



Floreant Etona

July 2018

Issue 16

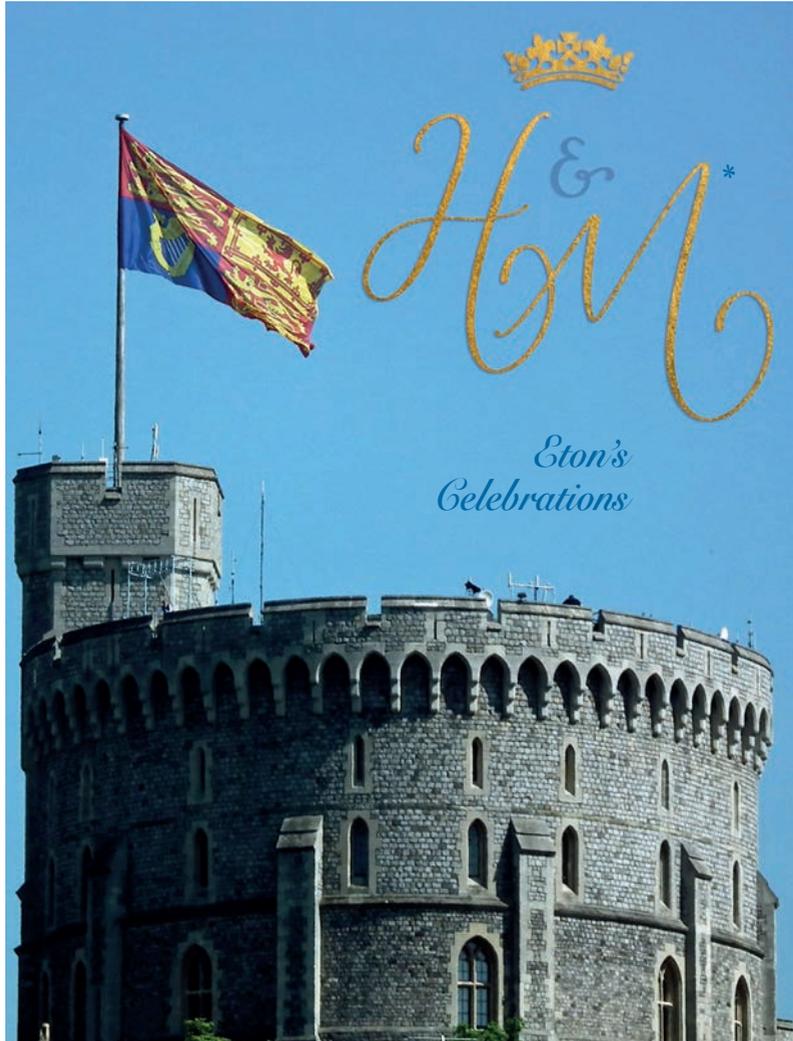
Eton Matters

**The Cock Pitt to
St. Andrew's Yard**

**Sporting
Chance**

**Michael's
The Eton Bakery**

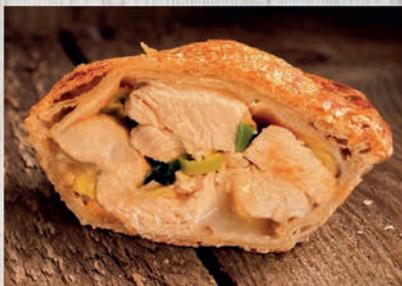
**Spring
Clean**



* Hybert Design

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Chair's Chat

Ros Rivaz - ECA Chair



What a busy few months! Preparation for the Royal Wedding provided the impetus for very many improvements to our Town. Thanks go to Cllr Malcom Alexander, our Borough Councillor, who supported applications we made some time ago for financing gully replacement and bike parking, amongst other improvements.

The Street party was such fun, with over 600 people celebrating the Royal wedding – please see the article on Page 6. Thanks go to very many volunteers from Eton and Eton Wick and again to Paul Roach, the Windsor, Eton & Ascot Town Manager, who sorted out our road closures, safety assessments and so on despite having a lead role in Royal Wedding management for the 110,000-visitor event! Huge thanks also go to our sponsors, most notably Eton College.

Other fun activities in recent months include a talk about Spiders at the Natural History Museum, Eton's Spring Clean and upcoming events include a talk about Jack the Ripper by our local and well known PCSO David Bullock. Katie Leach plays a star role in organising many of these events. Keep an eye out on our ECA Shout Outs for notice of all our events.

Finally, we are very proud to say that our Headteacher of Eton Porny School achieved a Masters in Education Leading Innovation and Change, graduating in March of this year with distinction. Many of our local children attend Eton Porny School and a number of Eton residents have in the past, not least our Editor, Peter Eaton! It is important to know that our children's future is in very capable hands!

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, A Dog's Life Co., Makena, Warren Property, J Manley Gallery, Rhubarb and Custard, Vario Press, Beechwood Interiors, Eton Stationers, My Handyman, Eton Cycles, Salamandra, Lewandowski Architects, Golden Curry and Versant. **Peter Eaton, Editor**

Forthcoming Eton Community Association Meetings

Everyone welcome

Monday 9 July and Monday 10 September. Both 6.30 at the Council Offices

Eton Community Association and Eton Matters Information

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

ECA Secretary - Jessie Lawrence - 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

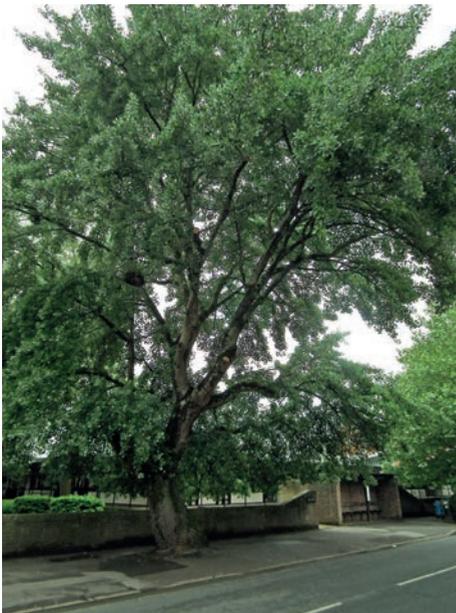
Mark Jones - Director of Boarding, Eton College

I came to Eton with my family in 1989 as Head of Divinity at the College. Later I spent thirteen very full and enjoyable years as a house master in The Hopgarden, and now I'm Director of Boarding.

I take great pleasure in the sheer variety of the local environment from Windsor Bridge to the far end of Agar's Plough. I'm not as good at this as I should be, but I try to train myself to pay attention to the things around me - even those that seem to be the most ordinary. Of course, I find both the townscape and landscape pleasing because they are familiar to me after all this time; but it also intrigues me to notice something I never saw before.

As you walk round the town, there are some immensely satisfying architectural features. To see most of them, you have to lift your eyes above the ground floor shop fronts and building entrances to look at the proportion of the windows, the texture of the brickwork, and the angles of gables and rooflines. In the streets and gardens of Eton there are some sensationally beautiful trees. I particularly admire the great poplar that stands by Bekynton, and which I pass each day as I go to my schoolroom. Birds, too, fascinate me and provide never-ending delight, especially at this time of year the swifts as they scream along Common Lane in the evenings. And don't get me started on moths...

It's what Louis MacNiece described in a wonderful poem as "the drunkenness of things being various". It moved the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins to give Glory to God. Eton's full of this variety. And one of the best things about teaching in a place like this is that no day is ever the same!



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Harry and Meghan



Over 600 people enjoyed a wonderful atmosphere on a glorious day to celebrate the wedding of HRH Prince Henry of Wales and Ms. Meghan Markle. A huge thank you to them, for giving us the excuse



to line the High Street with tables and chairs, awnings and bunting and for us all to bring out our best cake plates, beautiful fruit bowls and to invite family and friends for a great day out!



The music groups were varied and all so good, as were the Dalli Ballooni and Dean Leavy the Magician, who is the youngest magician ever to be invited to join the magic circle! If you missed out picking up a Souvenir Brochure, please pop into the shop where you bought your tickets and

pick one up!

Charlie, who brought the two fair rides, is the sixth generation of his family to run his business. Looking at the skills of his children, I think we can be sure that will be seven generations or more! In the 1953 Coronation, the Windsor family asked



Eton's Celebrations

Ros Rivaz & Philip Highy

Photos: Roger Marrett & Peter Eaton

Charlie's great, great Aunt to bring her traditional carousel inside the castle grounds, for the enjoyment of the young Royals and their



guests!
Charlie tells us that to this day, this is the only fair ground ride that has been inside the castle grounds! We all look forward to welcoming Charlie to the Eton Christmas Lights switch on evening in November!



Eton Community Association with colleagues from the Eton Wick Village Association hosted the Street party and want to thank the amazing array of people who helped. From selling tickets, to circulating Street closure information, to



collecting rubbish. Without this wonderful group, our sponsors and Paul Roach from RBWM, we couldn't achieve it! Thank you.

Entertainers: Pop Goes the Choir, Ukaladies Plus One & Chasing Deer



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Eton Pre-School

Sue Clifford - Manager

It was amazing to see so many people celebrating the royal wedding in Windsor and Eton. I suspect nearly every country was represented in the crowds and celebrated on the veil of the bride. We are so lucky to live in a place that is known all over the globe and this is reflected in our local community too. We have always had children from all over the world attend Eton Pre-School and they and their families bring a wealth of different languages and cultures to our little group. We currently have children in the group who speak eleven languages between them. Some come to us speaking very little English and other come fluent in two or even three! I find myself somewhat embarrassed by their skills, although I am able to ask children to go to the toilet in most languages!



We are a registered charity and so are sometimes lucky enough to get grants from local organisations to support our work with the families in the area. One such grant has been given to us by the Eton Community Association to support a project on improving our cultural and ethnic resources in the pre-school and we

have invested in a range of multilanguage books and a 'talking pen' to reflect those languages and cultures we support.

The talking pen is an amazing little bit of kit which allows us to tap it on the page of the selected book and it will 'translate' in to another language. We can use it to record our own stories in another language too or even write labels and captions for the classroom that can be enabled in the language of our choice. This allows us the opportunity to encourage speech in every child and know that they are a valued part of our community.

We would all like to thank the Eton Community Association for its support of this project and for you all to know how much difference this will make to every child who attends the pre-school not just now, but in many years to come!

Thanks, Grazie, Dzieki, Thanks, Cảm ƠN, Hvala.....

The Cock Pitt to St. Andrew's Yard

Charlotte Mountain - Versant Developments & Homes Ltd



Advertorial

More commonly known as The Cock Pitt, the site at 47-49 High Street was acquired by Versant Developments & Homes Ltd. in Spring 2016. We at Versant love to give each property its own identity and put great thought into the naming of both the development and the individual properties. We have chosen to name the development St. Andrew's Yard, after Eton College's long standing tradition of celebrating St. Andrew's Day. Each property will also take their names from aspects of Eton College life.

St. Andrew's Yard is the oldest building in Eton, with parts dating back to the 15th Century, yet this is something that attracted us to the development as it poses a significant challenge in restoring this Grade II listed property.

The hoarding is up as work is well under way in transforming the property. Our plan is to convert St. Andrews Yard into commercial space at the front, 1 apartment, 2 townhouses and to introduce 2 new mews houses at the rear. The property's unique charm and period features will be incorporated into the development as much as possible to create unique homes. So far we have undertaken investigation works to record the heritage and structural timber works to the roof.



Versant Developments hope to have the development complete for early 2019.

We are fully aware the impact that building works can have on the surrounding properties but will endeavour to keep disruption to a minimum.

To find out more about the properties contact Savills, Sunningdale on 01344 626162 who are managing the sales.



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A Sporting Chance

Ian Mellor, Building & Facilities Director, Eton College

Eton College is, of course, renowned for its playing fields and rowing. Local residents will be very used to seeing boys playing cricket, football or rugby on the playing fields. Many will have also seen the Wall Game, Field Game and Fives (even if they don't fully understand the rules!). Boys rowing on the Thames and, in latter years, at the rowing lake at Dorney, are likewise a common sight. What might come as a greater surprise is the comparatively modest scale of provision for our other sports. For this reason, the College is now in the midst of a programme of improving its sports facilities.



A project that is shortly coming to a conclusion is the new sports facilities development just off the Slough Road. I am sorry that the most obvious sign of this development will most probably have been the long queues of traffic! The development consists of two full sized floodlit hockey pitches and a new pavilion. We have also taken the

opportunity of installing floodlighting to a number of the adjacent existing tennis courts. This followed on from the installation of floodlighting to the Masters' Field hockey pitches off the Eton Wick Road and so we now have four floodlit pitches with the possibility of a fifth being built at the Agar's Field site. The Willowbrook facilities will be made available for community use, the major focus of which will be for promoting the playing of hockey to school age children.

Over the next few years, we intend to undertake possibly the most ambitious project ever at the College. The project will comprise buildings on two separate sites; a new swimming pool and sports hall on one site and a

much larger sports hall, together with squash courts, multi-gym, rifle range etc., on another. This will be the subject of an imminent planning application and many of you will have come to a presentation earlier in the year at which we presented the plans.



These facilities will also be available for community use with the main focus on offering the pool to local primary schools so as to improve the standard of swimming amongst children. We also aim to make some of the facilities available to residents of both Eton and Eton Wick.



Taking Council

Bob Austen, Town Clerk, Eton Town Council

Tel: 01753 860377

email: etoncouncil@aol.com



I am writing this article with the sun shining and all is well with the world following a glorious Royal Wedding and a very successful street party in Eton. We British are very good at certain things and putting on high profile events and doing them well is certainly one of them. Such a shame the royal couple could not include Eton High Street in their tour of Windsor; I am sure we could have opened the bridge for them for free.

Since my March article progress has been made across many fronts:

South Meadow Lane Recreation Ground Pavilion

The Town Council has secured planning permission for the proposed redevelopment and we are hopeful of obtaining permission for the car park and vehicular access.

Barnes Pool Project

Under the enthusiastic leadership of Peter Eaton the working party has made significant progress in charting the course of the brook and identifying the practical steps that will need to be taken to open up the channel as well as identifying funding sources.

Eton Court Car Park Mural

The Town Council has approved the design that was presented at the Council Meeting on 5th April and Councillor George Fussey is moving the project forwards to the next stage.

Child Bollards in Eton High Street

At the Council Meeting on 3rd May, Members agreed to investigate the opportunity of installing child bollards instead of the existing standard bollards outside Eton Porny Church of England School. It was felt this would have greater impact on warning drivers of what lies ahead.

In conclusion, your Town Clerk is always on hand to help with any issues of local concern and do feel free to contact me, Tuesday to Friday from 8.00am to 1.00pm.



Eton Porny School

Katherine Russell
Head Teacher

We were extremely thankful to receive a generous donation from the Eton Community Association for the school to put towards projects of our choice. We have decided to spread the money across several small projects; the purchasing of digital, analogue & roman numeral clocks to achieve a '4 clock classroom' where learning about time is a constant theme throughout the day; coded key cabinets to ensure that our confidential information is safe and secure in line with safeguarding and data protection requirements; a new 30 space floor mat for our Foundation classroom, as part of the whole school redecoration & flooring work scheduled for Summer 2018; and prize books for our end of academic year prize winners in every year group. All contributions are much appreciated and make a huge difference to the overall provision we are able to offer the school community here at Eton Porny.

Our Year 4 would like to tell you about plastic pollution:

In the Spring term we learnt about plastic pollution in our oceans. Did you know that by 2050 there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish! In March, we wrote and hand delivered letters to restaurants, cafes and pubs on Eton high street telling them about how devastating plastic is to our planet. It takes 200 years to break down most single-use plastics, and plastics harm sea creatures like sea birds and sea turtles. We have already received a reply

from Murrays who said they are going to stop using plastic straws completely and we found out that The Henry VI have started using biodegradable straws. We also decorated canvas bags and sold them to our parents and staff at school to stop them using plastic carrier bags to do their shopping. We donated the money we raised to WWF and adopted a Hawksbill turtle.

By Rufus and Manon



A man with a beard and wavy hair, wearing a multi-colored plaid blazer, a light blue shirt, and a teal tie, leans on a green ornate metal balcony railing. He is looking upwards and to the left. The background shows a building with classical architectural details under a clear sky.

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Diary

Jul	
1st	12.30 – ECA Summer Walk – Meet at The George
9th	18.30 – Eton Community Association – Eton Council Offices
17th	10.30-11.30 Chief Makers Stories, Rhymes & Crafts – Eton Library
25th	19.00 – ECA Jack the Ripper Talk – Natural History Museum, Eton College
Sept	
10th	18.30 – Eton Community Association – 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; <i>Library Diary see page 30</i>
Churches (regular services)	
St. John the Evangelist, Eton (C of E) Services	
	1st & 3rd – Wednesdays – 10.00 – Communion (said)
	4th Sundays – 18.15 – Worship Workshop
	(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

Barnes Pool Restoration Project – Peter Eaton

The Project Group have been working hard on the planning for the project to bring water back to the brook in South Meadow and Barnes Pool where we hope to create a lovely garden. At the end of May Phase One of the work started with the clearance of the silt by power-jetting from the 30" culvert that runs from the Thames to South Meadow. The culvert was about half full with silt probably building up since it was built in 1844 by civil engineer John Roe. The silt is so solid it looked like slate. Even at 175 years old the culvert appears to be in remarkable condition though.



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	Phil Griffiths	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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SUNDAY	—	11AM - 4PM

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Bookworm

Information and Book Reviews from your Library

Karen Usher and Vicki Wilson (right)

Eton Library Supervisors



I have just completed two books which I'd highly recommend despite the fact they were an emotionally difficult read. Both explore the troubled relationship between a mother and daughter.

Rosie: scenes from a vanished life is an autobiographical account of Rose Tremain's childhood in post-war England and, specifically, how family tragedy meant her mother, Jane, was unable to provide the love Rose so desperately wanted. Luckily their nanny provided deep affection for her and her sister, Jo. The book delivers fascinating snapshots of a privileged upbringing but the authorial voice is often detached from the scenes she describes.

In contrast, Whistle in the Dark by Emma Healey is an emotionally charged story examining Jen's relationship with her 15 year old daughter, Lana, who has reappeared after four days missing in the Peak District with no memory of what took place. Lana has a history of depression and Healey deftly portrays a family coping with a challenging situation. Jen is as fragile and difficult as her daughter in her obsession to discover what really happened.

So many stories about women in literature are shaped by her being a daughter or mother or motherless and we continue to be fascinated by them: Little Women, Pride and Prejudice, Hot Milk, The Red Tent, The Secret Life of Bees. Another wonderful book I'd recommend Where'd you go, Bernadette by Maria Semple attempts an explanation. "Just because it's complicated, just because you think you can't ever know everything about another person, it doesn't mean you can't try."

The children's Summer Reading Challenge over the summer is Mischief Makers (with characters from the Beano). If you're aged 14-25 contact the library about volunteering to support this Reading Agency national initiative in your local library.

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
IT volunteer, Alex, Tuesday mornings for help using your computer. Book in advance.
Community Warden: 1st Tuesday every month 11.00-12.00 for help with community Issues.

Eton Matters - We Need Your Stories

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

In His Presence

La Stacey

Vicar, St. John the Evangelist Church



I'm still chuckling about the fact that Easter Day fell on April Fools' Day this year. From Easter to Pentecost (the day after the Royal Wedding, in case you wondered when it was) all the churches in the land, of whichever denomination, were joining in a call from the Archbishops of York and Canterbury to pray for the kingdom of God to be reflected here in our earthly kingdom: you may have noticed the 'Thy Kingdom Come' calls to prayer in the churches.

And indeed, in this place our Head of State does seek to recognise a higher authority. When she was crowned, the queen made an oath to do all in her power to 'maintain the Laws of God and the true profession of the Gospel'. What a joyous thing, that the person who is sovereign over our earthly kingdom should honour someone who lived his life in a way that constantly challenged power – a bit like the Court Jester, Jesus remains the one who can speak truth to power.

Whenever we presumptuously think that we humans have absolute power, we are drawn up short and made to laugh at ourselves by the one everybody had dubbed a fool. I like to think that the church is still here to serve the weakest in society. We are here for those moving moments when you want to give thanks for a new life or for a lost life, or when you want to celebrate a life commitment to another person. We are here to pray for you and with you in moments of joy or pain.

We are very grateful to the Eton Community Association which has given us some funding to help with some community work in Eton. Watch this space for future information. The church is still here for us, not just as a building, but as a ministry, because people have invested generously both with money and service. My prayer is that this community will continue to do so to honour the life of the 'fool' who showed us both the cost and the power of love.

St. Mary Magdalene Apostle to the Apostles



There will be a special service
4pm on
Sunday 22nd July
At the riverside church of St
Mary Magdalene, Boveney

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

Monday 21 May, and Windsor & Eton are still in a state of dazed euphoria. Yes, the Royal Wedding was just two days ago, an event of huge national and international interest which saw our towns beamed into almost every corner of the world. And didn't we do well? So many accolades - the police who made us feel extremely safe in a friendly way, the stewards, the first aiders and the street cleaners to name just a few of those who helped the day along. But lots more went on beforehand – the grounds everywhere looked green and fresh.....and how did all those barriers get there? Not to mention how they all got put away again. I'm sure we will see even more tourists this summer, and don't forget Princess Eugenie is getting married in St George's chapel in the autumn.

Back to business, and I am pleased we have used the £20k capital grant I applied for to remove over 30 of the dipped pavement gullies, which were causing real problems to mobility scooter users and to pushchairs and prams. These have now been replaced with a more user friendly alternative. We still have circa 20 more to replace and I will try to secure further funding to finish this work.

I'm currently working with Ros Rivaz and Peter Eaton on the 'finding the brook' project, and pleased to say this is progressing well. To get water flowing back into Eton would be a great achievement and I congratulate those involved, for the effort they have put into this project.

The plan to create a tourist Information Centre in the town is also getting a lot of support, both locally and from RBWM. I have offered my £750 councillor support grant to help with start-up costs.

Finally, on 10 July we will know the outcome of the long awaited Boundary Review and how it affects Eton. We're all hoping common sense prevails and the new ward boundary of Eton Wick, Eton and the Castle will be the preferred option.

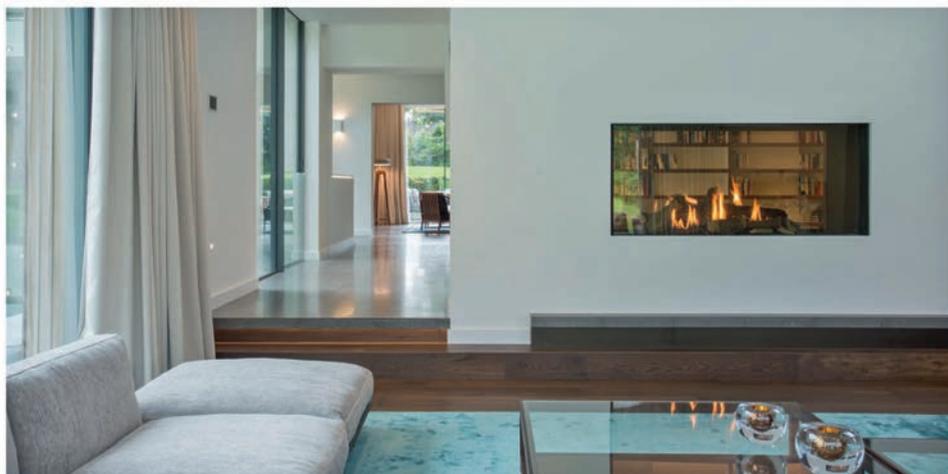
I have a feeling it's going to be a wonderful summer. It's certainly started well.

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



New Lights on Baldwin's Bridge and Windsor Bridge

For some time there have been lights missing or faulty on both of our main bridges. At the end of April new heritage lights were fitted to both Baldwin's Bridge (left) and Windsor Bridge (right) under the LED upgrade that is being carried out throughout the Borough by RBWM. The LED upgrade has been on-going in Eton throughout this year and we are pleased to say that it has now been completed within the town.



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Kid's Play - My Steam Train Experience

Thomas - Age 5

One of the ECA's Social Events this year was a Valentine's Day trip on a steam train from Victoria Station to Windsor & Eton Riverside Station. This is Thomas' account of that trip.

I went on a steam train with my Gran. To get on the steam train, we had to travel on a normal train from Windsor and Eton Riverside into London. We went to a big train station in London



called Victoria and waited for the steam train to arrive. When it arrived it was big, but not noisy. It was a bit late. I liked the steam and smoke coming from the engine.

We got on the steam train, to take us back to Windsor. It was a bit like a normal train, but there was a light at our table and we had supper! We had beef for the main course, and a starter. I liked looking out of the window.

When we arrived at Windsor and Eton Riverside, my mummy, daddy and little sister were waiting to meet us - and lots of other people had come to see the steam train too.

It was a fun day!

Another ECA Event

A group of 20 friends from Eton Community enjoyed a glass of wine together and a fascinating talk from George Fussey, Curator at the Natural History Museum, on SPIDERS!



Nature Watch - Lesser Redpoll

George Fussey - Curator, Eton College Natural History

One benefit of extreme weather is that unusual visitors are drawn to my Nyjer seed bird-feeder. Recently, a Lesser Redpoll fed voraciously for a couple of days, happily displacing a charm of Goldfinches that normally enjoys dining rights. Redpolls, like so many small seed-eating birds, have declined massively in the last fifty years. Studies show that the British Redpoll population has dropped by 86% over the period 1970 – 2013, along with



Photo courtesy of Phil Tizzard of Bucks Bird Club.

similar declines for species like Yellowhammers, Linnets, Bullfinches and Tree and House Sparrows. These declines are largely due to changes in agricultural practices, especially the widespread use of herbicides on arable land. The trend for planting autumn-sown cereals rather than spring-sown has also had a huge effect because fields are no longer left as stubble over winter as they once were. The loss of traditional meadows has also hit these species hard, reminding us how lucky we are locally to be surrounded by hay meadows still managed appropriately by the College. Even the efficiency of modern farming methods has reduced the availability of spilt grain to birds: for example, the average grain spillage from combine harvesters decreased by 90% in the period from 1970 – 2000.

It is not all doom and gloom, however. There are new food sources: oilseed rape seeds form in May and are available for seed-eating birds until they are harvested in July. As well as feeding on farmland seeds, Redpolls also love feasting, sometimes in large flocks, on Birch and Alder seeds, especially by the riverside. In Berkshire, Redpolls have also enjoyed the coniferous plantations and adjacent mixed scrubby heathland.

Redpolls have one of the most glamorous Latin names, by the way: *Carduelis cabaret*. With a name like that, I am more than happy for this species to put on a show in my garden!

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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Michael's

No. 45 High Street was for a long while a food establishment - food for horses that is, not for human consumption! The back of the property had an open space on the top floor, now bricked over, where animal feed was stored and brought down by chute.



Mona-Lisa and I are not sure when it became a bakery; we took over from A.E. Clinch in December 1979, and we traded for 18 years under the name Michael's The Eton Bakery. We were told that in the old days at Christmas, customers would bring their trays of turkey or goose for the bakers to cook for them in the large ovens.

At the time just a few loaves, morning goods and Eccles Cakes were made each day and the takeaway trade consisted of cheese

and ham cob rolls. The business slowly grew and we were soon delivering to local pubs and restaurants and to College and its surrounding Houses.

The original ovens were huge; loaves were placed in them via wooden 'peels' and baked on the stone floor of the ovens. Everything was baked on what is termed a 'falling heat' i.e. large loaves first, followed by smaller ones, then rolls, pastries, cakes, and lastly meringues. In time we changed them to electric multi deck which gave more flexibility to the order of baking. But we continued to make bread the old-fashioned way, with long fermentation. Although we were termed Craftsmen Bakers and Pastrycooks I guess if the word was bandied around then, we would have been called Artisan Bakers. We were experimenting and selling focaccia, ciabatta, sundried tomato and muesli loaves long before the supermarkets did!

When we purchased the property, the bakery consisted of a wooden bench c18'x3' on which sat a marble slab some 10 foot long for pastry making. The double decker 'side flue' ovens took up most of the opposite wall alongside floorstanding bread and cake mixers. Doughnuts, of which we made hundreds fresh each day, were fried in a basket in a 28"x14" pan half filled with lard - yes lard - which gave its unique flavour. Occasionally a batch might be forgotten but they were never burnt, just well cooked! Nothing was

The Eton Bakery

Michael Cadwallader

burnt, only cooked or well cooked! The 70lb flour sacks were stored in the floor above and were accessed by 'millers' or half tread stairs; it was quite a feat carrying them down on the shoulder! The roof space there was open to the timbers, which were original salvaged ships' timbers. (Health and Safety would have had a field day!)

Many memories come to mind ... walking to work at three in the morning and accosting one or two seemingly opportunistic burglars who would be surprised when I tackled them and asked them their business. Or when forgetting to preset the mixers, I'd pull trousers over pyjamas at midnight, groggily walk to the bakery, do what had to be done and, on the walk home, be offered a

nightcap from restaurants closing up. Or our son then aged two, sitting on a step ladder eating jam doughnuts. As he grew older he'd often enquire what jam we were using (our supplier might have sent a substitute) and although the customers didn't notice, he did! Or our daughter while still at the Brigidine Convent, helping out during her holidays. She'd continue her school work by conducting surveys, one of which was asking customers about their drinking habits and the flavours of beers and lagers! Or my wife challenging a traffic warden who was feeling the bonnet of a customer's car - apparently he was testing the warmth as to how long it had been parked there! We boasted a few celebrity customers who'd drive down from Bray, Winkfield or Ascot but with our never ending parking saga and their many fines for parking outside our shop, their visits petered out.



During our early years in the business, there were many other owner/proprietor traders in the High Street: Tony Clee pottery, The Eton Wine Bar, C.J.Reid's chemist, Antico's and the Cockpit restaurants, Bond's greengrocer, Roger Barnett, Peter Martin, Paul Eaton, Studio 101, and many other antique shop and pub owners. We had a thriving Eton Traders Association

with regular and well attended meetings - even then the ever recurring items on the agenda were for flower baskets and car parking.

We thoroughly enjoyed having a business in Eton High Street. The hours were long and the work tiring but at the end of each day we had great satisfaction in that we had done a good job!

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Eton's Spring Clean

Freddie zu Wied - Eton College Environmental Society



On the 29th of April 2018, ten Eton boys and three teachers set off one chilly Sunday morning on a mission: to join other community volunteers to clear as much waste from Eton Town and its surrounding areas as they could. After kitting up in gloves and high-vis jackets, boys, teachers, and members of the local community began scouring the Eton Town armed with plastic bags

and litter pickers. Notable finds included a variety of cans, hundreds of cigarette-ends, chairs, tyres, a traffic cone, PVC pipes, an ironing board, and a working watch. Having worked away diligently all morning for the cause, all members of the Eton Clean-Up were greeted with hot tea and bacon butties as reward for their hard work and willingness to help the community.

An enormous amount of waste was eventually collected and sorted by the Borough Council, totalling 46 bin-bags worth. Because of this, we would like to thank the ECA members and community volunteers for their warm welcome and sound advice over the course of the Clean-Up. Our gratitude must also extend to the teachers for organizing the school's participation, and finally to all the student volunteers who took time from their busy schedules to contribute. We believe that it is extremely important for all students to give back to the community, no matter how large or small that contribution may be, and we hope to see many more Eton boys out there, litter pickers in hand, when the time comes around!



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Windsor/Eton Bridge

Derek Ledger - Eton Resident

It is likely that the first bridge connecting Eton and Windsor across the Thames was constructed by the Romans. When William the Conqueror established the first castle in Windsor it became necessary to be able to guard the Thames Valley against marauding Saxon rebels and the beginnings of the castle as we know it were built with forced labour but it did not become a royal residence and was occupied by Walter Fitz-Other, the Constable of Windsor. In order to gain ease of movement and the ability to cross the river, a wooden bridge was built in the 1100s. Tolls were levied for river craft passing beneath the bridge as well as for people crossing over it.



Windsor Bridge in the 1700s - Courtesy of RWWS

In 1242 permission was given for oak trees to be felled in Windsor Forrest to be used in the construction of a new bridge between Windsor and Eton. This was re-built many times over the next few hundred years but remained unsafe for the king's heavy royal carriages and horses to

cross so stables were built on the Eton side and members of the royal family had to walk across the bridge to mount on the Windsor side. This was the birth of King Stable Street in Eton. The position of the small wharf or landing jetty at Eton Riverside building also dates from about this time.

The wooden bridge often became so unsafe that in the 1820s it was decided that a stone and iron bridge was needed as a replacement; it was designed by Charles Hollis and William Moore. The corner stone of the new bridge was laid by the Duke of York in 1822 and construction was completed in 1824 at a cost of £15,000. The new bridge was built of granite piers with three arches, each of seven cast iron segments, the centre one is 55 feet long with just over 13 feet of clearance from the average height of the river. The new bridge was opened on the 1st. of June 1824 but tolls were still collected until 1897.

During the century after its construction the bridge developed a number of cracks in the cast iron arch segments and it was considered too weak to support heavy traffic so all road vehicles were banned in April 1970. Repairs to the structure as well as improvements for pedestrian safety and convenience were completed in time for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. Her Majesty re-opened the refurbished Windsor and Eton Bridge at noon on the 3rd of June 2002. The integral lighting was added then and recently new corner lanterns were installed.

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