 2023

The Eastry Village Hall Council of Management held it's Annual General Meeting on the 16th May. The meeting was open to all villagers and village organisations and a good crowd turned out to hear a review of the year from April 2022 to March 2023 from the Chairman, Andrew Stanford, the financial performance from the Treasurer, Robin Bishop and a summary of the fund-raising events by the events team.



Common throughout the reporting was the effect of increasing costs upon the running of the hall, especially the utilities bill for which there is no support available and has to be borne from revenues generated by the hall itself. Fortunately, the use of the hall is showing signs of slowly returning to pre-Covid levels with the subsequent increase in the income generated from hirers, both regular and occasional, helping to offset expenditure.

At the end of the financial year the Statement of Accounts showed a small profit of £3,643 up from £1,360 at the end of a Covid restricted 2021/2022. In the previous financial year though the hall had been supported by government Covid grants the last of which was paid in April 22. Since then the hall has relied upon its own fundraising efforts to remain solvent and although it has succeeded this year, it was felt that greater efforts will be needed to offset the expected increase in costs in the year to come.

Before the AGM an appeal went out to villagers and local organisations to join the Hall Council at its AGM and take a seat(s) on the Management Council, be part of the fund-raising process and have a say on the governance and function of the hall in the community. As a result, the Council of Management are pleased to welcome 4 new members and one new organisation, Eastry Events, to the team.

Eastry Events are a dynamic and active group and it is hoped that this injection of energy and direction into the hall will be mutually beneficial to both organisations. They join an increasing number of local organisations having an input into this important village resource, including: Eastry Parish Council, Eastry Horticultural Society, Eastry Theatre Company, Neighbourhood Watch, Women's Institute and Eastry Can. There are also some of our regular hirers on the Council: Zumba, Eastry Snooker Club, Eastry Short Mat Bowls Club, as well as 7 independents. It is not too late to register your Eastry organisation/club and take 2 seats on the Council and be part of this community initiative, simply email your interest to:

EVHsecretary@outlook.com

Eastry Bowling Club

**Come and Have a Go at Bowling-
for anyone of any age and any ability.**

A diary date for anyone interested in having a go at bowling. As from 7pm on Thursday 15th June the Club will be offering free sessions every Thursday at the Green in Church Street, Eastry (opposite the Church) for anyone who would like to try bowling.

There will be qualified coaches available and the Club will provide bowls. All you need to bring to is a pair of flat shoes. The location of the Green is a lovely setting and sessions will be relaxed and fun. **Everyone is welcome.**



Affiliated to KCBA
& EBA

For anyone who is already bowling -the season is underway and Eastry have started playing friendly games against other clubs. A mixed bag so far but great to get out on the Green particularly when the weather is good. We are always looking for new players to join the team so if interested please call **07532 369411**



Eastry Church of England Primary School

This year we have been pleased to install an outdoor gym for the children to use during their playtimes. The purpose of this is to improve their fitness, activity levels and wellbeing.

Sara Ward, P.E lead spoke to the school council about what the children would like and designs were drawn up. Here is what some of the children have to say: "I find it fun, there's a variety of equipment to use, it's great exercise (Chloe). The exercise at playtime helps me focus on my lessons. It gives me more energy (William).



We look forward to the children continuing to benefit from this fantastic resource!

The Church Registers

Funerals

25/4/23 - Edna Jeffery (Barham,

11/5/23 - Jenny Merrington,

16/5/23 Christopher Dart (Barham).

Wedding - 31/3/23 Gary Haslewood & Megan Dallimore

Rector's letter

This month we got to witness history in the making. Not many of us around today are old enough to vividly remember the coronation of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and those of you that do are extremely lucky to be able to say that you have seen two coronations and the way in which the monarchy has changed over the generations. The coronation of King Charles III marks the beginning of a new era for our country and society. During the coronation weekend, we were encouraged to mark the occasion by giving back to our community and engaging with projects that help clean up our village and create something we are proud of.

Across our Benefice (the villages of Eastry, Woodnesborough, Staple, Tilmanstone and Northbourne) there will be opportunities to do litter picking, gardening, graveyard cleaning and planting trees as part of village projects throughout this month. As part of this, I will try my best to get around the different churches offering encouragement with these projects and lending a hand where I can (after I finish litter picking in my local village).

I believe that it says a lot about our new King that, in a weekend of pomp and ceremony, his first request to the people of our wonderful nation is to go out and give back to your community in whatever way you can. It shows us that the message that King Charles has been speaking throughout his time as the Prince of Wales remains close to his heart; that change happens not when a government does things but when communities come together to make a difference. King Charles has been passionate about environmental issues long before the rest of the world caught on that our climates were changing and that we were responsible for the damage being done, so it seems fitting that we as a community should mark his coronation with some much-needed community clearing. Perhaps this 'clearing' is not only in the physical world, but also inwardly, as we clear away the cobwebs of things that hold us back and begin this new era filled with hope; hope for a cleaner village, hope for a cleaner future and hope to make our villages somewhere we can continue to be proud to call home.

So, when you think about how you marked the coronation this month, and how you gave back to your community, if you feel you weren't able to volunteer at the time, it is not too late. I encourage you to find out what projects are going on in your village and see how you can get involved. Let us honour our new King through small but important actions. Wishing you every blessing, Andrew

Open events with the St.Mary's Events Team

July 22nd - **Fete** in Church Street 2-5pm

July 29th - **Jazz on the Green** in Church Street. 6.30-8.30pm

Information will emerge via website/Facebook etc.

We look forward to seeing many people coming to these events.



Eastry Woodnesborough Benefice

June and July Services at St. Mary's Eastry

Services in JUNE

- Sunday 4th June 10am Holy Communion
- Sunday 11th June 10am Come and Worship Team
- Sunday 18th June 10am Holy Communion
- Sunday 25th June 8am Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion

Services in July

- Sunday 2nd July 10am Holy Communion
- Sunday 9th July 10am Come and Worship Team
- Sunday 16th July 10am Holy Communion
- Sunday 23rd July 8am Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion
- Sunday 30th July 10am Benefice Holy Communion (TBA)

Churches Open for Private Prayer

Our churches are usually open for private prayer and reflection as follows:

Eastry: 9am to 5pm daily; **Staple:** 9am to 5pm daily;

Tilmanstone: 9am to 5pm daily;

Woodnesborough: 9am to 5pm daily;

Northbourne: 10am to 4pm daily.

Please note that at this time your Eastry Woodnesborough

Benefice Church Contacts are:

Rector - Reverend Andrew Brown

01304 273836 rev.andrewewb@gmail.com (*Andrew's rest day is Monday*)

Benefice Office Tel: 01304 611323 - ansaphone checked daily.
email: eastry.benefice@gmail.com (checked daily)

Details of our online Church Service are shown below

Church Office - Tel: 01304 611323

Benefice Office, The Church Hall, Church Street, Eastry CT13 0HH
Wednesdays 10.45am to 12.45pm and Fridays 10.00am to 12 noon

Benefice Website

Please visit our website: www.EWBchurches.org.uk and share your thoughts on progress so far to Michael Kinns.
The new website is regularly being updated.

NB there is also a new sub-page for "Eastry Church" on the Eastry Parish Council website which links to the benefice website.

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/EWBchurches

ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES - Access Procedure

To join, you will need to do one of the following:

Using a laptop or tablet, copy this URL in to your web browser
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7360055669>

On a smartphone, dial: (the commas are important)
+442034815240,,7360055669# or +442080806591,,7360055669#

On a land line or old mobile phone, dial: 0203 481 5240 or 0208080 6591
When asked for your meeting number, enter: 7360055669#

Ignore the request for an ID – just press # again
If you are asked for a password, it is 2 4 6 8 10

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION

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Eastry WI



Our May meeting was very busy, apart from having a celebratory glass of Pimm's along with delicious savouries and cakes made by the committee to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III we were busy making red white and blue wreaths, a somewhat sticky activity, but some lovely results.

Eastry WI have a monthly walking group, a weekly craft group, a monthly ten pin bowling group as well as a drop in coffee morning once a month at Infinetea in the village.

Forthcoming meetings

7th June - The Story Behind the Bags and Hats of Madagascar - speaker Jane Muddle.

5th July - It's About a Boy, A journey with Dr Bernardo's - Speaker Paul Beard

2nd August - Watching the Detectives - Speaker Pete Allen





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Evening

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Beacon View Vets Update

Hi Everyone! We hope that you are enjoying your summer and the good weather recently. We had an exciting delivery at the practice recently and are thrilled to announce that we have invested in a state-of-the-art Mindray E7 ultrasound machine! This follows our investment program to make sure we are providing the best care for your furry companions. Our new scanner is one of the most advanced imaging systems available today. With its advanced acoustic technology, we can now produce even higher-quality images of your pet's internal organs and tissues, allowing us to make ever increasing specific diagnoses and personalised treatment plans without the need to refer patients.

In the United Kingdom, it has been a legal requirement to microchip dogs since 2016. However, until recently, microchipping cats has been optional. This has resulted in many cats not being microchipped and subsequently making it harder to reunite lost cats with their owners. To address this issue, the UK government has introduced a new law. **As of 6th April 2021, the new law requires all owners of pet cats in the UK to have their cats microchipped.** Owners will have until 10 June 2024 to ensure their cat has a chip. The law also requires owners to ensure that the information on the microchip is up to date. This includes the owner's name, address, and contact details. The new legislation aims to increase the number of cats that can be reunited with their owners if they get lost or stolen.

Microchipping is a quick and simple procedure that our lovely nurses do during their clinic and we will register all the details for you. Cats are often unaware of the microchip being placed, especially as they eat a few treats whilst we do it. One microchip should last for life.

Dangers posed by grass seeds to dogs are commonplace during the summer months in the UK. Grass seeds, also referred to as foxtails, are barbed seeds that can easily adhere to a dog's fur and skin. These seeds are typically found in long grass and can cause a range of health problems in dogs if left untreated. The barbed structure of the grass seeds enables them to easily penetrate a dog's skin, and once they do so, they can cause a variety of issues. These seeds can cause irritation, inflammation, and infection, and they can also move through a dog's body and cause internal damage. If a grass seed enters a dog's nose or ears, it can cause sneezing, coughing, and head shaking. If the seed enters the dog's eyes, it can cause swelling and discharge.

To avoid grass seed dangers in dogs, it is vital to keep your dog away from long grass and to inspect your dog's coat and paws after walks. Pay particular attention to the areas around your dog's ears, nose, and eyes, as these are the most common places for grass seeds to become lodged. If you discover a grass seed on your dog, it is important to extract it as soon as possible. If you are unsure how to remove a grass seed or if your dog shows signs of discomfort or infection, seek veterinary attention without delay.

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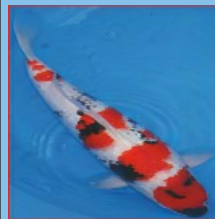
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Eastry Painting for Pleasure

Eastry Painting for Pleasure meet on Friday morning from 9.30am - 12noon, at the Scout Hall, Willmot Place, Eastry .

We are a very relaxed group, and give lots of encouragement to our members, we do not provide lessons, but some of us are sold artists and we are always willing to help with magazines, books, and tips on painting. We are always on the lookout for new members, if you are interested call in and have a drink with us and see if our group is suitable to your needs. We have exhibited in the Scout Hall, the local church and have had a stall at the local fete and have successfully sold many of our members works.

Contact Secretary Anne Haith, 01304 614585, or mobile 07906397956 . We charge £1 per week and 20p for tea or coffee and a biscuit.

Anne Haith



Reg Lee

It is with great sadness, that I have to say that Reg Lee, 93 years old, was sadly taken from us on Sunday 7th May at QEQM, following a short illness.

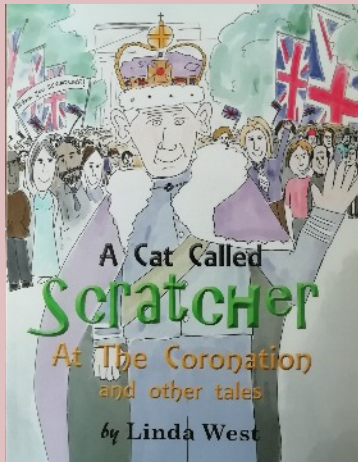
He has lived in Eastry since 1953.

He was well known in the village, always happy to chat.

I think recently he would be more known for zooming around on his mobility scooter!

The funeral will take place at Barham on Monday 19th June at 2pm.

All are welcome.



The latest paperback publication from one of our resident poets, Linda West, titled "A Cat Called Scratcher: at the Coronation and other tales", which has been brilliantly illustrated by Dan Dumbarton, is now available on Amazon.

ISBN 978-1-78792-007-1

"We all loved it when Paddington had tea with the Queen...Well, meet Scratcher, a rather naughty cat who tries really hard to be good."

EASTRY EVENTS



eastryevents@gmail.com / 07368957235

Thank to all who have attended our events this year so far.

Auditions have now been held for Eastry's Got Talent - best of luck to everyone going through

The final will be held at the Family Fun Day where everyone can vote

Sunday 2nd April 10.30-3pm

Eastry Bootfair Safari and Easter Hunt

Maps, table top sales & refreshments will be available from The Five Bells and Eastry Village Hall

Sign up fee for houses is £7.50 and the Easter Hunt is £1 per child.

Please sign up via email or text (above).

Saturday 22nd April 4pm

Games Time at The Five Bells

Bingo and a Beetle Drive taster session! Adults £5 Children £2.50

Booking advised though The Five Bells 01304 611188

EASTRY FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday 3rd June 13.00-18.00 Gun Park

Volunteers needed

FREE charity and groups pitches

-contact us today if you can spare an hour of your time.

-Book NOW not to miss out!

Eastry Neighbourhood Watch - Remember your ABC:



As the seasons change and we head towards what I would hope is a hot summer, we all need to remain aware of the fact that those intent on unnecessary door to door sales, house repairs, gardening work and the jet washing of drives will increase.

My simple advice is not to agree to such purchases or work from from those that canvass directly at the door or on the phone. In all cases ask yourself this question - have I asked this person to visit or call? If the answer is no, then you do not require their services. A polite but firm refusal is all that should be required, however do not get drawn into a conversation about your needs, the cost or their availability. This is a common method to induce an element of fear and pressure to act now. Always refer to family, friends, neighbours, Neighbourhood Watch, the KCC Trading Standards "Checked" scheme or me for further advice before agreeing to any work.

I have also previously advised that the men selling household products at the door claiming to be ex-military services or recently released prisoners is untrue. These mainly young men work in gangs and are transported to villages for short periods of time. They are very unlikely to have the correct "Peddlers Licence" issued by the Police and will be selling overpriced and substandard goods.

Please remember and use the ABC of such activities and scams:

never Assume

never Believe

always Confirm

Using this method will make you stop, think and seek support. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer.

Peter Gill / Kent Community Warden Service - Community Warden/Sandwich, Eastry and Ash.

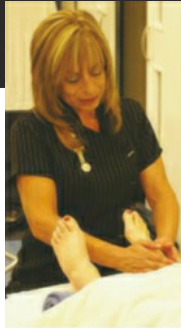
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www.kent.gov.uk/communitywardens.

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Please pick up after your dog out of respect for fellow villagers and their children.

Eastry Parish Council News

YOUR ELECTED EASTRY PARISH COUNCILLORS 2023

Cllr Mark Jones, Chairman, Finance and Planning Committees, Parish Room Working Group, Risk Assessments & Speed Camera

Cllr Deborah Russell, Vice Chairman, Finance and Planning Committees, Leisure Fields Working Group, HIP Working Group, Delegate for Eastry Young Peoples Club and Greville Homes & Footpath Officer

Cllr Andrew Barwick, Finance and Planning Committee, Parish Room Working Group and Greville Almshouses Delegate

Cllr Lindsay Wood, Finance Committee, Allotments Delegate and Councillor Responsible for Finance.

Cllr Marion Gourlay, Highways Improvement Plan Working Group, Communications Working Group, Leisure Fields Working Group

Cllr Martyn Hay, Finance Committee, Parish Room Working Group, Communications Working Group and Risk Assessments

Cllr Nicholas Kenton, Planning and Finance Committees, Parish Room Working Group

Cllr Joe McDonnell, Church Yard & Cemetery Working Group, Village Hall Committee Delegate

Cllr Michael Waterson-Smith, Planning Committee, Church Yard & Cemetery Working Group

OUR PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

20mph zone for Eastry. We are working with Kent County Council highways towards seeking a 20mph zone including the High Street, Mill Lane and part of Lower Street to help improve road safety on our streets and lanes. Traffic volume and speed is a major concern for Eastry residents. Speeding is thoroughly antisocial and has a negative impact on everyone living in Eastry. We can all slow down.

Church Street Parking. We have recently consulted with businesses and those living on Church Street asking their opinion about addressing parking and accessibility. We are discussing possibilities with Kent County Council. In the meantime if you have concerns please contact EPC.

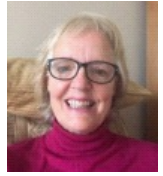
Speeding on Felderland Lane. We are working jointly with Worth Parish Council to find a solution to speeding traffic. If you have questions about the above or think there should be other priorities please get in touch clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk

Eastry Parish Council NEEDS YOU!

EPC needs two more Councillors. Every year Eastry's Annual Parish Council Meeting takes place to formalise the Council's roles and priorities. Don't worry if you missed it! If you are interested in helping your local community, we'd **REALLY** love to hear from you. We need individuals who can dedicate some of their time to help make Eastry better for everyone. You can still join Eastry Parish Council through a short application process involving an interview with the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Get in touch today clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk

EPC Councillor Profile

Every edition we will feature one or two of the Eastry Parish Councillors so that you can get to know them and hopefully they will inspire you to get more involved in EPC's work. This time it's Cllr Deborah Russell, Vice Chairman. Deborah has lived in Eastry for 23 years, she is retired having had a career in the pharmaceutical industry. Deborah loves living in Eastry especially walking her dog in the surrounding countryside. She enjoys Zumba at the Village Hall and is an avid artist. Deborah has been an EPC Councillor for 4 years, since 2019 and Vice Chairman since 2022. She is on the EPC's Finance and Planning Committees and also two Working Groups overseeing EPC's Highways Improvement Plan and also the EPC Leisure fields which includes Gun Park and the play area.



Deborah is the Parish Footpath Officer and represents EPC at the Eastry Young Peoples Club and Greville Almshouses, Mill Lane. Since joining EPC Deborah has worked hard to improve the village, she as a key player in the new play area and will now focus her attention towards reducing speeding traffic, making our lanes and streets safer.

Keeping Eastry Beautiful

A huge thank you to the 16 volunteers who took part in the regular Parish Council organised litter pick on the morning of Saturday 13th May. A grand total of 16 full bags of rubbish were collected from streets and paths throughout the village. All the volunteers were treated to a hearty breakfast at The Five Bells. Well done for helping to making our village beautiful.

If you want to take part or help organise the next litter pick, please get in touch with EPC or check our website and Facebook page for future dates.

clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk



**A HUGE thank you
to everyone who took part**

**EPC's Cllr Deborah Russell
with the litter pick
16-bag haul.**

Poets' Corner

Sunrise

I am taking my hat off, I've had enough
 Of working so hard, from dawn to dusk
 I receive no reward, for sharing my resource
 I am too hot, too cold, and shown no recourse!

I am blamed for wrinkly skin, and scorching the crops
 I am villainized and criticised, it hurts and it shocks!
 No matter what I do, to keep you warm
 There is never a thank you, just downright scorn!

So go grab your coats, and throw your sunscreen away
 I am refusing to rise till I receive more pay!

Grandad

My grandad, what a special man,
 Actually, I was his number one fan.
 I hung on his every word,
 He knew everything that occurred.
 He drove the loco around the village works,
 Sounding the hooter just one of the perks.
 Steam would escape from the funnel rising high,
 Grandad's very close now, this would signify.

I'd run through the church yard as fast as I could,
 No time to lose that's understood.
 Past all the gravestones standing erect,
 Some ancient and near neglect.
 I'd get to the wall, the last hurdle to face,
 Scramble up to a suitable place.

There's grandad in his loco, that was a close shave,
 He's sounding his hooter, he's seen me, let's wave.

Shirley Hopkins

How do Cuckoos get away with it?

First an apology; only juvenile robins lack the red breast. I had believed females lacked it at mating time, as have others. I will explain why we assumed this.

We obtain our **behaviour** in two ways. Some is **inherited through our genes**, it is **innate/inborn**. Alternatively behaviour is **learned**; it is acquired through our **experience**; either through **trial and error** or by being **taught** how to behave, often by **demonstration** of how to do it by others.

All **vertebrate animals** (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals) show a mixture of the two types of behaviour, but the proportions vary. Taking birds and mammals, birds show far more innate behaviours and less learned ones than mammals. For several reasons; most birds have quite short life spans but to survive need to show lots of complex behaviours which they would have little time to learn.

Innate behaviours are **inflexible**. If we, having **learned** the way to work, find the way is blocked somehow, we at once try alternative routes. Your dog or cat will do the same. Birds are not good at this which is where the cuckoo comes in. Cuckoos lay one egg in each of several other, smaller, birds' nests, often those of Sedge or Reed Warblers. When the cuckoo chick hatches it pushes out of the nest the eggs, or more often the chicks, of the warbler. Why do the parents not attack the cuckoo?

These warblers have 1 or 2 broods of 3-5 eggs a year. Even if they only breed for one year (which is common) they could produce as many as 10 chicks, more likely 3-6. If all those survived to breed, replacing their 2 parents, the population of reed warblers would increase until, over several generations this would produce mass mortality, through lack of suitable food most probably. So, the warblers, and all birds give most food to the larger, healthier chicks; this is an innate response. It increases their survival chances. Often the size of the **gape**; how widely the beaks are open to receive food acts as a **sign stimulus** to place food in the widest gaping beaks. If a cuckoo chick is present that will receive most, even all of the food!



Cuckoo

The Robin? Robins are **territorial** all year, defending an area from which they will get food to feed themselves, a mate and their young. Defending against other robins with the same needs. They attack birds with a red breast. Place even a crude model of a bird with a patch of red paint in your garden and, with luck you will see a robin attack it. That is why I assumed females lost the red breast at breeding time. In this case it is not the case. I cannot find an answer as to why but my guess is that the female, influenced by hormonal changes, performs some innate **submissive** behaviour when ready to mate and this inhibits the male's aggression.

Terry Wood

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Gardening on the other side of the fence (13)

After a sluggish start to the growing season, as I write in the 2nd week of May, things have finally got going. The highlight just appearing in my meadow is *Camassia quamash* (see right photo), a North American bulb which I am growing for the first time. It should naturalise freely in future years. The meadow is still dominated by grasses due to the fertile soil but I can now see young plants establishing from the seed I sowed in autumn 2021, especially Wild Carrot along with Common Knapweed



and Ox-eye Daisies that I have plug-planted, plus the parasitic Yellow Rattle which is self-establishing with the help of fresh seed added last autumn. An inherited colony of 7 cowslips (see left) which barely showed in 2022 has flowered really well due to the damp weather and has now expanded to 14.

This year the only cut was done in late February and apart from the paths will now be left until September. With more flowers expected this year I hope to see some more interesting bees and butterflies. “No Mow May” is getting more media coverage again this year but I would encourage you to only experiment with small areas to see if you can bring it into your own garden routine as trying to mow again in June with a small Flymo, or such, may well put you off trying again ! Research has shown that mowing every 3 weeks where you can leave daisies, selfheal and birdsfoot trefoil to flower is of the most benefit to pollinators whilst remaining more manageable. The only new significant plantings over the winter into the mini-orchard and meadow were a hardy Kiwi fruit, a Concorde Pear and a Black Mulberry.

Our new pond is in its second spring and I am pleased to report that the local frogs found it this year and there were 9 clumps of spawn. But because it is a shallow-edged wildlife pond the tadpoles have been completely wiped out by a male Blackbird, a Magpie and, lastly, by the first Smooth Newt we have seen. Newts are voracious consumers of both spawn and young tadpoles. It is all part of nature's circle but I could provide additional protection in future. The local Heron was also sitting in one of the trees in March, a new addition to the garden bird list, but probably on the lookout for fish. Also returning after a long break have been the local hedgehogs. We have seen at least two individuals so far. Please consider providing gaps in your garden boundary fences to allow these popular mammals to have access to a wider territory. Even concrete gravel boards can be bought with pre-cut holes. Speak to your fencing contractor.

On Eastry Community Watch Facebook page I will occasionally post photos of useful wild flowers that you can incorporate into your garden and also posted an album of most of the 134 moths that I have so far identified. You can find me as Bee Friendly Gardener. Enjoy the early summer.

Jeff the “Bee Friendly Gardener”

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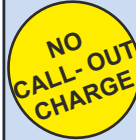
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Start of the swarming season



May through to the end of July is prime swarming time for honeybees. Honeybees usually swarm when their nest become congested and the queen's hormones cannot easily spread through the nest. Since the middle of winter, the old queen has been laying eggs, building up a work force which can number some 50,000+ bees. When the numbers become too great the house bees begin to build special cells and the queen lays one egg in each. The larvae, which emerges three days later, are destined to become queens and are fed a rich diet of royal jelly. Five days later the queen cell is sealed (as shown above) and the larva undergoes the miraculous transformation into an adult bee – a process called metamorphosis. In total it takes around 16 days from egg until an adult virgin queen emerges. House bees build, on average, between 12 to 20 of these swarm cells. Bee colonies have evolved to have only one queen; rival queens fight to the death. So as the first queen cell is being sealed, the old queen leaves with around half of the worker bees and honey in their stomachs! Though a risky survival strategy, with the old, fertile queen, many workers and food ready to go, usually they successfully establish a new colony.

The sound of this mass of bees exiting the hive is unmistakable and a beekeeper will rush to find where they have grouped – usually a few metres from their original hive – hopefully in an accessible spot, not many metres from the ground! A swarm may stay for a matter of minutes or several days, as their scout bees search out a final nest site. The scout bees dance with vigour on the surface of the swarm when they find a possible location, hoping to recruit more supporters for their favoured site. When a critical number of scout bees favour one site, the decision is made; it is the scout bees who then lead the swarm to this new location, which maybe close by or several miles away. A good nest site is not always in a hollow tree trunk or even a beekeeper's well positioned bait hive, but a chimney, soffit or roof space. There they can be a nuisance.



How can a non-beekeeper help? If you see a swarm then look on the BBKA website and find the contact details of the nearest swarm collector. This is a free service, with additional advice. Contact the beekeeper asap, before the swarm leaves for its final destination.

What about the queens left behind in the original nest?

The first queen to emerge will move through the colony locating her 'sister' queens; she kills her rivals by stinging them through the cell wall. Then she prepares for her mating flight where she will mate with around 20 drones; this is the first time she leaves the hive, the second, and final time, will be as part of a swarm the following year. When she departs, she in turn, will leave behind her developing daughter queens.



STAPLE COUNTRY FAYRE

SUNDAY 25th JUNE 2023

11:00 a.m. Staple Recreation Ground
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<p>Entrance: £2, Children (under 12) 50p, Senior Citizens £1, Family tickets £5</p>
--

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Year Round Recipes - Bacon and Onion Spaghetti

A very cheap and cheerful meal that my children loved. Serves 4

3 large onions or equivalent, chopped.

Chopped bacon - I buy packs of 'cooking bacon' for this
 and I split the pack before freezing what I don't want to use immediately.

Grated cheese

In a large frying pan, sweat the onion very gently, stirring frequently, in a little oil until it is translucent then add the chopped bacon, turning up the heat a little. At this point start cooking the amount of spaghetti (or other pasta) that you need.

Once the pasta is cooked, drain and serve with the onion and bacon, sprinkling the cheese over the top. If I have spare mushrooms, I slice these and add them to the pan once the bacon has changed colour.

Chris Scott

Bird Watching with Big Nick

Hello everyone, the inspiration for my column this edition came from a trip my wife and I made recently to the small Welsh island of Bardsey (in Welsh – Ynys Enlli). We were there at the end of April and one species I was keen to see was a member of the crow family – the Chough (sometimes known as the Red-billed Chough). I had seen one many years ago when we visited the Hebridean island of Islay but I wasn't photographing birds then, so it was on my 'wish list'.



This may seem to have little to do with Eastry and its environs, but here is the connection. The Chough was once a common sight on the cliffs and chalk grasslands around Dover. Like many species, persecution and changes in farming practices caused a rapid decline and they have not been present locally for over 200 years. As an indication that they were once well known here, the Canterbury Coat of Arms has 3 Choughs on it – something I must have seen many times during my life, and only fairly recently noted it.

It may soon be possible to see Choughs, with their aerial displays of wheeling, diving and swooping, over Dover cliffs again soon. Over many years, large areas of cliff top grassland have been managed to restore the habitat required by these birds; short, grazed grassland rich in flowering plants provides a good source of nectar and pollen that attracts a wide variety of insects. In turn, these insects and their pupae are an essential food source for the Chough, whose bright red, curved beak is perfectly suited to probe for them in the short turf and thin soil that is characteristic of chalk grassland.

Kent Wildlife Trust together with Wildwood Trust have an ongoing re-introduction programme where chicks are being reared in captivity with the aim of releasing them to the restored areas of cliff top until a self-sustaining population is achieved. So keep your eyes open in the near future, you may see a sight not witnessed for more than 200 years! See the Kent Nature Trust website for more information.



Choughs on Bardsey

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Rose Beer - Stan and Hilda (Mr.& Mrs.)

Stan and Hilda were both ninety two,
they decided to marry, it seemed the right thing to do,
so with bus passes in hand, onto a Stage Coach bus,
it was best that way they wanted no fuss.

A bridesmaid named Vera with her zimmer gleaming,
thought the look on her friends face was positively beaming.

The best man's teeth were sparkling white,
he'd soaked them in Steradent the previous night.

The local vicar with a smile on his face
welcomed the couple to his Holy place,
but secretly was hiding a grin
cos he knew for sixty years they'd been living in sin.

The choir in red gowns with thermals beneath,
sang love was divine til one dropped her teeth.

Her Dad gave her away with a loving touch
but at one hundred and twelve he didn't say much!

Now old Stan's bones were very brittle
and his physique resembled that of a skittle,
yet he skipped down the High Street to the Village Hall,
cos a very kind lady made cakes free for all.

The villagers cheered and thought it quite funny
cos they knew Hilda had married him for his money.

But Stan was anxious to get home before long
he wanted to get comfy cos "Countdown" was on.

At the end of the day he clonked up the stairs,
knelt by his bed saying his heartfelt prayers.
He said a big 'Thank You' for the love of his life
cos now he had Hilda, at last, as his wife!

God Bless Stan and Hilda.

Rose Beer

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 Rosemary Barwick 611420

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