



Floreat Etona

November 2018

Issue 17

Eton ⁵ Years Matters

**Town
& Gown**

**Naturewatch
On the Spot**

**Walking
the Riverside**

**Eton
Then & Now**

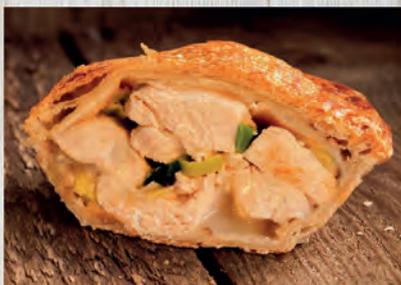
We Will

Remember Them!



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Chair's Chat

Ros Rivaz - ECA Chair



A very Happy Birthday! **Eton Matters is 5 years old!** A huge thank you to Peter Eaton, our Editor, who has been editor throughout, to our other volunteers who contribute articles, to our sponsors, who advertise, which in turn pays for printing and to our printer, Vario.

We have welcomed many new faces to Eton and to our meetings. Thank you to a new member, John for the suggestion to get together afterwards to meet new faces. We have and we will; thank you to those hostellers who have provided wonderful nourishment to accompany our drinks.

We have a new ECA Secretary! Jade Hunter, a partner at Hybert Design and an Eton resident, has been on the committee for some time and we are delighted to welcome her as Secretary. We want to thank Jessie Lawrence for her great contribution to our committee and our community.

Our events have continued with walks, talks and another pub quiz. The next big event is the annual Christmas Lights Switch – see the advertisement on page 18 and pop the 15th November in your diary. Our local retail and hostelry businesses have all been asked if they wish to hold a stall, provide refreshments or something similar, with a great response to date. What an excellent addition and thank you to the organising team.

In other exciting new news, we have requested and are hopeful to gain RBWM funding towards WIFI for Eton, which we hope will be able to form the basis of assisting the mobile phone coverage too; our Eton Information Centre; and completing the project to restore the Brook and Barnes Pool, below Baldwin's Bridge.

I would like to thank the regular and guest contributors and the sponsors of this issue of Eton Matters, without whose generosity we would be unable to produce this mini-mag. The sponsors are: Kavanagh's Budgens, New & Lingwood,, Makena, Warren Property, J Manley Gallery, Rhubarb and Custard, Vario Press, Beechwood Interiors, Eton Stationers, My Handyman, Eton Cycles, Salamandra, Lewandowski Architects, Eton Mess and Eton College. **Peter Eaton, Editor**

Forthcoming Eton Community Association Meetings

Monday 3 December & Wednesday 6 February Both 6.30pm at the Council Offices

Everyone welcome

Eton Community Association and Eton Matters Information

ECA Chair - Ros Rivaz- chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk

ECA Secretary - Jade Hunter- secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk

ECA Treasurer - Malcolm Leach - treasurer@etoncommunity.co.uk

EM Editor - Peter Eaton - editor@etoncommunity.co.uk

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Town & Gown

Justin Nolan - Deputy Head (Co-curricular), Eton College



I have now lived in Eton for 27 years and well remember my first visit in January 1991. I had come down from York where I was studying for a Masters and it was snowing. The train journey was a very slow one with frozen points at Reading and a long wait outside Slough. But I shall never forget my first glimpse of Eton from the branch line to Windsor seeing the snow gleaming on the roofs and the chapel standing serenely above everything. Walking up the High Street was like a return to the time of Dickens. I still feel a powerful sense of nostalgia when I take the train from Slough to Windsor and see the same view.

Back then, Eton still felt like a 'local' town with its own bakery (now Zeros) and a lot of antique shops. Since then Eton and Windsor have been on an extraordinary run as house prices have

surged and the whole of the South East has become one of the most economically dynamic regions in Europe. What strikes me now as I walk into Windsor is the number of different cups of coffee I could drink on the way and the fact that I can buy a dog basket, witty tee-shirt and a stereo-system before I reached the bridge. I really like the way that it has become such a lively and varied centre.

Over the years I have done many different things at the College, from coaching rowing – in the days when you needed permission from the Lord Privy Seal to cycle through the Home Park, to directing plays, teaching History and running a boarding house. However my new role, as Deputy Head (Co-curricular) is my greatest challenge yet, ensuring that we give Etonians varied and exciting experiences outside the classroom whether they be keen on mountaineering or fashion design (or both!). Central to this is playing a key role in the development of our sports facilities which we aim to be a resource not only for the school but for the wider community as well.

As an historian I have always been interested in the relationship between communities and their surroundings. Eton and Windsor have such a rich history of the connection between the river, the Castle, the College and the folk of each town retaining their own idiosyncratic identities. For me the greatest pleasure is to walk a few hundred yards from the College – where I work – and find myself in a different community with its own strong sense of place where I am not a school master but can metaphorically put my feet up, stroll by the river and enjoy a visit to a pub or a restaurant. Eton is very much now my home.

In Memoriam: Great War Remembrance at Eton



Free Exhibition at The Verey Gallery

Sundays 4th & 11th November
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or Thursday 8th 11am-1pm

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We Will Remember Them!

At 11.00 on Sunday 11th November we mark the centenary of the signing of the armistice that saw the cessation of hostilities in the Great War (World War One). The war supposedly to end all wars, claimed 91 Eton Town and 1,157 Eton College lives.

The town has two memorials to those lost in this war, the gate posts to the Remembrance Gardens in the High Street and wooden panels in St. John the Evangelist church which were originally the screen to the Lady Chapel in the original church. Eton College has a memorial in the Colonnade.

As a tribute to those who not only paid the ultimate sacrifice but to all those who fought for our freedom in the Great War we are publishing stories of three men who never

came back with connections to Eton, my great uncle Private Edward Moseley who lived in Eton, my second cousin 2nd Lieutenant Frederick Eaton and Gunner Benjamin Line, great uncle of Eton resident Roger Line. (PE)



Gunner Benjamin Line enlisted in Birmingham and served with the Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Field Artillery, 71st Brigade, D Battery and died in the Battle of Arleux during the Battle of Arras on the 28th April 1917. His body never being found is remembered on the wall of the Arras Memorial.

The principal objective of the attack was the need to sustain a supporting action tying down German reserves to assist the French offensive against the plateau north of the Aisne traversed by the Chemin des Dames. Most of the Field Artillery had low trajectory field guns but D battery in which Benjamin served had 4.5" howitzers at their disposal. The howitzer lobbed its shell high into the air so that it dropped more directly down onto its target meaning it could target behind obstacles, perhaps a wood or a hill.

The Battle of Arleux started at 04:25 on 28 April, British and Canadian troops launched the main attack on a front of about 8 miles north of Monchy-le-Preux. The battle continued for most of 28 and 29 April, with the Germans delivering determined counter-attacks. The British positions at Gavrelle were attacked seven times with strong forces and on each occasion the German thrust was repulsed with great loss by the 63rd Division. The village of Arleux-en-Gohelle was captured by the 1st Canadian Division after hand-to-hand fighting and the 2nd Division made further progress in the neighbourhood of Oppy, Greenland Hill (37th Division) and between Monchy-le-Preux and the Scarpe (12th Division). The War Diary on the day of Benjamin's death, although

Roger Line and Peter Eaton

Eton Residents



not mentioning him by name due to the sheer number of casualties during this time, does speak of and how the D/71 (Benjamin's regiment) was shelled throughout the days of the 28th and 29th April with 4.2 and 5.9s, (RL)



Private Edward Moseley served in the 2nd/1st Bucks Battalion, Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry and died on the 22nd August 1917 during the 3rd Battle of Ypres (Battle of Passchendaele), 31st July-6 Nov. 1917, notable not only for its casualties, 325,000 Allied and 260,000 German, but also the mud. Shortly after the start of the infantry attack on the 31st July the heaviest rains in 30 years hit the area making it like a quagmire in which tanks and men could not move and becoming so deep in the shell holes men and horses drowned.

With improved weather, on the 16th August the campaign resumed for the advance. On the fatal day for Edward, 22nd August, the advance started at 4.45am prompt under a barrage of shell fire from the artillery from the assembly line near Uhlan Farm, where they had moved on the 20th from their camp at Goldfish Farm near Ypres. The Bucks advanced slowly with other units on both sides, each with a 700yd front under artillery cover, disregarding, as ordered, taking the enemy strong points which 'moppers up' of other units were to take. This allowed enemy snipers to have a busy day taking out even stretcher bearers and crawling wounded. Eventually they consolidated a new line of shell holes in defence of Somme Farm. At least three counter-attacks were repelled. Their objective for the day was to reach Kansas Cross (just 1400 yards), which some did but were cut off from communications and under attack from all sides, and at tremendous cost. 13 officers and 637 men of the Bucks Battalion went into action that day, 11 officers and 338 other ranks were listed as casualties.

Edward, buried in Tyne Cot British Cemetery, died just one year and one day after his only son, Gerald, was born. As there is not a photograph of them together, I believe he may never have seen his son, except in a photograph sent to him.



Frederick Eaton was 2nd Lieutenant in the 107th Squadron of the newly formed Royal Air Force. He died at just 19 years and 5 months on the 4th September 1918 on a bombing raid on the Western Front in the 'Advance to Victory' in the last 100 days of the war. His body was not found and he is remembered on the Arras Flying Services Memorial. (PE)

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Summer School

George Fussey - Chairman, Eton Summer School for Japanese

When over thirteen hundred Etonians leave for their summer vacation, at the end of June, one might expect the northern-end of Eton to very quickly become a ghost town. Though there might be some relief from residents that the footpaths are easier to navigate without the hordes of boys between lessons, you would be forgiven for thinking that High Street traders might be adversely affected by the drop in footfall.

Fortunately, because of the extensive summer school programme, the boarding houses remain lively and vibrant places and Eton shops have a plethora of young, souvenir-hunting teenage visitors well into the beginning of August. Students come from around the world to participate in week long courses for rowers and choristers which repeat through July. There is also a Universities Summer School which aims to help high-flying students from maintained schools to prepare for entry to top universities.



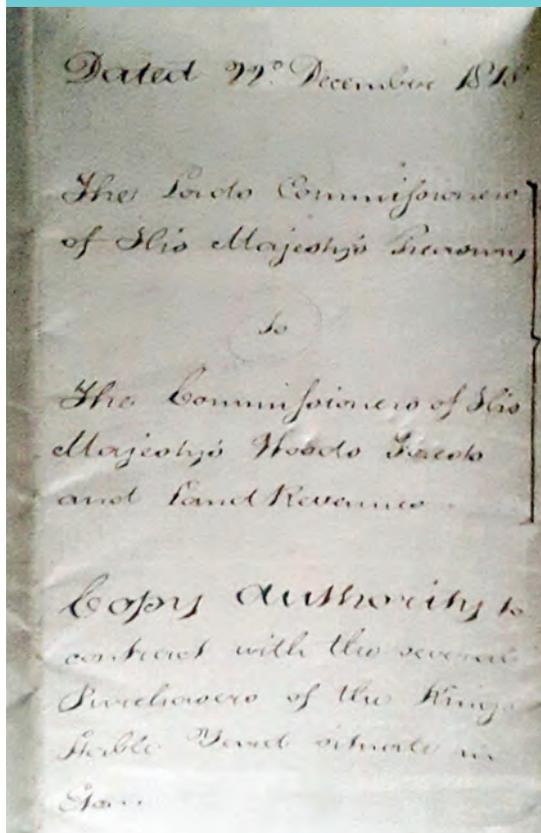
Photo courtesy of Rhubarb & Custard

However, a significant segment of the 1200 plus students who come to Eton over the summer come from Japan. The Language and Cultural Course for Japanese students has been running for over 25 years. From small beginnings, it has now grown to provide an educational experience for some 460 high school students drawn from 16 schools all accompanied by more than 40 teachers. This number of visitors provides work for many in the Eton community as well as providing much needed trade for High Street shops as our visitors search out souvenirs. Nearly 60 Eton staff work directly on the course and they are supported by staff who provide catering and organise their accommodation.

This summer, one particular visitor was especially worthy of note. Her Imperial Highness Princess Aiko, the only daughter of Crown Prince Naruhito, was one of the High School students who attended the course. The course combines lessons aimed at improving English speaking and listening skills with a rich variety of activities in Windsor and Eton augmented by a diverse range of excursions to places such as Oxford, Stonehenge, Winchester, London and Syon Park. Because the Crown Prince will assume the throne on the abdication of his father in April 2019, Princess Aiko will become the daughter of Japan's 126th Emperor.

The Norwood Family and King Stable Street

Sylvia Ellis, Eton Resident



It is nearly 200 years since the Crown sold much of King Stable Street. In December 1818 the land was split into several plots and sold, completing in January 1819.

My husband's great great great grandfather William Norwood bought plot 6 for £195 – this is now 20 King Stable Street. Plot 7 was bought by James Jennings for £330 and is now 22 to 27 King Stable Street. The Norwood family subsequently bought the plot 7 properties – probably in 1862.

William also bought the properties opposite number 20 (i.e. by the river) for his daughter Maria and her husband, transferring effective ownership to Maria at a time when married women couldn't own property. In 1936, the council issued a clearance order for this area so the properties were demolished. This site is now a garden.

For many years (Mary) Ella Norwood lived in number 20. She taught at the Montem School in Slough. Ella died in 1973. The property transferred then to

a combination of Ella's niece Rosalind and (via a trust) to Rosalind's son, my husband, Graham Walter. Graham moved into the property in 1976 and we continue living here, fully inheriting the property in 2011.

Number 21 is at the side and rear of 20. Until the 1970s/1980s, 21 was a one-up one-down cottage with outside toilets and shower room.

In the 1970s/1980s most of the cottages 22 to 27 were sold, and at the same time numbers 20 and 21 were combined into a single property. Number 21 is now the kitchen for number 20, and what was the outdoor shower room is now a utility room, accessed through a conservatory.

And then there was the clay pipe factory on what is now the parking area. But that is another story ...

CELEBRATE
CHRISTMAS IN

Eton



2018

THURSDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

The Chapel service is at 6pm followed by a Christmas procession with Father Christmas and his reindeer

Watch the Christmas lights switch on in Jubilee Square at 7pm

Singing

Food & Drink

Shopping

*Meet Father Christmas
and his Reindeer!*

Tickets for the Chapel service will be available from Eton Stationers and Eton Premier Stores from 1st November

THIS IS AN ETON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION EVENT
www.etoncommunity.co.uk | secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk

Eton Trivia - The Brocas

Peter Eaton - Editor



Although the Brocas has been owned by Eton College since the early 1500s when it was bequeathed to the College by Provost Henry Bost having previously been left to him by the Brocas family, the people of the town have often thought of it as their own.

The Brocas was a flat meadow by the river until the Second World War when trenches were dug to stop enemy planes landing and was the place where most of the town's gatherings and activities took place.

Sports matches like football and cricket were commonplace as can be seen in my photo of a cricket match above taken the early part of the 20th century. Today running events seem to have taken over from these traditional sports. In earlier times less savoury 'sports' in our eyes today sometimes took place such as badger-batting and cat hunts.

It is good to hear that girls were allowed to play cricket, but sadly only in the less formal games and it was a great day when they were given a real bat instead of a thick stick.

On May 6th 1873 William Talley, a stump orator given to speaking on many subjects, announced he would be speaking on the Brocas at 6pm and 5,000 people gathered to hear him.

Taking Council

Bob Austen, Town Clerk, Eton Town Council

Tel: 01753 860377

email: etoncouncil@aol.com



Here is an update on some of the projects that your Town Council are working on:

Eton & Eton Wick Neighbourhood Plan

In September our Neighbourhood Plan was officially adopted by the Borough. This will mean that all planning applications will now be judged against this local plan that you all had chance to comment on and vote on in the referendum in July. A big thank you to all of you who participated in the consultations and voted and to the members of the Steering and Topic Groups who put the plan together.

South Meadow Lane Recreation Ground Pavilion

We are delighted to report that planning permission for the proposed new pavilion has been granted and Councillor Duncan Reed and his colleagues on the working party are now wrestling with the challenge of raising the necessary funds. More news on this exciting project in the next issue of Eton Matters!

Barnes Pool Watercourse

It is satisfying to see the progress that is being made to return Barnes Pool to water. Peter Eaton and his working party that includes our Mayor, Councillor Derek Bishop, Councillor George Fussey, Ros Rivaz, Philip Tilbury and myself have made huge progress in opening up the watercourse and clearing Barnes Pool, and we hope very soon to see water flowing through what will become a beautiful landscaped part of the town.

Jubilee Square

Jubilee Square's position as the central feature of Eton has focused the Town Council's attention in ensuring that the area looks as clean and tidy as possible, at all times. Recent improvements this year have included refurbishment of the three benches and cleaning the driveway by Baldwin's Institute. Ongoing attention to the flower beds is ensuring that this important feature remains an attractive part of the town.

South Meadow Lane Recreation Ground

Following a tree survey that was made in 2017 there were a number of trees around the Recreation Ground which needed attention from a health and safety perspective and the Town Council appointed a tree specialist company to do the work this summer. This has now been completed and Councillor Duncan Reed, who oversees the Recreation Ground, continues to monitor the situation to ensure all is well.

Of course the bread and butter issues of streetlights, drains, dog fouling and other routine complaints and issues will keep your Town Clerk and the Town Council fully engaged. Please do let me know if you experience any problems.



Eton Porny School

*Katherine Russell
Head Teacher*

It's been a glorious start to the Autumn Term and this year we have welcomed Mr Justin Bugeja to join our teaching team and Mrs Dawn Smith who will be working with our school and across the other two schools in the Slough and East Berkshire Multi Academy Trust (SEBMAT) as a Home School Link Worker (HSLW). I am confident that the community of Eton will help them to feel very welcome too.

Our children have all returned to smart classrooms which have been newly refurbished including the latest technology. There is certainly a buzz of excitement that Eton Porny has now joined the 21st Century.

It is during this term that we hold open mornings and evenings for parents and children to come and visit us, details of which can be found on our website or by contacting our school office. However, in addition to these events, families looking for school places are also welcome to contact the School Office at any time to arrange a mutually convenient appointment.

Eton Boys have, once again, begun their volunteering placements at our school with an extensive range of activities that the boys will be involved in, including a Latin Club and a Debating Club. The boys will of course, carry on with last year's previously successful project, leading the 'ECO Team'. This was a new initiative last year and the group achieved the ECO Bronze Award and made a very good start towards the Silver Award which we hope to complete this year.

Eton Porny School 2019 Intake

Open Mornings and Evenings for 2019 Intake

At 9.30am and 6.30pm Thursday 29th November 2017 and Tuesday 8th January 2018

For Further Details Telephone 01753 861995

From the Baldwin's Bridge Trust Archives

Derek Bishop, Trust Archivist

The following report was found in a newspaper cutting reporting on a storm which took place on Saturday evening July 9th 1870 :

ETON - On Saturday evening a severe thunderstorm, accompanied by heavy rain broke over the town of Windsor, Eton and Eton College. While the storm was at its height, the lightning struck the first of a stack of ornamental red brick chimneys above the roof of the newly erected premises next to Barnes Pool Bridge, in the High Street, Eton. The Electric fluid having shattered the chimney, entered the upper room and, attracted by the bell wires, passed out by the bell handle outside the house. A piece of handsome mosaic work filling the panel between the doors was burst right off into the street.

The repairs cost £9. 16s. 3d, which was paid by the insurance company.

A man with a beard and mustache is sitting on a wooden bench in a lush garden. He is wearing a patterned blazer, a light purple shirt, maroon trousers, and dark brown shoes. The background is filled with green foliage and flowers.

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Diary

Nov

11th 10.55 – Service of Remembrance – St. John the Evangelist Church, Eton

15th 18.00 – Carols – College Chapel followed at

19.00 - by Christmas Lights Switch-on – Jubilee Square

17.00-19.00 Christmas Craft and refreshment – Eton Library

29th 09.30 or 18.00 – 2019 Intake Open Days – Eton Porny School

Dec

2nd 18.00 – Community Carol Service – Eton College Chapel

20.15 – Band Concert – School Hall, Eton College

3rd 18.30 – Eton Community Association meeting – Eton Council Offices

9th 20.15 – School Concert - School Hall, Eton College

16th 16.00 – Family Carol Service – St. John the Baptist Church, Eton Wick

24th 16.30 – Christingle - St. John the Baptist Church, Eton Wick

25th 10.15 – Family Communion - St. John the Baptist Church, Eton Wick

Jan

8th 09.30 or 18.00 – 2019 Intake Open Days – Eton Porny School

Feb

6th 18.30 – Eton Community Association meeting – Eton Council Offices

Regular Events

Council Office – Eton: Tues – Fri – 08.00-13.00

Charteris Club – Lunch Tuesdays & Wednesdays - 12.00-14.00– Eton Wick Village Hall

Eton College Museums – Every Sunday – 14.30-17.00 –Free entry

Eton Town Council Meeting – 19.30 - First Thursday of Month - Eton Council Offices

Library: Mon – 14.00-17.00; Tues – 10.00-13.00 & 14.00-17.00; Fri – 14.00-19.00;
Sat – 10.00-13.00 **Library Diary see page 30**

Churches (regular services)

St. John the Evangelist, Eton (C of E) Services

1st & 3rd Wednesdays - 10.00 - Communion (said)

(Sundays – 9.30 & 11.00 Services - St. John the Baptist, Eton Wick)

Our Lady of Sorrows (Catholic) - Service – Sundays – 09.30

Apostolic Fellowship of Christ – Baldwin Institute

Sunday School – Sundays - 15.00; Bible Lectures – 2nd & 4th Sundays - 18.30

Eton Matters - We Need Your Stories To keep this magazine going another 5 years

To keep this mini-magazine going we need your stories of your interests, your families association with Eton past or present, the history of your home or street or your observations around Eton.

Email: editor @etoncommunity.co.uk

Useful Numbers

Charteris Club	Julie or Jackie	07598 565091
Churches	St John the Evangelist (Vicar)	01753 852268
	Our Lady of Sorrows, Eton Court	01753 542862
Community Warden	Carol Lewin	01628 685636
Council Offices, Eton		01753 860377
Councillor (RBWM)	Malcolm Alexander	01753 850389
Emergency	Fire/Ambulance/Police	999
Eton College		01753 370100
Eton Community Association	Chair	07734 073117
	Treasurer	01753 865647
Library	Eton	01753 860506
	24 hr renewal line	0303 123 0035
Eton Porny School		01753 861995
Eton Pre-School		01753 850842
Healthcare	Fast Medical Help, Non-Emergency (NHS)	111
Doctors	South Meadow Surgery (24 hr line)	01753 833777
	(Appointments)	01753 832332
Hospitals	King Edward VII Outpatients, Windsor	01753 860441
	Prince Charles Eye Unit, KE VII Casualty	01753 636359
	Wexham Park Hospital	01753 633000
	Wexham Park A& E	01753 634017
	Upton Hospital, nr Slough – Walk-in unit	01753 821441
	Heatherwood & St. Marks Minor Injuries units	01753 877805
	Heatherwood Hospital	01344 623333
	St. Marks Outpatients	01628 632012
Natural History Museum	Eton (curator)	01753 370602
Police	Crime in Progress	999
	Non-Emergency	101
River Authority	Environment Agency (gen. enquiries)	03708 506 506
	Floodline	0345 988 1188
Royal Borough Of Windsor And Maidenhead (customer care)		01628 683800
	24 hour line for key services – report illicit actions, late night noise, dangerous structures, etc.	01753 853517
Swan Support		07968 868172

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CHRISTMAS 2018 – **BOOK NOW!**



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Bookworm from Eton Library

Karen Usher Eton Library Supervisor



One of my favourite Autumn poems is by E.E. Cummings called "i(a". The complexity of the fragmented phrase "(a leaf falls)" splitting the word "I-one-I-iness" has the elegance of a haiku.

I(a
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As the daylight hours shorten and the weather grows colder, autumn drives us indoors to keep cosy and dry. And where better to go than the library. "A library in the middle of a community is a cross between an emergency exit, a life-raft and a festival. They are cathedrals of the mind; hospitals of the soul; theme parks of the imagination. On a cold rainy island, they are the only sheltered public spaces where you are not a consumer, but a citizen instead." *Caitlin Moran, journalist, author and broadcaster at The Times.*

And what better activity to engage in during the dark season than to read a good book. Reading for pleasure can lift our spirits and reduce stress and depression. Studies have shown that library users have higher life satisfaction, happiness and sense of.

Recently, Eton Library has had a fresh coat of paint, new heating and there are plans to reshape and improve the space for our visitors. Come in out of the cold to browse our books or request others, use the printer (there is a charge for printing) or wifi, get computer help or bring your young family to our monthly story, rhyme and craft sessions.

But remember, "People can lose their lives in libraries. They ought to be warned." *Saul Bellow.*

Open: Mon -4.00-17.00; Tues-10.00-13.00 & 14.00-17.00; Fri-14.00-19.00; Sat-10.00-13.00
Eton Book Group: 6.00-7.00pm Fridays every 4 weeks. Check with Library for exact dates
Community Warden: 1st Tuesday every month 11.00-12.00 for help with community Issues
Christmas craft and refreshments Thursday 15th November 5-7pm
Story, craft and rhyme time 18 December 10.30-11.30am

In His Presence

La Stacey

Vicar, St. John the Evangelist Church



This is a season of thanksgiving and I want to join in. Thank you to those local charities and support groups who have given funding to help provide a new resource for our communities. Since mid-June this year Elaine Gyles has been in post as 'Parish Visitor', employed by the parish church. The idea is that if there is anyone who feels they could benefit from having a chat, who maybe hasn't had anyone visit them in a while, or who needs a listening ear, then Elaine is on the end of a telephone and can arrange a visit with them. Elaine's email address is emgyles@gmail.com or leave me a message on 01753 852268 and I will put you in touch.

We are told that loneliness is one of the biggest problems in our society.

A report says 'Half a million older people go at least five or six days a week without seeing or speaking to anyone at all' (Age UK 2016, No-one should have no one).

Don't let that be you! Elaine's offer of visiting is just one of the provisions we have in this area, particularly valuable perhaps for those who are less mobile or not keen on social gatherings.

But there are lots of other places to meet if you would like to get out of the house. The parish churches offer various groups including Gateway coffee mornings in Eton Wick on a Thursday morning. The Charteris Centre and the Methodist Church offer lunches. Dorney has a coffee morning once a month in the village hall with some interesting speakers. And lots more.

Benefice of Eton with Eton Wick & Booney & Dorney

**SERVICE OF
REMEMBRANCE**
**St John the Evangelist
Eton**
11th Nov 10.55am

starting in the
Garden of Remembrance

And everyone is welcome to come and join in worship on Sunday morning at the Dorney or Eton Wick Churches. It is a custom we continue as many people still appreciate a moment of connection and contemplation in the week.

I just want to add a note about our new Parish Giving Scheme. If you are interested in supporting the various ministries the Parish Church provides, there is an easy scheme in place to enable you to give a monthly contribution. Contact Jane Reed on 01753 424547 for further information.

With blessings.

See Diary (p.16) for seasonal and regular services. For information about our churches, activities and church history please see our parishes' website: stjohnstjamesed.org.uk



Eton within the Borough

Malcolm Alexander

RBWM Councillor for Eton and Castle

What a fabulous summer! Weather (of course), visitors (masses), and town (looking its best, with flags and hanging baskets). Did anyone notice the 4 missing flagpole brackets? I really don't think so, but between Paul Roach, Ros and myself it will be sorted by next spring. It will be on the list of closure items which will be attended to before my term of office ends next April.

Some good news; I think we may have finally solved the Residents' parking issue in Meadow Lane car park. Spaces will be marked in a vibrant RED, clearly indicating 'Resident Parking Only' 24/7. This will be for a six-month trial period and monitored to ensure it's not abused.

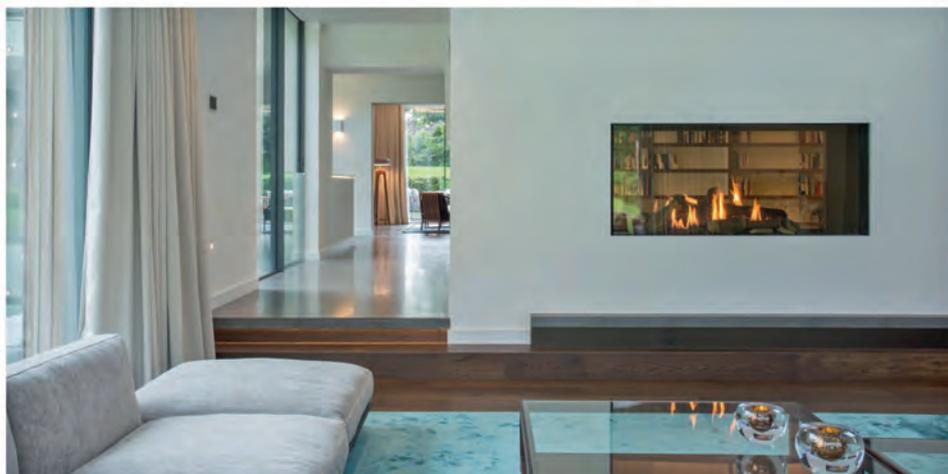
At this time of year Councillors have an opportunity to apply for Capital bids, for projects which will benefit the wider community. Last year I was successful with a grant for over £100k, which was committed to the 'finding the brook' project, bike parking and pavement gully replacement in the High Street. This year I have submitted bids totalling £130k: A further £50k to finish the brook project; £50k for the (very exciting and popular) Tourist Information Centre project; and £30k to bring WiFi into Eton. All very worthwhile schemes which will benefit not only residents and businesses but also are important for visitors. It's great to see tourists alight in Windsor, but interesting to see how they are drawn across the bridge to Eton. The college, of course, but – and I have personal experience here – they love the diversity of the smaller shops. (My wife has a large family – they have been visiting at various times since we moved here.).

Finally, I must mention Front Gardens in Bloom. This is the annual pleasure of walking round looking at peoples' front gardens, though this year, given the extremely dry conditions, I was fearful I might be judging 'Front Gardens in Gloom'. But no, I was not disappointed. I was amazed and delighted with the colour and quality of the gardens, which again made it difficult to decide on a winner. However, the accolade had to go to Bridget and Tony Bartlett, with their amazing display in Turk's Head Court. Well done indeed.



By the time you read this we will know if the weather was kind for the royal family's second wedding this year, in October. Exciting for them, and good news for Eton and Windsor too. Much too soon to talk about Christmas, but when it comes then Eton will be ready.

Contact by email: cllr.alexander@rbwm.gov.uk or phone 01753 850389



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Eton Pre-School

Sue Clifford - Manager

So Christmas preparations are well under way for the festive season and at the pre-school things are getting exciting! But we thought all the readers of Eton Matters deserved a gift.

So we have decided to share our playdough recipe with you.

We use playdough every day at pre-school it's good for developing your imagination and creativity but it's also really great for exercising the muscles in your fingers. It's made from every day ingredients so why not have a go?



Ingredients:

2 cups of plain flour

½ a cup of salt

1 tablespoon of vegetable oil

1 tablespoon of cream of tartar

Food colouring or flavourings can be added if you want.

Put all of these in a bowl and pour on 2 cups of boiling water (it must be boiling so watch you don't burn yourself....do NOT let your children do this bit!)

Stir until all the ingredients come together let it cool for a little (until you can handle it) then knead for about 5 minutes till smooth.

Then PLAY. Have fun and send us a photo to etonpreschool@hotmail.com or to www.etonpreschool.org

Have a playful Festive season From Sue and the Team xx

Kid's Play - Red Bear is Warm Now!

Fiona - Age 3

My Red Bear needed some clothes. He needed more stuffing too because he is a bit thin now. My friend Ieva is a clothes designer and she used to have a shop in Eton and one day she said she would make clothes for Red Bear. Ieva doesn't have her shop anymore, but she still lives in Eton.

My Gran and Anna took me to Ieva's new shop in Windsor. I chose a yellow colour for the top and some pink checked material for the trousers. We went away for a bit and when we came back, Ieva gave me Red Bear all round and cuddly again with a mended smile. I cuddled him. Ieva helped me to put his new clothes on him. The shiny buttons are really special.

Here is Red Bear in his new clothes. My brother wants clothes for his cuddly dog now.



Nature Watch - On the Spot

George Fussey - Curator, Eton College Natural History Museum

Photos courtesy of Gordon Langsbury (deceased) of Bucks Bird Club

Throughout the hot weather that we enjoyed this summer, I was ever conscious of how difficult it was for the birds in Eton to keep hydrated and maintain the quality of their diets. Two ever-presents for me were both from the thrush family. We tend to think of all thrushes as having plump breasts with spotted feathers, but in fact thrush species come in many different colours and not all are spotty, by any means. For example, Blackbirds are included in the thrush family, and so were European Robins until very recently.



In my riverside garden, the Song Thrushes love to catch invertebrates and especially snails. These, along with the blueberries and blackberries they steal from my bushes, must provide much-needed moisture to their diet. At least they keep the slug and snail population down and help protect my soft leaved border plants! In the Eton Natural History Museum, there's a great display showing that some snails are far easier to catch than others. It turns out that the colour and stripiness of snail shells have a huge camouflaging effect on which ones can be seen and caught by thrushes. They break open snails by smashing the shells

against a convenient stone, called an 'anvil'. This habit allows us to know which snail shell patterns they find easier to catch merely by counting the broken shell fragments next to an anvil. As their name suggests, Song Thrushes are renowned for their singing, especially their habit of repeating a variety of phrases. Some settlers Down Under transported the Song Thrush to New Zealand in 1862, where they have now become one of the commonest garden birds on both the North and South Islands.

On South Meadow and the nearby Recreation Ground, there have been a handful of Mistle Thrushes around all summer, searching for small invertebrates. Worms retreated so far underground in the dry weather that the thrushes have been restricted to gathering insects. Mistle Thrushes are considerably greyer than the Song Thrush and notably larger. Their outer tail feathers, which are white, are very distinctive in flight. In the winter when resources are scarce Mistle Thrushes are renowned for guarding fruitful bushes from all-comers. Their name is said to come from their love of mistletoe!



The Eton College Natural History Museum in South Meadow Lane is open to the public every Sunday, from 2.30pm until 5pm. It is Berkshire's only dedicated Natural History Museum and is a family-friendly museum with over 16,000 objects. It has numerous displays featuring the wildlife of the Thames Valley. Contact us: g.fussey@etoncollege.org.uk or by phone on 01753 370602 or visit www.etonnhm.com



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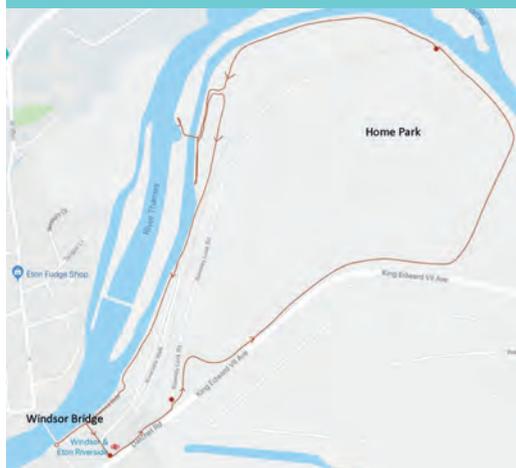
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Walking the Riverside



This walk explores the Windsor riverside between the Queen Elizabeth Bridge (carrying the Relief Road - A332) and passes under Black Potts Railway Bridge, indicated in red on the map. It encompasses the Home Park and more formal areas around Alexandra Gardens and the Windsor Leisure Centre and can be done in two parts east and west of Windsor Bridge.

Starting at Windsor and Eton Bridge, head eastwards (downstream) on the Windsor side and follow the signage for the Thames Path which runs alongside the Windsor & Eton Riverside Station car

park and the boat yard beyond. The path starts behind the River House PH seating area as a tarmac section alongside the river to Romney Lock.

Taking a diversion across the lock gates onto Romney Island reveals numbered angling site pegs (Old Windsor Angling Club), a reminder of various non-resident groups with an interest in the river. Also, on Romney Island, you can see the 40-ton Archimedes Screw water turbines generating 200 kWh hydro-electricity for Windsor Castle.

Beyond the lock, the path becomes informal and traverses a valuable semi-wild area before passing under Black Potts Railway Bridge (built in 1849) and emerging into the Home Park. Walk on to Albert Bridge (right) or around as much or as little of the perimeter of the Home Park as you wish, then head back towards the Windsor & Eton Riverside Station. The station dates from 1851. It is said that



the thirteen high doors along the side of the station facing Datchet Road were intended to permit easy access by a full complement of cavalry! (opposite page)

Susy Shearer and George Fussey



To the west of Windsor Bridge walk along the promenade with Barry Avenue, Alexandra Gardens and the Goswells nearby which are all popular stopping-off points close to Windsor town centre. Before heading under the arches of the 1860s brick viaduct carrying Windsor's arm of the Great Western Railway, take time to remember the Battle of Britain and admire the Hawker Hurricane replica. It was placed in this location in 2012 to commemorate Windsorian Sir Sydney Camm (1893 – 1966) who designed the Hurricane amongst many other well-known planes produced by Hawker.

Although the Windsor path does not continue upstream on the south bank beyond the Windsor Leisure Centre (WLC), it is possible to reach the north bank by proceeding via Clewer Court Road. To reach this, head west from WLC through the underpass towards Clewer Village. A short diversion west here will take you to St. Andrew's Church, said to be the oldest building in Windsor. Climb the path immediately on your right at the side of



the Queen Elizabeth Bridge, built in 1966 and cross over the river. Once there, head east down the towpath and under Brunel's railway bridge over the Brocas with some of the best views of Windsor Castle back to Eton.

Article based on notes by Nick Clemo & Susy Shearer and for the WNP Open Space topic group. Maps Ieva Poirete.

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Swan Support

Wendy Hermon - Operations Director

As an animal rescue charity, Swan Support are called out by the public for various reasons, such as a swan landing in the wrong area or looking just unwell. But increasingly, we are being called out for incidents involving discarded fishing tackle.

Fishing is one of the most popular recreational pastimes in this country and our association with the fishing community is excellent. However, there are occasions when we are called out to swans and other waterfowl who have been affected by hooks that have been left behind, fishing line that has been tangled around a bird's wing, or even ingested by the bird, putting them under extreme discomfort and under certain circumstances, can be life threatening and thus requiring surgery to remove the items.

It must be stated now that the vast majority of anglers care enormously about the wildlife, and are often the ones who contact us to report such incidents as they are our eyes on the waterways, and for that we are eternally grateful.

So if you are fishing or just enjoying our beautiful waterways, please be on the lookout for any hooks, lines, or in fact any litter in general that you feel could affect the wildlife in that area and place it into a bin or other suitable place, so it is out of harm's way, and always pick up after yourselves and take your litter with you when you have finished enjoying your day.

As you may recall the flock in Windsor suffered from an outbreak of Bird Flu early in the year. Sadly, we lost at least 70 birds. However, we were able to contain the outbreak to the area around Windsor and it did not spread to other flocks such as Reading. The flock is now recovering well and people are once again enjoying feeding the birds along the riverbank at the Brocas.

Again our thanks go to the team for their sterling efforts in minimising suffering to the birds and protecting members of the public and we would like to thank the local residents from Eton for not only looking out for sick birds and reporting it to us but also the donations that we received to help in feeding them. By feeding them this encouraged them to stay in the area which prevented the Bird flu spreading.

If you do see a swan or any other water bird in distress, please call us on 07968 868 172. Thank you for your ongoing support.



Eton Then and Now

Paul Jennings - Eton Resident



I found the photo above of Eton High Street in 1905 in an antique shop in Princes Risborough recently and I took the photo below this summer with my point and shoot camera and captured the identical scene 113 years on



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