

EGERTON UPDATE

The quarterly magazine for the village of Egerton, Kent

Issue 2 May 2016

Alan's Last Post!



Egerton postie Alan Arthur hung up his sack at the end of March after 41 years service with the Royal Mail—the majority of these spent delivering post in Egerton. In fact his last couple of days on his round were probably his longest due to the overwhelming number of cards and gifts that he received from grateful customers — some of the cards were handmade and others contained poems to the popular postie. With around 150 cards collected from customers as well as various thank-yous and gifts Alan's sack was heavier at the end of his round than when he started!

Born and bred in Egerton— he spent his early years in New Road and Field Mill Cottages and attended Egerton School. Alan has spent most of his working life delivering mail, apart from around seven years after he left school when he worked as a farm worker in Wanden Lane.

Although Alan now lives in Lenham with his partner Vanessa, he will still remain very much part of Egerton life—mainly through his involvement with Egerton Players and also via the grass cutting that he continues to do in the village. Plans for his retirement include more time to spend on his hobby of photography and he still plans on continuing those long walks around the countryside..

Alan was also presented with a gift of tickets for entrance to Leeds Castle from Egerton Parish Council.

Hundreds of residents gathered on the playing fields at 8.30am on April 21st to watch the ceremonial lighting of the beacon in honour of Her Majesty The Queen's 90th Birthday. Rounding renditions of the *National Anthem* plus *Happy Birthday* were sung to mark the occasion.

Local resident Mary Adams-Beck was also included in Egerton's birthday wishes as she celebrated her 94th birthday the day after the Queen's special day.

See page 15 for report



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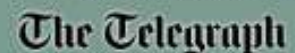
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Smarter property search



Planning Application made for The George



A planning application has been submitted by Mint Pubs which has new plans for the village's historic "The George" Public House. The pub, which sits in the centre of the village, has been closed since October last year. The application includes proposals to re-site the kitchen area.

Interested in helping to preserve the story of our village? Then Egerton Telecottage needs you

The Egerton Telecottage is considering establishing a village history centre and starting an Egerton Digital Archive, which would be a repository for images relevant to our Parish. These can consist of photographs, maps, documents, newspaper articles and in fact anything that would be of historical value. The Telecottage team believe that it should be as inclusive as possible and to reject as little content as possible. The Telecottage team won't decide what people think is of interest or not, because what one person feels is of no interest, another can find fascinating and invaluable. Age is also not of importance, as "yesterday" is already history.

Is this something you would be able to help with, either by providing material such as photographs or other material, or by assisting with the copying and storage of the items given or loaned for this project. The main objective would be to "save" Egerton history from potential loss or destruction, and to share where appropriate. Permission would be sought for sharing information publicly, and it is possible that a large percentage of "private" information could be preserved,

which would be kept secure for future archive purposes.

Technically, the main objectives would be to:-

- 1) Preserve the images in as high a quality as practical using current technology.
- 2) Use a format that is as "future proof" as possible, to try and ensure that the files could still be read for as long as possible. There are many examples of the latest technology being used for projects, only for the content to be unreadable in a few years because the technology became obsolete or unsupported.

If you would like to help with this exciting venture, please visit the website www.egerton-kent.co.uk or pop in to see the team on Saturday morning between 10am - 12noon at the Telecottage next to the Village Hall.



New Chairman for Egerton Cricket Club

At the recent AGM and after five years as in the role, Malcolm Iles (*right*) has decided to stand down as chairman of the Cricket Club. Speaking at the recent AGM he thanked the club for all its support but felt the time was now right to make way for 'fresh blood'. He was delighted to see how well the club has developed over the past five years with a new pavilion, much improved wicket, a second Saturday team and the development of junior coaching sessions that has now progressed to a junior team playing regular matches in the Junior League.

All this has been achieved by the hard work and commitment of the committee and club. He said he has every confidence the club would support the new chairman Steve Wellard (*left*) in continuing this success and wished him well for the future. *Continued on page 35*

Egerton Update is published by Egerton Parish Council and is produced by volunteers. Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy in the production of the magazine, any opinions expressed in articles are those of the individual contributors not the Parish Council.

Clubs go on parade



Villagers turned out in their droves for the annual Parish Assembly held in the Village Hall on Thursday March 18th 2016.

It was an opportunity to meet with representatives of the villages' many active societies and clubs plus provided a platform to praise those unsung heroes who put so much into village life. In all 26 clubs and societies' were on display.

Parish Council Chairman, Richard King, was fulsome in his praise of those who had done much for the village. Tessa Hilder was singled out for her work in helping secure the lottery grant which helped pay for the 200 new chairs that are currently being enjoyed in the village hall. Richard also thanked county councillor Charlie Simpkins for his donation to the chairs too via his members grant. Those who also contributed to the Parish Plan were also thanked at the event.

The Parish Council has already accepted many of the recommendations made in the report and Richard said he was pleased to see that many of the proposals laid out in the Plan were already starting to come to fruition - such as the toilet



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(Above) Viv Foulds and Ruth Haggie man the Telecottage and Film Society stands.

(Right) Retiring village postman Alan Arthur receives gifts and a commemorative framed photograph from Egerton Parish Council chairman Richard King.



in St James' Church and also Egerton Pre-School which now has planning permission to be stationed at the front of Egerton Primary School. "All we need now", he said "is £100 - £200k to pay for it".

A special presentation was also made to retiring postman, Alan Arthur, who completed his last round at the end of March after 41 years serving the village. Describing Alan as a "local hero" Richard handed him gifts from the village plus a framed photograph of him taken on one of the last days of his round.

In all, 26 clubs and societies chatted to current and potential new members over a cup of tea or glass of wine.

For a full listing of all clubs and societies in the village go to the village website - www.egerton-kent.co.uk

School Summer Term



Sue Hubbard, Egerton School's Business Manager reports:

We have returned to school following the Easter break to milder weather, lighter evenings and the prospect of a busy couple of terms!

Work has continued at the school with the completion of a new soakaway along with the first phase of the new pedestrian school entrance. (pictured). We are very pleased with the results so far and will keep parents informed via the school newsletter about any further progress in due course. We have taken the opportunity to remind parents, staff and visitors that the area immediately adjacent to the school entrance should be kept clear to allow for pedestrians to enter and exit the school grounds safely. Our neighbours will have seen the new signs, put out at the beginning and end of each day, which we hope will discourage parking in this area. This has been received positively by both parents and our near neighbours and we hope this will continue. As always we continue to encourage parents, staff and visitors to the school to use the parking facilities at the village hall.

This month parents of children due to start school in September will have been advised which school their child will be attending, Egerton continues to be very popular! During the summer term many of these children will join us one afternoon a week as part of Little Owls (Egerton Preschool), they will have the opportunity to get to know both the school and staff as they play in our Reception classroom with our current year R children. Over the next few weeks many of the classes will be busy organising their summer class trips; our Year 6 children are already very excited about their trip to the West End to see 'The Lion King', there are class cake sales to look forward to and 'bikeability' training for Year 6.

Towards the end of the summer term, on Wednesday 13th July, we will be holding our annual whole school games day. With our newly improved field we are all looking forward to an excellent day.


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Award fit for a King!



Murder most foul!



Richard King, Chairman of Egerton Parish Council was honoured to receive the High Sherriff's Association Award from incoming High Sheriff and Charing resident, Catherine Smallwood.

Presented at the recent Parish Assembly, the award was made in recognition of the great support Richard has given to Egerton village over many years.

As ever, Richard had an amusing story to tell about receiving this recognition, confessing that he was one of a group which originally came up the idea for the award – telling those present at the Parish Assembly that the draft of the proposal for this was currently displayed in his toilet!

Egerton Players invite you to an exciting evening of murder, mystery, mayhem and magnificent food for their latest production "Let Sleeping Frogs Die" on the evening of Saturday May 7th in the Village Hall.

A Wealthy French aristocrat has been found dead – but who is the murderer? With two ex-wives, his heir, a French maid, Butler and a very drunk house-keeper to choose from there is plenty to keep you guessing! All you have to do is sit back and enjoy a wonderful three course meal with a glass of wine included whilst the inspector interviews his suspects between courses. You and your table just need to work out who is guilty of the crime! Tickets cost £19.50 and are available from the Village Shop or by email: tickets@egertonplayers.com

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Wine & Wisdom a plenty!



Nearly 20 teams took part in the Weald of Kent Protection Society quiz held in Egerton Village Hall on March 11. In a closely fought contest straddling 11 quiz rounds plus the obligatory picture round, the winners emerged as Harper's Bizarre led by Kevin Harper. Runners-up were The Giraffes under the direction of John Lumley.

All teams enjoyed a complimentary bottle of wine at their table plus the opportunity to win raffle prizes.



egertonupdate@gmail.com

The next issue of *Egerton Update* will be distributed in August. Between now and then we welcome your photographs, and reports, of all the news that is happening in your club or society.

We would also love to receive details of what you have been up to over the summer months and what is coming up in Egerton during Autumn.

All you have to do is to email your contribution to egertonupdate@gmail.com.

The final copy date for editorial contributions will be July 13th 2016. Photographs really help us bring the publication alive so please be ready to take pictures for use in the magazine as and when you can! Pictures taken using mobile phones are fine—so please, where you can, use these to illustrate events and meetings reports.

May 21st Quiz Night

Egerton Pre-School is holding its fund-raising quiz in the village hall on Saturday May 21st. The event features Teams of 6-8 and cost is £9 per head including a hot meal, sponsored by Egerton firm, AIMS. Teams need to bring their own drink. Contact Egerton Stores or buy online at egertonpreschool.eventbrite.co.uk



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“Meg” to join Wealden Wheels soon

A new 17 seater wheelchair accessible minibus is due to join the fleet of Wealden Wheels in the near future. “Meg” as she has been named is a Fiat and will be the organisation’s first automatic minibus. Wealden Wheels is looking for volunteer drivers. Training is provided and there is no pressure to do more than you want to. Contact 01233 840000 for more details.

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Jumble sale raises £1,100

Jan Burgess organised the recent village jumble sale to raise funds for St James' Church. Here Jan tells us about the event

When I first had the idea of a jumble sale in order to raise some much-needed funds for the village church, I knew one hadn't been held in Egerton in the sixteen years I have lived here, but people who have lived here much longer could not remember the last one either. The enthusiasm of so many people was catching and I was soon being offered all kinds of items. The date also coincided with some house and flat clearances and before I knew it my dining room and garage were piled with boxes and friends in the

village were kindly storing boxes in their garages too. Our group of volunteers worked tirelessly on Friday afternoon and all day Saturday. Plans had been laid for a raffle and a cake stall, and by two o'clock on the Saturday afternoon the scene was set, with workers on duty and so much jumble it was hard-going to make speedy headway through the piled up goods. There was a queue waiting and a steady stream of people for about an hour, when it all gradually quietened down and the raffle was called. I very much wanted to raise £1,000 and in the end the total came to over £1,150, so a pleasing result.

The only part I hadn't prepared for was an arrangement in place for collection of all that was left over – and there was a lot!



Fortunately we were helped where the books and textiles were concerned, and by Monday they had gone – but twenty boxes of bric-a-brac and the same number of pictures took up a sizeable corner of the Games Barn and had to be removed by the Tuesday afternoon. In my ignorance, I thought I could just ring The Pilgrims' Hospice or Sue Ryder and a man with a van and a cheery smile would obligingly drive up on the Monday and remove the lot. I hadn't taken into account the other jumble sales in and around Maidstone and Ashford on top of their normal workload, so my frantic phone calls achieved no more than a promise of later in the week or the following week. Fortunately a friend with a trailer (rather than a man with a van) plus our car removed the goods immediately and brought them back to our place for collection and Sue Ryder came up tops and arrived on the

Friday morning to remove and thank us. So it was a learning curve.

I would like to thank Jane White for her donation to the Silent Auction of the picture by Cathy Miller of "Owl over Egerton" and Helen Baird for her raffle prize of a generous hamper from Pluckley Farm Shop.

Also all those who kindly made beautiful cakes – and the cheerful band of helpers, especially Bill Smyth, who did so much over all the days and beyond.

Perhaps in a couple of years we shall organise another one – with experience on our side!

Egerton Springs into Clean-Up



Egerton's traditional Spring Clean to tidy-up the verges and road-sides around the village, was held on Saturday April 2nd and hailed a great success with many volunteers (including families with children) taking part. The Parish Council thanked Pat Parr for, once again, organising the Clean Up operation.

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Help Egerton make music

The Egerton Music Club was founded in 2000 as a result of the success of the first Egerton Music Festivals and the large measure of support in the village for live music of all kinds. In the intervening years, we have enjoyed three or four concerts a year covering a great variety of music and welcomed some wonderful musicians to the village. Our impressive list of performers has included leading string players from the Bavarian State Orchestra, Gary Ryan (the doyen of classical guitar players) and the eminent cellist, Richard Harwood. The Sacconi String Quartet gave their first professional concert in Egerton, and have since returned both for the Club and for the Music Festival. Other popular performers have included Katherine Rudge, who was singing at Glyndebourne within weeks of her visit, the London Klesmer Quartet, who have played for us twice, The Cranbrook Town Band, the eccentric New Rope String Band and exciting Spanish Spice. The Club has also sponsored events at the Egerton Music Festivals. We have now reached a point when we will be losing some long-serving and enthusiastic members of the Committee, and so it will be absolutely vital for the future of the Club that a number of new

Committee members who are prepared to take office are elected at this year's Annual General Meeting.



One of the strengths of the Club has been the spread of membership from the surrounding area; we have members from Tenterden to Sheppey. It is not necessary for Committee members to live in Egerton and we will welcome nominations from a wide area.

The Music Club's Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 8th June 2016 in Egerton Millennium Hall, starting at 7.30 p.m. There will be musical entertainment, wine and nibbles, so do come along, whether you are already a member or not. Nominations for the Committee should be received no later than Wednesday, 25th May.

If no nominations are received, the Club will in all probability cease to exist in its present form as from the date of the Annual General Meeting.

In the meantime, please get in touch with John Fraser (Tel. 01233 756254) or Gale King (Tel. 01233 756592) if you or anyone you know would like to help run the Music Club and thus ensure the continuation of Egerton's musical tradition - the future of the Club depends on you.

**AGM: WEDNESDAY 8TH JUNE
AT 7.30pm, Village Hall.**

Egerton Church of England Primary School

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|-------------|----|--------------------------------------|
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| | 8 | Mrs K Crabb |
| | 15 | PENTECOST Mrs J Kingsnorth |
| | 22 | Mrs V Smith |
| | 29 | Mrs P Stead |
| JUNE | 5 | Mrs J Manuel |
| | 12 | Mrs B Stevens |
| | 19 | Mrs J Harman |
| | 26 | Mrs B Stoodley |
| JULY | 3 | Mrs W Simkins |
| | 10 | Mrs R Shrubb |
| | 17 | Mrs P Harper |
| | 24 | Mrs K Crabb |
| | 31 | Mrs J Kingsnorth |

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Pluckley plays host on June 11th

Pluckley Village Hall Management Committee is organising a Quiz night in aid of Village Hall funds on Saturday June 11th.

Hosted by Paul Ticehurst the event takes place in Pluckley Village Hall, with a 7.00pm for 7.30pm start.

Teams of six are required at £8 per head to include a delicious Ploughman's Supper. Quizzers are asked to bring their own drinks and glasses. The event will feature lots of games and raffles and promises to be a really good night out for everyone. Phone 01233 840280 or email

judith.pool@pluckley.net to book your place!

EGERTON 10k or 5k RUN & Children's Fun Run Sunday May 8 2016 at 10am

Registration at Egerton Primary School from 9.30am (on the day)

www.egertonrunningclub.co.uk



Put a spring in your step

Egerton's annual Bluebell Run takes place on Sunday May 8th. Organised by the Friends of Egerton Church of England Primary School and Egerton Running Club the event has something for everyone. Winding through the beautiful lanes, orchards and bluebell woodlands around Egerton Parish, adults can run the 10k or 5k routes while children can take part in the fun run. Everyone is welcome. Registration is on the day from 9.30am to 10am at Egerton School, where all the races start from. Entry fees are £10 per adult, £5 for those aged 13—18 years and £2 for the children's fun run. Post-race refreshments will be provided at the school and all monies raised go to the Friends of Egerton Primary School.

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Pluckley panto pulls in punters

Residents from Egerton were amongst the audience showing their support for Pluckley Panto Unlimited's 2016 performance of Cinderella in early February at Pluckley Village Hall.

This was Pluckley's 31st pantomime with the first production back in 1986. The performance was dedicated to Sue Russell who sadly died on January 30th 2016 and who had costumed all 31 performances.



Cathy Hill reports on Egerton's Red Telephone Box...

Several years ago, the Red Telephone Box at Stonebridge Green, Egerton, became an Arts Centre! "A space for artists to have exhibitions, installations and happenings."
Children from Egerton School's Year 6, got things off to a great start with an exhibition called "The History of the Telephone!"
Aaron Parr had a photography show, students from a Kent College displayed their self-portrait collages and Cathy Hill held a successful solo exhibition of 20 pictures, in minus temperatures. The phone box hosted a bride, to celebrate a Royal Wedding, a six foot

mackerel, a decorated Christmas tree and Father Christmas. Artist, Lee O'Connor, used it for a "happening" and photo shoot with four sheep sculptures and a poetry reading.
During two Music Festivals in July, there have been popular, half hour music gigs at the Telephone Box (featured on both BBC and ITV news programmes).
There are now plans underway to turn the Telephone Box into a book lending library and I am sure that "events" will still happen..... Egerton's first silent disco, perhaps!
Watch this space!

Beware of bogus scams

Kent County Council Trading Standards has received intelligence that Kent residents are being affected by scams.

Scammers are devious criminals. Scam mail is aimed at tricking the recipients into sending money through bogus schemes, such as prize draws, fake lotteries and sweepstakes. Anybody can fall victim to these scams. The consequences of this heinous crime cause more than the loss of money.

It takes away the victim's confidence and makes them feel lonely helpless and vulnerable:

- 3.2 million people fall victim to scams every year.
- It is estimated that £10 billion a year is being sent to postal scams alone.
- Based on the mosaic profiling of

Kent's 1.4 million residents we know that 42% are likely to be a scam victim, (up to 600,000 people).

- Scam mail is aimed at tricking recipients into sending money through bogus schemes, such as prize draws.
- It's a vicious circle: victims respond to a scam mailing and their name is sold on to other scammers and they are repeatedly targeted. This only stops when the victim runs out of money, dies or somebody intervenes.

Trading Standards is supporting scam victims through the Stop the Scammers project and working with partners, such as Community Wardens, Kent Police and Royal Mail.

STOP THE SCAMMERS

Scammers are devious criminals
They will trick you to get your money
Never give your personal details,
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Don't be a victim, you have the power to say no

To report a scam or for advice call Citizens Advice consumer service on **03454 04 05 06**

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100 Club Winners

The Sports Pavilion 100 Club raises money for the repair and maintenance of Egerton Sports Pavilion. If you are interested in joining the 100 Club, please contact Jonathan Elworthy on: 07802 499577 or by email: info@egerton100club.org.

February:

- £100 Geoff Wickens
- £50 Michael Epps
- £25 Mark Bruce-Lockhart
- £25 Peter Elworthy
- £25 Neil Crossley-Roberts

March:

- £100 Alison Richey
- £50 Cheryl Ewin
- £25 Miles Alexander
- £25 Julian Mills
- £25 Lance Russell

April:

- £100 Joan Smyth
- £50 Dermot Nally
- £25 Simon & Natasha Palmer
- £25 Sarah Elworthy
- £25 Ernie Mexter

The April Draw also featured two additional "Easter Bonus Prizes

- £25 Martin & Lisa Wilkinson
- £25 Charlie Simkins

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“Laugh A Minute” - for Charity



Residents are asked to join a very special event to raise money for children with cancer.

When: Monday June 20th at 3.30pm

Where: Egerton Recreation Ground and Millennium Hall



“CLIC Sargent” is a fantastic Charity that gives support to children with cancer (or Leukaemia) and their families, throughout a child’s illness and beyond.

“Laugh a Minute” is a sponsored event that will raise vital funds needed to help enable the charity to provide the best care for children with this devastating disease. It is also an opportunity to demonstrate that the village of Egerton is a caring community and to show love and support for one of our families that has a child needing CLIC Sargent’s help; Josh Wilkinson, aged 11, has been diagnosed with bone cancer. Josh has lived in Egerton all his life with his parents, his twin brother Ben, and twin brothers Jack and Sam.

Of course, cancer is no laughing matter, and “Laugh a Minute” is not about

laughing *at* anything, we are simply laughing *for* happiness and well-being, and to create as much positive energy as we can!

Short and easy training sessions will be given free, beforehand, to all Village Groups, for the young and old and all ages in between. People can get into training (to get the best possible benefits from their laughter) and find sponsors for their minute /or minutes of laughter.

Hundreds of people from Egerton will gather at the Recreation Ground for the “Laugh a Minute” event. Laughs will be timed in groups and some clever laughers might go on for longer and become Laughing Champions (raising even more money for children with cancer!). Laughing is so very good for us physically, mentally and emotionally and every participant is going to benefit from that and the positive energy created! A video link will be set up to our young friend in hospital and perhaps to other children in hospitals around the country.

A Midsummer Afternoon Tea Party

Bring a picnic too because, after the Sponsored Laugh, there will be refreshments available in the Hall and further fun for the children.

Children’s activities from 3.45pm, will include: Football skills coaching, tennis coaching, rugby, cricket, team games, Hula - hooping and “Early Years Active Fun”.

Don’t worry, if you are usually at work on Mondays – why not book an afternoon off to come and support your Village and be part of the Biggest Laugh in Kent?

If you are not able to get away for an afternoon – why not arrange to Laugh for a Minute at your place of work and get your colleagues sponsoring you, or even laughing with you and raising money too. Link up with Skype so that everyone can join in the fun.

Sponsor forms and information are available from:

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Mobile: 07927 054708

Beryl Wynter: 07884 264069

And Egerton Village Stores.

Visit our “Just Giving” site if you wish to simply donate:

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Egerton flies the Commonwealth Flag!

Local residents and members of the parish, borough and county councils gathered on The Glebe on March 14th to watch the raising of the Commonwealth Flag on St James' Church Tower. The flag flew over the village for a week.



(Left) Some members on the trail of Van Gogh in Arles

Fine Arts Society

Patsy Erskine-Hill, chairman of Egerton Decorative and Fine Arts Society tells us more about the group

Egerton Decorative and Fine Arts Society offers fascinating lectures by top class experts every month, trips abroad, visits to places of interest and optional full days to learn more about chosen subjects.

Nowadays our talks cover a much wider range than is suggested by the name: recent lectures have been on English heraldry; the City of London and its livery companies; the growth of the opium trade in China and Hong Kong; and the art of John Singer Sargent, to name just a few.

We are a sociable lot, and tea/coffee and biscuits are served at the end of each lecture so that we can meet new and old friends. We have a mixed group of members, and aim to provide a mix of subjects to interest all.



Above, Members at Sanssouci Palace near Berlin, last Summer

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Our local society is part of a large network, known as NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts), which has an amazing 92,000 members in the UK and overseas (France, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Australia).

NADFAS is a registered charity, too: church recording, investment in arts for the young and conservation work at heritage sites are among its many activities.

Lectures are at 2.30pm on the second Wednesday of every month from September to June in the Millennium Hall, and we would be delighted to welcome anyone who wants to try us out.

Please contact our membership secretary Sue Lewry on 01233 647137 so that we can reserve you a place.

The May lecture (11th May) is "A Little Paradise: Laos, from Historic Buddhist Temples to Modern Silkweaving".

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Crowd hear Birthday Message from Prince Charles



Bill Smyth lights the beacon

Prince Charles had prepared a message for all Parish Councils taking part in the Beacon Lighting to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday.

The message from Clarence House (opposite) was read out by Deputy Chairman of Egerton Parish Council, Peter Rawlinson. Local resident Mary Adams-Beck (right) also received good wishes from the crowd as she celebrated her 94th birthday on April 22nd.



CLARENCE HOUSE

I am delighted that so many people throughout the United Kingdom are coming together to light beacons in celebration of my mother, The Queen's, ninetieth birthday. It is a wonderful gesture which I know has deeply touched Her Majesty.

Beacons are to be lit on mountaintops, on beaches, in farmyards and on church towers, uniting us all in our heartfelt appreciation of The Queen's lifetime of service to the United Kingdom and other Realms, and to the Commonwealth.

Since time immemorial, the light of beacons has relayed important messages across the land. This message we proclaim with the greatest pride and affection:

Your Majesty, we all wish you a very Happy Birthday!

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Millennium Hall Update



AGM: Wednesday May 11th

Sue Johnson reports:

BOOKINGS: We are very sorry to say Farewell to Dee Harper who, ably assisted by Roger, has looked after the Hall in such a brilliant way in recent years. A presentation was made to Dee at our Committee meeting on 20th April to say thank you (pictured below). Fortunately, we have a volunteer to take over the role in Jim Cooke and we would like to thank him for stepping into the breach. Jim's contact details are shown in Useful Village Contacts under Clubs and Organisations.

KEYPAD ENTRY: The new system appears to be working well. All regular users have been advised of the code and will be alerted on a need to know basis whenever Jim changes it.

Dee receives a thank you from chairman Sue Johnson



THINGS GOING WRONG: We have had three occasions recently when action has been necessary – but we haven't been told about it! We're very efficient but please let the Secretary know as soon as possible if you spot anything amiss.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Our AGM this year is on Wednesday, 11th May at 8pm in the Village Hall

Cups of coffee make money for charities



Who would have thought that the simple act of sharing a cup of coffee and chat with friends could be such a fantastic fund raiser for the village! In the 16 years that the Egerton Friends Coffee Mornings/Gardens have been going, they have raised an amazing £45,517.68 for Good Causes in the village. Major recipients have been the Friends of St James' (£13,796.29) while Church Tower Repairs, Games Barn Repairs, Friends of Egerton School, the Defibrillators and Pre-School Building Funds have all received over £2,000 each in donations. Non-village charities have benefited too such as the Tsunami fund which received £500, Help For Heroes (£400) and MacMillan Nurses (£100). The fund raising continues this Summer with a whole host of open garden mornings (see page 23 for list). These take place every Wednesday from 11am to 12 noon and cost £2 entry fee (which includes coffee and a raffle ticket). All are welcome.

Works Delayed to 2017

Southern Water's plans to refurbish the existing sewage works machinery and equipment have been put off.

A Southern water spokesman stated "We have been undertaking a review of the whole works programme to prioritise various projects and their scope. In light of this review we are re-visiting the



scope for the Egerton project. The project has therefore been delayed and will not be undertaken this year as originally proposed". Southern Water now hope to carry out the works in 2017.



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Egerton's Goal Runners Revealed

Following the appeal in the last issue of *Egerton Update* for old sporting pictures this intriguing photograph of Egerton's Goal Running Club was unearthed. Research revealed the following about this long-forgotten Kentish sport:

Once popular in East Kent, the earliest description of the game is given in *'Travels Over England'* by James Brome, published in 1700. By the mid 1950s the game had died out.

A suitable field would be marked out with a Goal-Line at one end, and a Turning Post or Posts some distance away.

Each team of around 30 men would line up behind their flag on the Goal-Line, some way apart. A 'Putter Out' on each team would then judge the right moment to send out a runner, who would run onto the field of play, around the Turning Post (s) and return to the Goal-Line. At the same time he would attempt to touch a runner of the opposing team who had entered the field before him, while at the same time trying to avoid being touched by a member of the opposing team who had entered the field after him.

When a touch or 'Stroke' was called, the game was stopped and the runners returned to their flags for a restart. A game was completed when one side had made seven 'Strokes'. The game was played barefoot and could last up to two hours.

In friendly games, any number of men could take part.

By the late 1800s the game was being played to a time limit of between 20 to 60 minutes. No longer were seven 'Strokes'



necessary and scoreless draws were not uncommon. Twenty-two men would normally form a team and they would run in pairs, one as a 'Draw' the other hoping to make the 'Stroke'.

Soon after came the introduction of 'Points' to make the game more attractive to spectators, the Turning Posts becoming 'Point Flags'.

The runner had to cross the line of opposing runners and run around both 'Point Flags' without being touched, a certain number of 'Points' equalling one 'Stroke'.

The number of men in a team was cut to twenty-one, the men now running in threes, one man going for the 'Point', the other two as a defence against the opponents scoring a 'Point'.

Who are the Ladies playing Cricket?

The call for old sporting photos continues although a start has been made with this photograph of a Ladies Cricket Match being played on the upper Recreation Ground. Does anyone know the date or the names of any of the players? Answers on a postcard! (or by email to: jonathon@elworthys.com.



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Ruth's 90th Birthday Celebrated at the WI

Angela Plant reports

Egerton WI have had a busy few months. At the February meeting we celebrated Ruth Russell's 90th birthday when she was presented with a card and a bouquet from all of the members. Ruth brought along a cake for us all to enjoy in the celebrations and some "bubbly" for us all to toast her on her special day.

The speaker at the February meeting was Sandra Richards who gave a talk entitled "The Humorous Side of Nursing". Sandra had us all laughing as she told us of many amusing incidents that had occurred in her career.

The competition that took place at the February meeting was for the most original photo taken at Egerton 2015 Fete and was won by Heather James.

In March a number of our members went along to the "have a go day" at Chartham which they all enjoyed and took part at the many different crafts, crochet, beading and lace making to name a few.

Egerton WI entered teams in the WKPS quiz on Friday 11th March and also the following week in the scout quiz on Saturday 19th March. Both events were thoroughly enjoyed by those teams.

The March talk was given by Melanie Gibson-Barton on "The life of Edith Cavell". It was an in depth talk of a lady who led a very full and eventful life nursing soldiers and helping them to escape. This led to her arrest and execution by a firing squad at the age of just fifty years old. The March



Ruth receives bouquet from WI President, Liz Wyndham competition was for "An Easter bonnet" which once again was won by Heather James.

On Wednesday 6th April three members attended the "spring garden day" at Canterbury where they enjoyed the presentation given by the two speakers and also the magical demonstration of flower arrangements given by Robin White which were amazing and delighted everyone.

The April speaker was Pru Anderton who gave a nostalgic trip down memory lane telling us about growing up in a small village in the late 1930s and 1940s

April's competition was "for a garment you have made" which was won by Shirley Missing.

FUTURE EVENTS:

Wednesday 4th May we have our resolution and program planning meeting for 2017, there is no speaker but the competition is for "a silly photograph of yourself in fancy dress!"

Egerton are hosts this year to the Group quiz against teams from Smarden, Bethersden and Westwell which takes place on **Wednesday 18th May** in the Millenium Hall. So far Egerton has mustered two teams to take part.

Wednesday 1st June the speaker will be Lee Ault and the subject "Undercover Story" which is about the history of underwear. There is no competition this month but there will be an exhibition of buttons.

Wednesday 6th July the speaker is Robin Masters and the subject, "Owlers, smugglers and redcappers". The competition is "An arrangement of wild flowers".

A five day coach trip to Amsterdam has been arranged by Ruth Russell in July.

Wednesday 3rd August Lee Reynolds will be speaking on "Life as a Tiller Girl". The competition "Olympic Games theme cake" If you think you may enjoy these evenings do come along at 7:30pm at the "Millennium Hall" and you will be made very welcome. Any further information can be found on the Egerton

website: www.egerton-kent.co.uk

Press Secretary: Mrs Angela Plant

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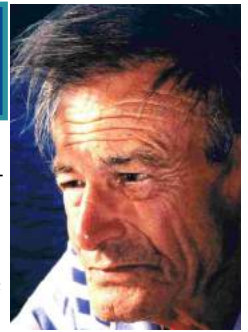
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Obituary: Harry Bragg



Harry was a well known local resident who emigrated with his wife Dorothy to Australia in the early 1990s to be with his two daughters. He died in March at the age of 92 and Richard King was asked to write a eulogy for him from the village, to be read out at his funeral service in Sydney. This is an adapted version of what Richard wrote.

"I first met Harry shortly after Gale and I moved to Egerton in 1984. It had been decided to organise a village fete and Harry was a member of our small committee and had organised school fetes during his time as a head teacher in Maidstone. It soon became obvious that Harry was a human dynamo. Our fete, the first in Egerton for almost 20 years, raised over £5,000, which was a lot of money in 1986. The next one followed in 1989. Harry used to enjoy reminding me about the public arguments we had about the really big issues, such as the number of straw bales we should put out and where things should go. But, it was all great fun, made more so by Harry's incredible enthusiasm. Harry even returned from Australia to help with our fetes in the 1990s .

We all drank in "The George", and Harry was a member of the pub's quiz team. Harry and Dorothy became great friends with their next-door neighbour in Old School Court, Ernie Mexter, and for years they maintained their electoral vote in Egerton, with Ernie acting as their proxy. For a short period Harry was the village postman and he had the habit of standing at the gate shamelessly reading you your postcards as he handed them over!

Harry was also was a great long distance runner. Half the village sponsored him when, in his sixties, he ran one of the first London Marathons. He was also a great walker and rock climber, which was one of his passions, and walked many of the classic

trails in the UK, Australia and New Zealand.

He climbed some of the world's highest mountains and in his retirement travelled to many of the Pacific islands, always climbing to the highest peak.

Harry's acting career began with the Egerton Players, which he joined in the mid 1980s.

Harry starred in their early revues and one-act plays. In 'Gosforth's Fete' he was typecast as the fete's organiser who inadvertently broadcasts over the fete's public address system that he'd got the local scoutmaster's wife pregnant.

In one revue, he was memorably dressed as a ballet dancer, wearing a tutu and a bow! It was from these humble beginnings in Egerton that Harry went on to carve out an acting career for himself in his retirement in Australia.

Harry also introduced Egerton to Safari Suppers, and organised several of these evenings which brought all the villagers together and were enormous fun. He left behind the complicated template he'd created for this, and at the end of the first one we organised without him we rang him up in Sydney to thank him. It was ten in the evening, we were

all very merry and forgot that it would be seven o'clock on Sunday morning in Sydney!

Whenever Harry returned to the village he was always greeted as if he'd never been away. In June 2004, we travelled to Normandy to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the D-Day landings. I was amazed to discover that Harry, aged 20, had driven a Cromwell tank ashore from a landing craft at Arromanches on 7th June 1944 with the 5th Royal Tank Regiment, and had carried on all the way to Germany. On one occasion in Normandy he narrowly escaped death when the tank he was driving was hit.

It was a great loss to the village when Harry and Dorothy moved to Australia and there are still many who remember Harry with love and affection. You only get out of life what you put into it, and Harry certainly put in a great deal. Egerton owes him a great debt. He was a great friend to many of us and the village was a better place for him having lived here."



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July 2nd—8th is Cricket Week



The triennial Cricket Week takes place this July (2nd -8th). Cricket Week was originally started to raise funds for a new Sports Pavilion. Now that the Pavilion is built, it raises funds to support the Club and also for local good causes and charities. This year the

Club are looking to raise, in addition to bolstering Club funds, some money for Egerton Pre-school and also for CLIC (Cancer and Leukemia in Childhood) Sargent. In particular, Friday 8th will be focusing on raising money for these worthy causes. The 'Zone Cricket' day on

Fixtures for this year's Cricket Week are:

Saturday 2nd July v Eltham Valley
 Sunday 3rd July v Harbledown (KVL)
 Monday 4th July v Egerton Old Boys (all day)
 Tuesday 5th July v BTF (all day)
 Wednesday 6th July v KVL Invitation XI
 Thursday 7th July v Dragons (all day)
 Friday 8th July Zone Cricket Day

the 8th will feature multi-match quick-fire cricket, an all-day bar and bbq. Please come along and support Cricket Week in July and to help raise some money for Egerton Preschool and CLIC. The Club is looking for volunteers to help man the bar, help with lunches (on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday) and with the match teas every day. If you can spare an hour or two, bake a cake or generally just help out, please contact Sarah Elworthy at sarah@elworthys.com or on 01233 756205

The new season started at the end of April. Early season fixtures for the Club are currently :

Home:

30th April v Otterden
 8th May v Hawkinge
 14th May v Beneden
 21st May v Sandhurst (2nd XI)
 22nd May v Luddesdowne
 26th May v Mersham Sports (U13)
 28th May v Stone in Oxney
 29th May v Street End (KVL)
 2nd June v Rolvenden (U13)
 4th June v Rolvenden
 5th June v Ash (KVL)
 9th June v Tenterden (U13)
 19th June v Wingham (KVL)
 23rd June v Wye (U13)
 16th July v Tenterden
 17th July v Leeds & Broomfield (KVL)
 24th July v Shepway Stragglers
 28th July v Mersham Sports (U13)
 30th July v Selling
 7th August v Harvel (KVL)

Away:

5th May v Boughton & Eastwell (U13)
 7th May v Rolvenden
 15th May v Sheldwich (Kent Village League)
 19th May v Kennington (U13)
 21st May v Selling
 28th May v Gills Green (2nd XI)
 11th June v Beneden
 12th June v Eltham Valley (KVL)
 18th June v Great Chart
 18th June v Smallhythe (2nd XI)
 25th June v East Sutton
 7th July v Rye (U13)
 10th July v Littlebourne (KVL)
 14th July v Kennington (U13)
 16th July v Stone in Oxney (2nd XI)
 23rd July v Bilsington
 23rd July v Sandhurst (2nd XI)
 31st July v Bapchild (KVL)
 6th August v Bredgar

All support much appreciated. New players (of any standard) wanting to play are always most welcome and should contact Paul Hope on 07885 509751

Junior coaching

The new season coaching starts on Thursday 12th May (6.30pm) at the Sports Pavilion. For details contact Paul Hope.

Cricket Tour

The Club will be going 'on tour' to Wiltshire 21st-23rd August playing against old foes Bishops Canning CC, Goatacre CC and Urchfont CCs . Anyone interested in going on the tour should contact Paul Hope as soon as possible



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 Roger Hughes,
 Aldington Mission

May 22nd (Trinity Sunday)
 Danny

May 29th Ambrose

JUNE

June 5th Theo
 June 12th Danny
 June 19th (Father's Day)
 Pastor (rtd) Peter Buss,
 Bethersden

June 26th Ambrose

JULY

July 3rd Theo
 July 10th Danny
 July 10th Vincent,
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MAY

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| Sunday 1 st | Easter 6 | 09.30 | Matins |
| Sunday 8 th | Easter 7 | 09.30 | The Eucharist |
| Sunday 15 th | Pentecost | 08.00 | Holy Communion |
| | | 09.30 | Family Worship |
| Sunday 22 nd | Trinity Sunday | 09.30 | The Eucharist |
| Sunday 29 th | Trinity 1 | 10.30 | Benefice Communion |

JUNE

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| Sunday 5 th | Trinity 2 | 09.30 | Matins |
| Sunday 12 th | Trinity 3 | 09.30 | The Eucharist |
| Sunday 19 th | Trinity 4 | 08.00 | Holy Communion |
| | | 09.30 | Family Service |
| Sunday 26 th | Trinity 5 | 09.30 | The Eucharist |

JULY

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| Sunday 3 rd | Trinity 6 | 09.30 | Matins |
| Sunday 10 th | Trinity 7 | 09.30 | The Eucharist |
| Sunday 17 th | Trinity 8 | 08.00 | Holy Communion |
| | | 09.30 | Family Service |
| Sunday 24 th | Trinity 9 | 09.30 | The Eucharist |

For details of services in all 7 churches of the G7 Benefice please visit the website:

www.g7benefice.org or take a copy of Pew News from the table in the church. You will find a warm welcome in any of the churches.

If you would like to speak to someone about Baptism, Confirmation, a Wedding Service or any other matter please contact either:

Reverend Canon Sheila Cox (Rector) 01233 712598
 sheilacox@g7benefice.org

or

Reverend Chris Hodgkins (Curate) 01233 756731
 chrishodgkins@g7benefice.org

Down on the Farm

Local Farmer Hilary Jones lets us know what's happening around the farm at this time of year

"But, the whole farm is dependent on the weather!" exclaimed our latest volunteer, in astonishment. She is a psychology student from southern France; and I had once again been unable to give her the required numerical answer to her question, "On what date will the cattle go out to the fields from their winter barns?"

I really think it was a eureka moment for her; and that she still has no idea of the level of my worries that we will run out of winter forage before there is any fresh grass in those fields. Nor could she understand that the main reason for housing cattle in winter, rather than feeding them their silage outdoors, is not that they feel the cold; but that they would make such a mess of the wet pasture by treading on it that it might have to be re-sown before grass would grow again. Today I have been to look at one of those fields, and it is so wet that it is full of tadpoles. No question of re-seeding it, because it is a valuable historical ridge-and-furrow pasture, which mustn't be disturbed. So for the moment the tadpoles have it, and the cattle can whistle.

At least the sun was shining at last. Our apple-growing neighbours have been in a high state of tension all winter, because there has not been cold enough weather to make the apple trees form fruit bud; a marker of climate change if you like. They were therefore pleased with a few sharp frosts in early March; but since then have been concerned once more that it has been so miserably cold that the arrival of the blossom is behind schedule.

The political climate too is a source of worry. It seems that farmers are advised to decide how to vote in the EU referendum mainly with a view to what will happen about the Basic Payment, which comes from the EU. British farmers are said to be more dependent on these payments than other European farmers, since their income is otherwise so unreliable. So, whereas it should be a delightful time to be writing about farming, with lambs appearing in the fields and imparting a sense of hope as only lambs can, there are massive worries invisibly impinging on farmers this spring.



Anyone who brings a dog onto farm land, for example when travelling by footpath, needs not only to keep it under close control, but also to pick up its faeces, and to remember to worm it with Praziquantel every six weeks. This is the only wormer which deals with all four tapeworm species which affect sheep adversely and are transmitted to them from dogs.



Births, Marriages and Deaths

BAPTISMS at

St James the Great Egerton

Theodore Chata ELWORTHY
15th November 2015

Jacob Simon Oliver RUNDLE
9th January 2016

WEDDINGS

No weddings

FUNERALS at

Charing Crematorium

Doris Ellen May FREDERICK
8th January 2016

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Churchyard diversity



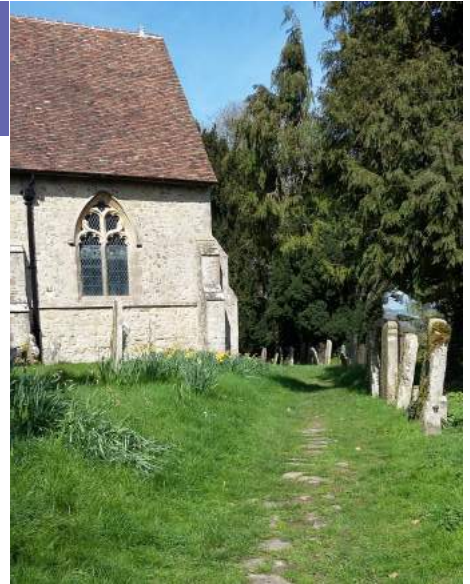
The Kent God's Acre Project (KGAP), launched in 2010 and convened by the Dioceses of Rochester and Canterbury and started in Egerton in the same year, is part of a national scheme which recognises churchyards and cemeteries as significant areas for flora, fauna and social history and brings together a number of organisations with the aim of providing advice and guidance on management.

Churchyards remain relatively undisturbed and free from chemicals compared with the wider countryside and, as a result, they have developed a rich diversity of plants and animals and have often become a refuge for species no longer common in the surrounding area. Many churchyards, including ours, contain a variety of habitats which elsewhere may have been lost to development or changes in agricultural practices: grassland, stone, hedgerows, trees and scrub all have the potential to support a wide range of plants, mammals, birds, bats, insects, reptiles and amphibians by offering shelter, food and breeding sites. Churchyards also act as 'stepping stones', enabling species to move from one area to another. Although the churchyard is primarily a burial ground, it is also place of peace, tranquillity, contemplation and quiet reflection, as well as a focus for community activity. It is also important for archaeology and history. The record of the lives of people who have lived and worked in the parish live on in the tombs and memorials – on the continuing story of our community. The buildings themselves form a backdrop to this social history and reveal the local craftsmen's skills and the building style of the area. How best to care for the churchyard will always be a difficult issue, if the aim is to try to satisfy the different views of what the churchyard means to individuals and groups within the

community. Some think it should be totally neat and tidy, others wilder. In reality, a compromise has to be reached which takes due consideration of people's opinions as well as historical and environmental concerns. In Egerton, attempts are being made to conserve existing habitats and provide opportunities to increase the wildlife interest while keeping the churchyard

orderly and visually attractive. Part of the grassland away from the more heavily frequented areas of the churchyard is now left long throughout the summer, providing food and shelter for many species, and then cut down at the end of the season after the seeds have fallen to encourage the spread of wildflowers. The hay is added to the compost heap, itself a valuable wildlife habitat. Mats are placed within the grassland to attract reptiles, and other simple measures, such as the installation of bird and bat boxes and a bug hotel increase wildlife interest without detriment to the churchyard.

During *Cherishing Churchyards Week* in June, the children from Egerton's Primary School visit the churchyard for fun and learning aimed at increasing their awareness of the



churchyard's importance for wildlife and heritage. Villagers have also enjoyed walks and talks on a wide variety of topics and had the chance to join a local art group painting in these tranquil surroundings. This year there will be a walk to discover the different lichens in the churchyard on Saturday, 11th June at 2.00 p.m. Come along and find out about these interesting species – watch out for the posters nearer the time – and a bat walk (always popular with youngsters) is planned for the autumn.

There may be many ideas to increase people's enjoyment and appreciation of our lovely churchyard, but plans need people to make them happen. If you would like to help with the God's Acre Project in any way – as a volunteer mower, helping with events, recording or suggesting more ideas! – please let us know by contacting Sarah Widd (01233 756460) or Gale King (01233 756592). We would love to hear from you.



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What's on in and around Egerton



The Friends of

Egerton Church of England Primary School

supported by

Egerton Running Club

6th ANNUAL BLUEBELL RUN

Sunday 8th May 2016 – 10am

Support the School and get fit for a 5K or 10K run through the beautiful orchards, lanes and bluebell woodlands around Egerton Parish.

Or accompany your child in the Children's Fun Run

Entry fees 10K and 5K: £10.00 (£5.00 for 13 to 18 yr olds) Children's Run: £2.00. Races start at 10.00am. Medals and goody bag for all entrants. Prizes for first male and first female entrant, also for first Mum and first Dad from Egerton School, first boy and first girl. Parking at Egerton Village Hall. Facilities and Start at Egerton School. Registration on the day. Refreshments will be available.

All proceeds to Friends of Egerton C of E Primary School



Quiz & Pizza

Sat 21st May
7.30 for 8pm start

Millenium Hall
Elm Close
Egerton
TN27 9DS

£9 per person
includes one pizza.
BYO drink.

Teams of 6-8

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egertonpreschool.eventbrite.co.uk
(booking fee). Contact: egertonpreschool@btinternet.com

In aid of
Egerton
PreSchool

EGERTON HOUSE ARTS 2016

Saturday 30th July 7.30 pm

Piano Recital Martin James Bartlett
winner of the BBC Young Musician 2014

Programme: Mozart Sonata K310; Poulenc Trois Pieces; Chopin Etudes Op 25 No 12, Op 10 No 4 and Waltz Op 64 No 2 and much more besides

Venue: The music room, Egerton House
The doors open at 7 pm but the gardens to the south and west are open for picnics from 6.30 pm.



Tickets - £20 (£10 for under 18s)

available from 01233 756354 or Egerton Village Shop

In the case of inclement weather: if the performance is curtailed Changeling Theatre Company may offer to each audience member a ticket to an alternate performance; if the performance is not given at all Egerton House Arts will refund ticket monies to audience members.

Egerton House, Egerton House Road, Egerton, Kent TN27 9BD

The Changeling Theatre Company
presents



Tuesday 2nd August 7.30 pm

She Stoops to Conquer by Oliver Goldsmith

Wednesday 3rd August 7.30 pm

All's Well that Ends Well
by William Shakespeare

Venue: The south lawn of Egerton House.

Gardens open for picnics at 6.30 pm.

Please remember to bring something to sit upon and something to keep yourself warm when the sun fades.

Our Summer Gardens

*A Cup of Coffee, A Light Hearted Chat, With Friends & Neighbours, In an Interesting Garden
Initially started to raise money for the Millennium Hall, we have now given over £46000 to local causes and
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All the money raised goes back into the village in many ways

11am—12 noon every Wednesday

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|----------------|--|----------------|--|--|---|
| May 4 | SUE JOHNSON KEEPERS COTTAGE EGERTON HOUSE ROAD (Pre-School Building Fund) | June 15 | (Pre-School Building Fund) LINDA BIRD WHITE COTTAGE ROCK HILL ROAD (Pre-School Building Fund) | July 27 | BARNHAM'S MILL ROAD (Pre-School Building Fund) JULIE & CHRIS HODGKINS THE VICARAGE THE GLEBE (Pre-School Building Fund) | Sept 7 | JANE & TIM HARMAN IDEN IDEN LANE (Church Flower Guild) |
| May 11 | KATE FENWICK COURT LODGE STONEBRIDGE GREEN ROAD (Pre-School Building Fund) | June 22 | KAY & DICK CRABB STONEBRIDGE GREEN COTTAGE STONEBRIDGE GREEN (Pre-School Building Fund) | Aug 3 | MARGARET MORRIS BURNSIDE ROCK HILL ROAD (Pre-School Building Fund) | Sept 14 | SARAH MARTIN BOX FARM BEDLEM LANE (Pre-School Building Fund) |
| May 18 | CLAIRE FOINETTE FRID FARM FORGE LANE EGERTON FORSTAL (Pre-School Building Fund) | June 29 | DIANE & LAURANCE DICKENS & RUTH RUSSELL WEST VIEW & TALL TREES STONEHILL ROAD (Pre-School Building Fund) | Aug 10 | SUE & JIM COOKE 12 HARMERS WAY (Pre-School Building Fund) | Sept 21 | LINDE & TIM LEE THE OLD DAIRY STONEBRIDGE GREEN ROAD (Friends of St James) |
| May 25 | JOAN & ROY MANUEL BROWN'S COTTAGE GREENHILL LANE (Pre-School Building Fund) | July 6 | MARY & DAVID BINKS STONEHILL OAST STONEHILL ROAD (Pre-School Building Fund) | Aug 17 | ETHEL & NORMAN CORNWALL 1 OLD SCHOOL COURT ROCK HILL ROAD (Pre-School Building Fund) | Sept 28 | LOIS TILDEN POTTERS FORSTAL FARM CHAPEL LANE (Pre-School Building Fund) |
| June 1 | JENNIE & DICK NOBLE STONEBRIDGE GREEN FARM STONEBRIDGE GREEN (Pre-School Building Fund) | July 13 | PAM SCRIVENS TRAM HATCH CHARING HEATH (Pre-School Building Fund) | Aug 24 | MARY WALKER 3 WATER VILLAS ROCK HILL ROAD (Pre-School Building Fund) | (Brackets denote place of donation) WITH MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO HOST THESE MORNINGS | |
| June 8 | RUTH & RAYMOND SHRUBB OLD ORCHARD COTTAGE STONEBRIDGE GREEN | July 20 | MARGIE & CHRIS STEVENS BARNHAM'S MILL FARM | Aug 31 | JILL & PETER HOPE 9 THE GLEBE (Pre-School Building Fund) | | |



Cricket Week

July 2nd - 8th
Egerton Cricket Ground and
Sports Pavilion

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*Come along and support your
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Everyone Welcome*

Sacconi Quartet with Freddy Kempf



Sunday 3rd July, 6.30pm.
The Millennium Hall,
Egerton

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**Monday June 20th at
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Recreation Ground
and Millennium Hall
Bring a picnic!**

What is a village shop?

Following Cathy Hill's reminder in the last issue of *Egerton Update* of the many village assets that we all enjoy, Fiona Boulton-Fraser who runs Egerton Village Stores with her husband and postmaster Colin, talks about some of the challenges of being a 21st century village shopkeeper

What is a village shop? This is a question I constantly ask myself as I peer into the murky depths of the retail forecasting crystal ball. Retail trade press often run articles on the death of the village grocer and the inexorable rise of the convenience store. The *Oxford English Dictionary* defines a convenience store as one that is "open long hours for the convenience of the customer". These days it seems 'customer expectation' is king. The supermarkets have done a splendid job in grooming us all into having the highest of expectations. We now count on shops being open at all times with shelves groaning under the weight of a myriad of products we may need. In urban areas, this is fine. After all, this is

where convenience stores first evolved. But what about the village shop? Village shop-keeping is a world away from urban convenience stores. It's a lot less predictable out here in the sticks. We can't rely on passing trade unless we have prime position near to a railway station or on a main commuting route. We are painfully susceptible to the vagaries of the weather. The small size and often quirky outlay of village stores means space is often limited and turnover small. Add to this the increased popularity of online supermarket delivery; people's current shopping habits; and the modern day way of life.



Here in Egerton, there is no train station or main commuting route. We rely heavily on the school-run mums and local pensioners. This is not the most stable of customer bases to have, lovely though these people are. An in-house Post Office is often thought of as the all-saving element of a village store. In the past this may have been the case, but times have changed. The same assumption is often made with the installation of a National Lottery terminal. The money generated by both these facilities is certainly profitable for the companies concerned but alone, they generate very little income for the individual shop owner. For a village shop to survive these days, it takes more than just the taxing of a car or the buying of a weekly Lucky Dip. So why bother at all if it is so hard? The answer is the very thing that causes us so



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much angst in the first place. Our customers. An urban shopkeeper is the manager of a retail unit who measures profit in terms of customer footfall and point of sales figures. A village shopkeeper is more than that. You become part of something bigger; you become part of something meaningful. You get to know customers as people with stories to tell. You rejoice in the news of a child's achievements, a baby born. You cry at the news of a death. You are taken into people's confidences. You don't get this working for a faceless corporation. People love the idea of the village shop. It's as British as tea and biscuits. But to have a vital, living, successful village shop these days means more than just paying lip service. You can't just scurry in, head down to buy a stamp or stick your head round the door to grab a *Wealden Advertiser* and expect the store to make a profit. It needs the village to buy-in literally rather than just to the cosy notion. It needs people to come in and purchase shopping on a regular basis. For Egerton Village Store and Post Office to survive, the people of Egerton have to make a decision. Do they just like the idea of having a village shop, a quaint relic of a bygone age? Or are they prepared to do more to ensure the village shop prospers and remains a key part of this village? The more money taken at the till means more money available to spend on stocking shelves.

Col and I took on Egerton's Village Store and Post Office as complete retail novices.

We bought into the idea of a village store being a key part of a vibrant community. We have travelled a seriously steep learning curve. We are still learning.

We have gone through some grim times, questioned our sanity. But no matter how black a day starts, I can guarantee that same day will end with a belly laugh. I have never had a job where I have laughed so much. There are 'Arkwright' moments, 'Darling Buds of May' moments, 'Last of the Summer Wine' moments. We are 'The Only Shop in the Village'. Where else can a shopkeeper do her paperwork sitting at a picnic bench in the summer sun?

Where else can you look out of a window in winter and spy a preening

peregrine falcon? Where else can you have your customers pull up in a Bentley, pony and trap, or battered old blue Ford tractor? Where else can you have more than one school child in the shop at one time and know all of their names?

In 1754, Thomas Turner, owner of the East Hoathly village stores wrote he was a "grocer, draper, haberdasher, hatter, clothier, druggist, ironmonger, stationer, glover, undertaker & what not". Today a more modern description may be "grocer, IT specialist, counsellor, clairvoyant, giver of directions and any other roles that may be deemed appropriate at the time". It is not 'convenience store manager'.

Village shop-keeping is not for the faint-hearted. The future of village shop-keeping is far from certain.

Fantastic for Films



Egerton Film Club will be showing on **Thursday, 26th May** Steven Spielberg's "*Bridge of Spies*". The season will end for the Summer on **Thursday 30th June**, with the highly likeable independent British film "*x + y*".

Everyone is welcome to attend. Doors open at 7.00 p.m. and the films start at 7.30 p.m.

Screenings will then resume in September.

For further information call Richard King on 01233 756592.

Players New Committee



Egerton Players elected its new committee at its recent AGM
From left to right Sara Martin, Chris Farnham, Dave Austin, Vanessa Perrin, Jenny Griffiths, Mac Mercer, Chris Stevens, Yvonne Smith, Anne Rayner.

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Bringing youth together



Jan Burgess remembers the old-fashioned youth clubs of the 50s and 60s and asks if they are still relevant to today's youth culture?

I was ten when we moved from

Staplehurst to Strood, in late 1956 - a bit of a culture shock for all my family, my parents, my older sister and me. We were used to attending the Congregational Church in what was then a quiet Kentish village. Now we became involved with the local parish church and my father soon joined the choir and also started a youth club. In those days, in that area, a youth club was very popular with young people from about fourteen to seventeen. There was little else going on in most towns and villages, certainly not for teenagers with scant money to spend. Television programmes were being watched by parents and younger brothers and sisters in the only living room, and there were no modern gadgets in the bedroom, apart from, if you were lucky (which I wasn't) tiny transistor radios that played Radio Luxembourg in an in-and-out of reception mode that was only great if it was "in" when a favourite record was being played; there were no computers, mobile phones or any of the modern diversions so a place to go on a Friday evening, away from parents, with refreshments (soft drinks and crisps) and music was bound to be popular. There would most likely have been table tennis, darts and the latest records being played and the usual scene would be the boys playing table tennis and darts and the girls dancing together. Although eyes would be made at each other and partnerships formed, the girls were averse to boys interrupting their dancing because boys generally couldn't dance. Many girls would practise and perfect their movements and wanted to enjoy performing them with more choice of music - and a boy with two left feet would spoil that. They could stand

and admire if they wished and then walk the preferred girl home. During the course of the youth club evening, in the late fifties, my father would always gather the young people round for a discussion. I don't think this was normally about religion but a general discussion to encourage them to talk and voice their opinions - something he felt strongly about. How much the discussions benefited the club members and how much they enjoyed it, I never knew, but I don't think there were any complaints and they all took part. I expect he hoped they would begin attending church but this brief window of attendance only took place a few years later, when I had become a member of the youth club and my father had stopped running it. This was when a new plan was tried out, to hold a second, shorter club on a Sunday evening and anyone wishing to enjoy the club had to first of all attend evensong. This worked quite well, as far as numbers were concerned and every Sunday my girlfriends and I would be singing in the church choir and eyeing up the boys in the back rows - something my future brother-in-law reminded me about for years. My recent interest in youth clubs is a desire for some answers about these clubs to-day and I am no longer in a position to find out easily. I am aware that youth clubs are few and far between in our part of Kent and am seeking answers. The activities of my youth in such places must seem tame in to-day's environment, where every young person is armed with a mobile phone that can amuse them for hours - perhaps in a rather isolating way. They are amazing gadgets, though, and very addictive - can rather "uncool" clubs compare with Facebook and computer games? Then there are the crisps and lemonade refreshments of those days - not even a Coca Cola to be had - and so much more money to spend now.



And what about alcohol, something that was never around in dance halls or youth clubs in my teenage life?

Does the fact that such a thing is missing from a youth club put even a sixteen year old off? Smoking, of course, was the demon of my youth and at least 90% of young people tried it out before they were sixteen. I don't believe young people smoke as much as we did - but I could be wrong.

My knowledge of youth clubs since the 1960s is scant, hearsay rather than true knowledge. Since the turn of the century, I know of three in our area, one, an Egerton youth club, that closed about fifteen years ago; a second that served Egerton and Pluckley and was held in St Nicholas Church, which closed in about 2006 and a third that served the G7 benefice and closed last summer.

I was in a small way involved with the one in Pluckley and can remember the dedication and enthusiasm of the leaders and I am sure this goes for the others as well. I know that decreasing numbers have caused the closing of at least one club, but it might be a shortage of leaders in another.

It would be interesting to hear from anyone who has some knowledge of the local youth clubs and therefore a view and, perhaps, some good ideas for a way forward.

If so, whatever age you are, would you let *Egerton Update* know for a future issue? For instance, do you think there are fewer youth clubs to-day because there are even fewer people willing to run them or is it because young teenagers have more inviting things to do with their evenings and if so what?

Email: egertonupdate@gmail.com

Seasonal Fayre and Recipe

Helen Baird who runs **Pluckley Farm Shop** gives an insight into the problems of food and farming over a long wet winter.

At last we have longer and hopefully drier days ahead of us and new seasonal produce bursting to life. I don't need to tell the reader that it's been another wet winter! Gardening and outdoor pursuits in claggy clay is unpleasant, but what about the farmers who have to work the land? Wet, soggy lambs take longer to put on weight. The longer it takes to fatten an animal the smaller the profit margin. There are animal health issues too. When the weather changes quickly to very warm days, but remains wet under foot, fungal infections and foot rot are more likely. Weight is an issue for my free range pigs too. The soft ground makes rooting and play a lot of fun, as they can dig deeper for the tree roots to gnaw on, but the work rate burns off the calories! If the ground hardens quickly there is a risk they might split their wet, soft trotters and dust can cause conjunctivitis. Arable and vegetable farming has had its problems too. For example potato cropping and seeding on the Marsh has been a struggle in the wet. Before the UK new potatoes are ready, the Jersey Royals are in season. However, they are even more expensive than usual. The Majorcan new potato on the other hand is much cheaper and very tasty too. In Thanet, the cauliflowers all came at once and so the caulis are now coming in from Europe. Sale and demand has pushed prices sky high. These are just a few examples of the problems suffered to date. Now coming in are: salads; peas; radishes; rocket; rhubarb; chard; tomatoes; spinach; beetroot; wild garlic; spring onions; strawberries and other soft fruits; beans and herbs etc. There can be just as many weather problems, if not more, with summer fruit and veg and just as the weather plays its part so does pollination, pests, fungus, disease and pollution. Asparagus, as an example, is difficult to grow at the best of times. It is now available but there have been rumours it could be in short supply - watch this space. Rain makes "earthing up" labour intensive and with heavy rain, the potential rot of the asparagus crown.

Asparagus is much loved and is a really good quick lunch or supper. I enjoy pan fried fresh mackerel placed on wilted spinach and wild garlic leaves, with warm asparagus in lemon butter. And it only takes 15 minutes to cook! Or try this amazing pulled pork recipe.

Spring Broth with pulled pork



- 1 tbsp of Olive Oil
 - Small "hand" of pork on the bone
 - 500ml chicken stock
 - 1 slice of chunky bread, cut into cubes
 - 2 tbsp grated parmesan cheese
 - 2 large handfuls spring greens finely sliced
 - 8 asparagus spears, trimmed, halved and cut into chunky pieces
 - 100g fresh or frozen peas
 - Can of mixed pulses or beans and/or 100gms of broad beans as desired
1. Drizzle a little olive oil over the hand of pork and slow cook. This cut of pork is cheaper than most. It should be left on the bone so it shreds easily when thoroughly cooked. Usually shoulder on the bone is used for pulled pork but it is more expensive. Cooking usually takes at least two hours in a moderate oven. This will depend on weight.
 2. Put the bread cubes on a baking tray. Drizzle with the remaining oil, some salt and the Parmesan. Bake for 6 mins until crunchy and golden. Remove onto a plate for later.
 3. Once your pork is thoroughly cooked and has been put to one side to rest, empty the stock in to a pan and bring to boiling point. Turn down the heat and add the greens, asparagus and peas. Cook for 1 min (al dente), then add any extra beans or pulses as desired. Heat everything through and pour into bowls. Place the shredded pork on top. Parmesan toasted chunks can be scattered on top too. If the parmesan chunks do not appeal then serve the broth with warm bread. **Feeds 4 -6.**



Farm Fresh Food

Cathy Hill reports

I look forward to Friday afternoons, because it's Farmer's Market Day. I put down my tools, pick up my basket and get over to the village hall to shop for flavoursome produce from the Garden of England: fresh shimmering fish from the coast and artisan breads from Sandgate Bakery. (Chorizo and red onion bread is my favourite at the moment, a nutty 'nut boule' or a 'rye batard'.) The cheese stall, brimming with delights from all around Britain, has restored my faith that quality cheese doesn't only live in France. A lot of these cheeses come from Kent itself; hard, soft, blue, stinky, pink, goat or sheep, however you like your cheese it's here at Egerton Farmer's Market. There are luscious, seasonal vegetables grown in Kent fields; eggs and apples; and in the autumn, cob nuts and medlars. There are jams, honey and pickles; wool and crafts; and a wide range of locally farmed meat and wild game. There are olives, black and green; herbs and plants for the garden; everything your dog could ever wish for or that you might need for your pets. A rummage on the book stall, I know, will often find me a great book and did I mention the cakes? Friday's special treat is a piece of some beautiful delicacy of heaven cake from Catherine's stall.

When I am done, my basket is piled high and overflowing with fresh food, exciting flavours and gorgeous creations of nature. As an artist, I always want to draw it all before I unpack it in the kitchen, but I never did, until now. (see illustration above)

With food, you get what you pay for. At the farmer's market there is no "middle man" and I am happy to be paying the producers direct, for the best.

RAY JILES

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Cover for *all* the family

In each issue of *Egerton Update* Martin Wilkinson gives some tips and hints around generic areas of financial planning.

In this second issue, I am speaking from personal experience for our own family around the importance of Critical Illness Protection including Children's Cover. Whilst a difficult subject for us all, I passionately believe in bringing this to everyone's attention.

Anyone aged over 18 and under 70, please take a few moments to really think about the following.

The following are facts about the UK population as a whole. However the diagnosis of Ewing's Sarcoma (a Bone Cancer affecting children) for our lovely 11 year old son Joshua brings these facts very close to home. It has turned our lives upside down and meant completely unexpected changes in our circumstances – thankfully, as with almost all Critical Illness policies, we had automatic Children's Cover. Whilst it does not help solve Josh's condition, it allowed us to keep on top of finances whilst my wife and I stepped back from going to work to focus on our family's wellbeing. I know we could not have done so without this Protection.

Critical Illness Protection- the facts:

- Life insurance remains the most common protection insurance product. For decades it has been doing a brilliant job of providing financial support to those we leave behind.
- However, as medical advances have been made and people have been able to live longer with a serious medical condition, many now find that they need financial support at an earlier stage and for prolonged periods.
- This is where Critical Illness Cover (CIC) comes in. Created in recognition of the need for earlier support than that provided by Life insurance, it has proved very popular since its introduction in the mid-1980s and competition between providers has improved the range and depth of cover given across 40-60 different types of illnesses.
- One in two people born after 1960 will develop cancer in their lifetime. However, thanks to improvements in treatment, early screening and diagnosis, the number of people who die from cancer has also significantly reduced.
- Whilst cancer in children is relatively rare - every day, 10 children and young people under 25 are told they have cancer. As a consequence, parents and young people spend around £367 and

£277 respectively on extra expenses, every month, as a result of a cancer diagnosis and its treatment.

- Below are the average ages for people making claims on Critical Illness policies for the most common illnesses – on average claims are made 8 years after the policy starting.

| Condition | Male | Female |
|--------------------------------|------|--------|
| CANCER | 48 | 45 |
| HEART ATTACK | 50 | 48 |
| STROKE | 47 | 47 |
| MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS | 44 | 41 |
| TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY | 49 | 45 |

Consider this:

- 56% of adults in the UK have no life assurance, 87% don't have critical illness cover and 90% do not have any income protection.
- Six in ten British people are without any form of financial protection.
- 76% of men aged 40-59 who survive 28 days after a heart attack are still alive five years later.
- Families in the UK are more likely to have a satellite TV package than life assurance for the main breadwinner.
- Families are more likely to have pet insurance than critical illness on the main breadwinner, and

Families are more likely to have extended warranty on electrical items than income protection on the main breadwinner. Human nature tends towards thinking "it will not happen to me/us" particularly when the whole family is healthy and relatively young (ie under 40). This is precisely the best time to take action for peace of mind and take

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responsibility for the future wellbeing of the whole family (because it's less expensive and easier to get the right level of cover). I find clients who are seeking cover are doing so when it's perhaps too late, ie after they have started to have various medical complaints which impact upon cost and available cover. Please do let me know if you would like to discuss how you can protect your own family or know someone who may need help in this area of financial planning.

And Finally - A "Thank You" from Martin, Lisa, Joshua, Ben, Jack and Sam Wilkinson. The support, help, love and best wishes we have had from friends, neighbours, parents, school friends and teachers locally has been simply fantastic (or "awesome" if you are 10 or 11!). It has genuinely made a huge difference and given us all strength in the knowledge that we live in such a caring and lovely community. Thank you

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Your Letters

Dear Egerton Update Team

Congratulations on such a professional and interesting first edition. Everyone to whom I have spoken has been equally impressed.

But isn't that just typical of the way things are done in Egerton? My husband, Cedric, and I moved here two years ago and immediately felt part of the community. We have made many new friends and been welcomed into numerous clubs and societies. Thank you all for making our village such an amazing place in which to live.

**With best wishes
Elaine Narbrough**

Dear residents of Egerton

I would like to thank my customers for their generosity and kindness during my last working week before retirement. It was quite an emotional few days for me with so many people wanting to talk to me and wish me well. At times I was overwhelmed by the generosity and good wishes of everyone. Forty-one years is a long time to work in the same place and I have enjoyed all of my time delivering post in Egerton. I won't miss the early starts and being out in all weathers but I will miss my customers. The chats, the banter and friendship have made the job worth doing and I will miss you all. Thank you.

From Alan the Postman



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Over 60s receive visit from the "Queen"

Sheila Palmer reports on the activities of Egerton's Over 60s Club

Firstly, it is the Club's wish that I pass on their thanks to the Editors for the most colourful and informative *Egerton Update*. As so many of our members {27 at the moment} do not live in the village they will be receiving a copy of this report only.*

Unfortunately February's meeting had to be cancelled due to inclement weather and power cut-members couldn't meet without their cuppas!

However, a few days later 45+ members managed to attend our Winter Warmer lunch at the George in Molash. This was a most pleasant occasion, the fine sunny weather contributed and the meal was delicious. The George's bar did well!

Our March meeting was an 'open' occasion, we welcomed members from Smarden and Bethersden Clubs and a few locals. We also enrolled Janet Fraser and Mary Baker as new members. It turned out to be a most hectic one and we hope our guests don't think we make a habit of calling an ambulance to attend a member.

Here, I must mention on behalf of Bruce that the ambulance was with him within 15 minutes and after various tests he was thought fit to leave with instructions to attend his dentist and W H Hospital the next morning. Our Speaker was Miss Anne Carter [ELOC] who presented 'An Audience with Queen Victoria' taking us right through various periods in the Queen's life.

It was an entertainment in the Queen's own words-and in costume. Members and guests stood as she entered the room looking so very much like the Queen, gliding very dignified and regally, to the front accompanied by the National Anthem. Sadly, at times she could not be heard clearly due to the club's speaker system not being set up. Members

left the meeting with a box of half a dozen organic free range eggs-a gift from the Club.

At the Parish Assembly, our Chairman Gerald Plant and Secretary Jenny Oliver had prepared a display showing details of our future outings and speakers but sadly very few showed interest.

Two members served tea, coffee, wine and biscuits during the evening.

In terms of our members update, Gloria is home at the moment and cared for admirably by David. She is awaiting a blood transfusion at Maidstone Hospital. Gloria wishes to thank all those who have sent her cards and best wishes. Keep this up. Bryan Taylor reports that Brenda is home now after a month in hospital recovering after fracturing her pelvis in a fall. He cannot praise all staff in Maidstone Hospital enough. Good to hear that.

* *Egerton Update* is available on-line at www.egerton-kent.co.uk



Future dates. Mon May 9th-Sarah Gracebrook-*'Shadow of the lamp.'*

Tues May 17th outing to Bexhill with booked lunch and drink at Di Paola's Restaurant.

Mon June 13th-Geoff Hutchinson [He replaces John Pearce]

Tues June 21st -Mystery Tour to include a strawberry and cream tea.

Mon July 11th Helen Allinson-*'Kentish Village life in Victorian Times'*

Mon July 19th 3 course lunch at the Grand Burstin Hotel

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Our Kent County Councillor reports



Charlie Simkins , the KCC Councillor for Ashford Rural West Division, presents his annual report for the year to April 2016

Whilst it is well known that the financial environment for local government remains difficult, it is encouraging to report that the £500 million of savings which KCC has made over the past five years has been achieved by restructuring, commissioning services to outside organizations and reducing overheads whilst maintaining front line services. Central government continues to reduce its degree of financial assistance to local government with the ongoing reduction in the Regional Support Grant and its eventual elimination by 2020. KCC has managed once again to balance the Budget for the current year but will have to find another £50 million of savings for 2017/2018. The rise in Council Tax of 3.99% in the current year has included a specific 2% rise for adult social care which has been agreed by central government and is an example of the increasing shift in the burden of taxation.

Devolution is a subject on everyone's minds and the new government in Westminster is keen to accelerate the pace of change. Agreements are already in train with northern cities such as Manchester and it is important that the counties do not get left behind. Areas such as health, social care integration, education and Infrastructure must all be high on the Agenda. The announcement by the chancellor in the

Budget of the government's plans to transfer the governance of all schools to academies by 2022 is a highly ambitious and radical objective which would involve substantial changes in the new dividing lines of responsibilities, many of which currently lie with KCC. Thus there are many areas of devolution to be debated whilst Westminster's proposal for directly elected Mayors does not appear to find favour with public opinion.

At the Council Meeting in February, it was agreed that a contract should be awarded to Bouygues E & S Infrastructure UK to convert all street lights to LED and to optimise all night lighting through a centralised management system. The programme began in the urban area of Ashford in March and will be rolled out throughout Kent over the next 18 months. It replaces energy hungry lights and reduces carbon emissions. The new system requires low maintenance and will result in an annual saving of £5.2m at today's prices thereby paying for itself in under eight years. I would ask that when it is introduced in your area you encourage your residents to become familiar with the change before registering concern. However if these prevail over a period, Parish Councils will be able to register them with the

Joint Transportation Board.

Arrangements can then be made to adjust the lighting if appropriate. It will be apparent that there continue to be important and necessary changes underway at KCC, with the new legislative measures likely to be imposed by central Government creating further challenges. I continue to serve on a number of committees, ranging from the environment, health, waste and planning through to economic growth, regulation and superannuation. However the responsibility to my constituents lies at the top of my agenda, part of which is conducted through your parish councillors. In this regard I am planning another forum for parish council chairmen in late May when they will be encouraged to bring local issues to the table for discussion. I am also pleased to be able to encourage the development of local activities through contributions from my members grant and I encourage you to spread the word to your parishioners to apply for these.

I am aware that there are many issues which concern you all, not the least of which is the continuing growth in traffic from the ongoing development around Ashford. I am conscious of the need to consult with you over the next year to allay concerns and provide solutions where possible. I would encourage you to contact me when you feel it is appropriate by email at charlie.simkins@kent.gov.uk.

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Join the Thursday Circuit-eers!

Thursday night Circuit training is run by Egerton Running Club but everyone (at all levels of fitness) are welcome as the session is very much based around working at your own level – and having fun!

The circuit training sessions started in 2009 and run every Thursday evening from 7pm – 8pm in the Games Barn. The sessions consist of a warm-up and then a mix of cardiovascular and muscular conditioning exercises to music.

Everyone is welcome as a range of abilities are catered for. The workouts are designed for you to work to your own maximum and improve your own general fitness.

ERC Circuits:

The circuits work well for improving strength, endurance (both aerobic and anaerobic), flexibility and coordination. The circuits are a well-designed series of activities making a challenging whole body workout. The exercises are fun, refreshing and a

change from the more monotonous types of exercise.

People find circuit training motivating for all fitness levels for men, women, runners, cyclists and for improving general fitness.

Routines change every three months and move out-doors in the summer.

The Thursday evening circuits are devised and run by Mark Winter, Gym Instructor Level 2, Award in Circuits Training level 2 from the Central YMCA qualifications and fully insured.

There's no need to book; simply turn up

to the Games Barn at 7pm. Cost is £3 per session. Why not come along and bring your friends? Getting fit for summer could not be easier!

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What do I need?

A clean pair of training shoes plus comfortable sports wear is all you need. Most of the participants wear shorts/leggings and T-shirts. All circuit kit (mats, weights, skipping ropes, balls etc) are provided.

Continued from Page 3
(Interview with Steve Wellard)

I was lucky enough to be coached by Paul Farbrace as a Kent junior, spend time in the Kent Premier League and play with and against Test stars like Justin Langer, Richie Richardson and Robert Key. But at the end of the day, and above all else, I get the most enjoyment out of encouraging youngsters (whatever their ability) to get something out of cricket and out of sport. It teaches you about people, it teaches you social skills and it gives you the opportunity to make friends and be part of a community. This is also what I love about Egerton CC.

I started playing when I moved to the village in 2003/4. The Club was struggling but in the last five years we have seen a transformation. Bucking the trend in amateur club sport, we have grown, we have started a junior team, we play (effectively) a Dads and sons/daughters team on Saturday, we compete in the top village cricket division and we work hard to keep our community ties with the village. We have also been hugely supported by "the village" and in our fantastic Sports Pavilion and playing facilities.

I don't really need to say much more about why I got involved with village cricket at Egerton, to me it is a no brainer. All I want to say is spread the word, come and play and get involved. Club nights are Thursdays from 6.30pm or give me a call on 0782 5570587 or email me at steve.wellard204no@gmail.com to get involved, recommend a player or to find out when the next home game is. I would love to hear from you.

A little update from...Egerton Housing Association

Did you know that Egerton owned seven cottages known as the Good Intent Cottages situated at Stonebridge Green?

In the early 1970s when the old Good Intent Public House closed, a group of local residents formed Egerton Housing Association and with local fund raising and various grants they purchased the old pub and converted it into five two-bedroom cottages and one one-bedroom cottage and in 2007 the old barrel store was converted into the seventh property.

The cottages are managed by an elected committee of local people to provide rented accommodation for local residents at an affordable rate. For the



younger generation it means they can start to live an independent life with their partner at a low rent, stay in Egerton close to their family and start saving for their own home in the future. To apply for one of these cottages or for further information contact the Secretary, (details below).

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The Villages

Therapy for facing your fears

Yvonne Fernando, Charing -based, NLP Master Practitioner & Life Coach lets us know how easily fears and phobias can be overcome with NLP. In fact, she says it's one of the things that NLP is best known for.

With summer on the horizon and the holiday season in sight, fear of flying and travel is high on the agenda along with fears of snakes, bats, mice and other creepy crawlies.

It's not uncommon to be a little scared of the odd thing and that's something that most of us can relate to. Ideally, life would be better without any fears at all, but when fears become severe enough to cause significant anxiety and interfere with normal life, they're called phobias - an intense fear of something, which in reality, poses little or no real danger.

If you have a phobia, you may realise that it's unreasonable, but you still can't control the effect it has on you. Simply thinking about it, can send you into a spin of anxiety, while being exposed to the object of your

fear can be terrifying and overwhelming. Phobics will often go to any lengths to avoid the source of their fear. For example, a claustrophobic might turn down the job of their dreams if it means getting into a lift every day! In this way, fears and phobias can really stop you doing the things you want to or need to - even the simplest tasks may seem impossible.

Fears and phobias are a reaction to a physical or emotional threat or trauma that happened at some point in time, sometimes way back in our past. The response was learned immediately, in one go, rather than over time. In NLP this is known as 'one step learning'. It's usually the body's way of keeping us safe - self preservation. However, the unconscious mind can hold on to this response, long after it serves us. Often it isn't necessary to experience the source of the fear, simply the mention of it or associated sounds, pictures or smells, can set it in motion.

There are literally thousands of fears and phobias, including well-known ones like fear of flying, spiders, open spaces, closed spaces, dentists, doctors, hospitals and needles and many seemingly irrational ones like trees, rain, holes, velvet and even sleeping.

Working with a NLP practitioner and using proven NLP techniques will enable you to overcome fears and phobias, quickly and easily.

The process allows you to identify triggers, recode the negative experience and extract any relevant learning that might be helpful.

After that, it is possible to lay it to rest and move forward.

This process can also be used to successfully deal with: PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder); any kind of traumatised scenarios (e.g. victims from war scenarios); emotional & sexual abuse; physical traumas in the body (e.g. before or after surgery) and more.

Yvonne supports clients with change; to give them more confidence, help them become 'unstuck' and move forward - keeping them focused, motivated and on track.

Yvonne sees clients mainly at her private practice or at Charing Surgery.

One to one sessions are designed to open up horizons and create new possibilities.

Yvonne also runs regular workshops and courses throughout the year including Creative Journaling, and Relaxation Mindfulness Meditation - details can be found on the website.

You can contact Yvonne on 01233 878474 for an appointment, with any questions or visit www.yvonnefernandonlp.co.uk for more details.

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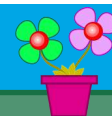
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The Garden in Spring/Summer



A regular column of a few tips and advice for the amateur garden

JULY

MAY

Plant summer bedding
Prune spring-flowering shrubs
Finish sowing hardy annuals
Put support frames into herbaceous borders to support plants with a floppy habit i.e., Lupins
Dig up, divide and replant polyanthus after they have flowered, discard any with disease
Protect susceptible plants from slugs
Clear out spring bedding from beds and borders when it fades, and fork in fertiliser
Plant hanging baskets and put them in the greenhouse until the risk of frost is gone
Watch out for pest and disease on all plants
Deadhead spring bulbs (but do not cut the foliage back yet)
Ensure newly planted plants are kept watered in dry spells

JUNE

Plant summer bedding
Plant up window boxes and troughs
Prune spring flowering shrubs to prevent them becoming overgrown
Thin out seedlings of hardy annuals that were sown directly into the soil
Sprinkle rose feed around rose plants to encourage strong growth and a good flower display
Spray roses to control pest and disease if necessary
Remove suckers from Rose bushes when they are seen
Support taller annuals and perennials with pea sticks pushed into the soil
Clip hedges
Water newly planted shrubs and perennials in dry periods

Prune late spring and early summer flowering shrubs immediately after flowering to promote new growth
Pick Sweet Peas to increase the flowering season
Deadhead Roses and feed regularly
Spray Roses to control black spot, mildew and aphids
Water hanging baskets and containers at least once a day and feed once a week
Feed perennials and shrubs with a granular fertiliser and hoe into the soil
Remove faded flowers on Delphiniums and Lupins. This may encourage a second flowering
Trim spring flowering heathers to remove flower heads and to keep in shape
Tie in and train new growth on climbing and rambling Roses
Water newly planted shrubs and perennials in dry conditions
Semi-ripe cuttings can now be taken from shrubs and rooted in a cold frame

The Sacconi Quartet with Freddy Kempf

When: Sunday 3rd July, 6.30pm

Where: The Millennium Hall, Egerton

The programme will include:

Haydn, String Quartet Op 76, no 2 (nicknamed 'Fifths'),

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the Royal Academy of Music, he is now one of today's most successful pianists, performing to sell-out audiences all over the world.



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Your Parish Council Reports

This section has been written to give you a flavour of the meetings and find out some of the projects being undertaken by Egerton Parish Council. The full minutes are available on the Parish Council Website

FEBRUARY MINUTES

Footpaths and stiles: The footpath next to Rock Cottage has had the stile removed by KCC. In place now are three posts which were supposed to restrict access but have been incorrectly placed and have opened up the area. As the landowner has had difficulty obtaining agreement for a more suitable replacement stile, it was suggested that he should contact

Charlie Simkins. [This has now been resolved]

Highways: Following the problem of fly-tipping at Stonebridge Green, Geraldine Dyer will follow this up. Morrison utilities are carrying out works for BT Openreach along Crockenhill Road by the Old Harrow. There are barriers on one side of the road so forcing traffic onto the verge on the opposite side,

this is damaging the road edge. This will be reported to Highways.

Parish Plan: On Wednesday 27th January The Parish Plan committee, several EPC Councillors and the Clerk had a meeting to consider the proposals mentioned in the Parish Plan document. The following items in are as a result of this discussion.

* **Pre-school:** The plans have been approved, so this project is moving forward subject to further funding being available.

* **Guidelines on renewable energy:** This will be looked in to.

* **Mobile phone reception:** The Council are awaiting the outcome of the survey carried out by EE.

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* **High speed broadband:** Open-reach are very active within the village. BT state that the upgraded system will become 'live' later this year.

* **Road markings:** The Council will contact Highways to have speed limit markers renewed. A suggestion was put forward to have speed gate markers at the entrances to the village.

* **Improved facilities at St James' church:** The hoped for improvements are being blocked by the Diocese, who are not prepared to allow the external wall of the church to be breached.

* **Additional housing for older people:** This project is moving forward.

* **Group purchasing of utilities:** Richard is to contact ACRK for advice.

* **Car parking:** It has been suggested that car parking spaces could be marked on the car park. It was decided that painting white lines would not be appropriate, but that dark coloured bricks might be suitable. More signs could be erected on Elm Close and Rock Hill Road to show where car park is situated.

* **M20 noise reduction:** This has been lobbied for several times already.

* **Millennium Hall improvements:** Plans will be looked into once the Pre-school have moved to the school.

* **Web site:** Once the new Parish magazine is produced this will be put on the web site. It is hoped more clubs/societies will use the web site for the benefit of all in the village.

* **Tennis courts:** It was decided that money should not be spent on putting public tennis courts in the

village as some are available in Pluckley and Bethersden and there are many privately-owned courts that could be available.

* **Mains drainage:** Jonathan Elworthy is liaising with Southern Water who are to carry out works on the treatment plant. He will try and obtain a map of on-going works by SW within the village.

* **Lighting:** The Clerk is to contact an electrician to remedy the problem of no lighting outside the Committee room. Other low level proposals would be considered.

* **Roads:** Although a number of roads within the village have been resurfaced there is still some work outstanding, which will be reported to Highways.

* **Bus service:** It had been suggested that Wealden Wheels could help. However they are not a public bus service operator; they are bookable transport for groups. They are also in need of more volunteer drivers.

The members of the Parish Council thanked all involved in producing the Parish Plan; a copy has been delivered to every household. It is hoped another meeting will be held in a years time. Meanwhile the Parish Council would follow through many of the proposals in the plan.

Community Assets: The pub: A group of Councillors and the Borough Councillor met the current landlord of the Milk House, Sissinghurst who are hoping to take on the lease of The George subject to putting in a planning application for the pub's refurbishment.

The shop: an up-to-date location plan has been forwarded to ABC following consultation with Colin who owns the shop.

Hall Car Park Drainage: It is hoped, dependent on the weather, that the work will be carried out in the 2nd week of February for the drain near the committee room.

Parish Forum: A report was given by the attending Councillor that there will be a consultation on May 27th by the boundary commission on Borough Council wards. A consultation will take place on junction 10a of the M20, (see Highways England web site) and a decision will be taken this summer. There are no improvements proposed for the A28 in connection with the Chilmington Green development.

Parish Assembly: The Millennium Hall has been booked for Thursday 17th March at 7.30. The Parish Assembly is not a Council meeting but a gathering of all clubs/societies for the village residents to find out what is happening in their village. All welcome to come along and have a glass of wine or light refreshments.

Commonwealth Flag day: Pat has the flag and will contact The Church to request permission to fly the flag.

Beacons: On 21st April 2016 the Queen will have her 90th birthday and across the country beacons will be lit. It is intended that the Egerton village beacon will be lit.

Spring Clean: 2nd April meet at the Millennium Hall car park at 10.00am, all children must be accompanied by an adult. It has been registered with ABC that this event will be taking



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place and all health and safety paperwork has been completed.

New houses near Smarden A company from Cheshire have put in an application for 50 units adjacent to The Charter Hall in Smarden, Geraldine noted that a meeting had been held in Smarden as residents are opposed to the development. Richard suggested that it was beyond our remit to oppose or support planning applications in other parishes.

Houses along New Road It was noted that many of the Council houses along New Road have been painted with various coloured coatings. The Clerk is to contact ABC to enquire why EPC was not consulted.

number of white lines denoting holes to be repaired along this stretch of road. The Clerk would follow up on the barriers that have been left opposite Brook Gate Caravan Park on Forstal Road and whether they are still necessary and she would also report two pot holes on Iden Lane and the dreadful state of repair of Green Hill Lane.

Group purchasing of utilities: Richard has not contacted ACRK about bulk purchasing of utilities but has found another company who may be of assistance.

Lighting: A sensor light has been fitted outside the Committee room at the Village Hall.

Hall Car Park Drainage: The drain by the Committee Room has now been re-done.

Parish Assembly: Many clubs have responded to the Clerk and will attend.

Commonwealth Flag day: Pat has the flag and permission has been given for the flag to be raised on the Church at 10.00am on Monday 14th March. The flag raising will be followed by coffee served in the Church.

Beacons: On 21st April 2016 the Queen will have her 90th birthday and across the country beacons will be lit. The Egerton village beacon will be lit

at 8.30pm on the Recreation Ground.

Games Barn: The Games Barn AGM will be held on Tuesday 22nd March at 7.30pm in the Sports Pavilion.

BBQ or similar when hall booked: Roger is no longer a Councillor and is stepping down from taking bookings for the hall. As he will no longer be available, the Clerk will submit some paperwork to the new booking Clerk to clarify the Parish Council and Insurance company policy about the use of activities outside the hall.

TRO Stisted Way: The proposed TRO in Stisted Way will be a single yellow line either side of road with restrictions as follows:

Monday – Friday only 8.00-10.00am and 2.30-4.30pm no parking with exception to taxis, buses and public service vehicles.

Financial regulation: Richard read out the amendments which The Council adopted as the revised Financial Regulations.

Chantlers Meadow: Following reports from a local resident, Luke Versteeg of English Rural Housing will be following up on the residency conditions on one of the properties in this development.

Outcome of Community

MARCH MINUTES

Footpaths and stiles: Two footpaths remain obstructed from last month's report; Appleberry House in Coach Road and Heronsdale in Wanden Lane. The EPC footpath warden has written to Michael Ellis (Footpath Manager at KCC). In New Road, the footpath to the Orchard and Tumulus will have a kissing gate installed at the New Road end by the landowner and KCC will replace the stile with a kissing gate into the Orchard. The broken gate to the left of Rock Hill House is yet to be resolved and this will be officially reported to KCC.

Highways: Following the problem of fly-tipping on Stonebridge Green, Geraldine Dyer is pursuing this. The Clerk has reported the damage caused on Crocken Hill Road whilst works were being carried out by Morrison Utilities. It was noted that there are a



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Governance: ABC accepted the inclusion of Woodside, High Banks and Horseshoe Cottage in Field Mill Road into the Parish of Egerton.

Cars on recreation ground A meeting will be held with members of the Playing fields Committee to find a solution to inappropriate and unsociable driving and damage to the football pitch.

Hall bookings: Thank you to Dee and Roger Harper for carrying out this task for so many years. The new Bookings Clerk will be Jim Cook. Details of how to book the hall are on the Egerton web site www.egerton-kent.co.uk

Broadband: Egerton has been enabled. To find out if you are eligible yet, check on the Openreach website (www.superfast-openreach.co.uk/where-and-when) and put in your post code.

UK Power networks: Parishes are to sign up vulnerable people within the villages. A sub-committee will update Egerton's Emergency Plan.

Dog napping: All dog owners are reminded to keep a close check on their dogs as there have been some cases of dog kidnapping near to Egerton.

Field Edge Stones: Some large stones have been placed on the edge between the field and the road at the top of Green Hill Lane. The suggestion is that they are too close to the road so the Clerk will follow this up.

APRIL MINUTES

Footpaths and stiles: Julian Swift has repaired the gate by Rock Hill House. During the Parish Assembly, 8 people came forward to work as volunteers to help with clearing vegetation as necessary using the new tools purchased with the funds donated following the Fete. There are still some kissing gates awaiting to be installed.

Highways: The potholes in Iden Lane, reported by the Clerk have been repaired. The culvert has collapsed on Crocken Hill Road adjacent to Island Farm and the side of the road has been fenced off awaiting repairs. There is still a hole on the edge of the road at Brook Gate, Forstal Road which has been fenced off awaiting repair. The Clerk is to write to Darren Anderson again and report the very bad state of repair of the road along Crocken Hill Road to Pemples Cross.

Parish Assembly: The Clerk was thanked for her excellent work in arranging and running the evening. Richard thanked everyone again for his Community Award.

Commonwealth Flag day: Bill Smyth was thanked for raising the flag on the church tower. Pat Parr was thanked for arranging the purchase of the flag and organising the refreshments following the ceremony.

Beacons: On April 21st, in celebration of the 90th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II, a beacon will be lit at 8.30pm on the recreation ground. A program has been made

available, the National Anthem is to be sung, a message from Prince Charles is to be read out, then the beacon will be set alight, followed by Happy Birthday to Her Majesty.

Games Barn: On Tuesday 22nd March the AGM was held in the sports pavilion. Bill Smyth is Chairman and Joan Smyth is Bookings Clerk.

Recreation ground usage: A form is to be created to inform persons booking the Millennium Hall that, if they wish to hold outside activities, they must supply the Clerk with all necessary insurance cover paperwork before their event. It was suggested that KALC may have a template for a form.

TRO: The traffic restriction order for Stisted Way, is being looked at by ABC.

Chantlers Meadow: Following various reports from villagers, the Clerk will contact Luke Versteeg, English Rural Housing to check the occupancy conditions of one of the properties.

Outcome of Community

Governance: The three properties in Charing Heath will not become under Egerton boundary until 2019 when the next local elections are due.

Green Hill Road: The large stones at the top of the road adjacent to New

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Road have been moved by the land owner further onto the field.

U K Power networks: Have suggested the names of vulnerable people within villages should be placed on a list within an emergency plan. Egerton already has an Emergency Plan and this was confirmed to be up-to-date.

Flower pouches on railing by Telecottage Following a request from a villager to place flower baskets on the railing the Parish Council voted against the idea.

New bigger rubbish bin at bus stop, New Road. The Clerk will source a new bin.

Trees overhanging 18 Elm Close-The Clerk will contact two tree surgeons for quotes to lop the overhanging trees.

Helicopter landing The Clerk will check with the playing fields committee that no activities will be held on the fields on the date of the wedding. Then contact the helicopter company for all paperwork.

Bin at Millennium hall The Clerk will arrange to have the green recycling bins taken away so all rubbish will be placed in black bin. The Clerk will contact ABC to request an extra black bin.

Spring Clean The day was a success with many volunteers turning up to help. The Clerk and Pat Parr were thanked for arranging everything.

Sign post-The vegetation covering the sign adjacent to the George has been cleared.

30 MPH sign The sign at Stonebridge Green near to White House has been

damaged. This will be reported.

Walnut Tree- A resident at Glebelands has a walnut tree in a pot which is getting too large and has donated it to the village. One suggestion was to move it to Stonebridge Green near to the red telephone box to replace one that was there previously.

George Pub A planning application has been submitted to ABC for various works.

Grass mowing- The Clerk has received a quote from Heber Horticulture to mow/strim grass areas as in previous years. The Council voted in favour of the quote.

Recreation ground works A site meeting was held with the Parish Council and the Playing Fields Committee to discuss the problem of cars driving onto the playing fields. It has been decided to place bollards where necessary to prevent the problem.

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It has been over 15 years since the Egerton Telecottage computer centre was established in the Millennium Hall. Extended in 2003 to give lessons on a range of topics to local people, the Telecottage has been supported by a small group of volunteers who enjoy passing on their computer knowledge and technical expertise. Whilst two tutors from outside the village are able to provide one- to-one lessons on topics of interest , the centre now mainly concentrates on providing a computer advice and support service for two hours on Saturday mornings.

There is a rota of volunteers able to attend each week and details of who is available can be found on the village website www.egerton-kent.co.uk/rota.

The Telecottage team would be delighted to hear from anyone with an interest in computers who would like to join them. Just go to the website and fill in a contact form. Alternatively the AGM of the Telecottage will be held on Monday 6 June in the Telecottage where you can find out more about its activities.

Telecottage AGM: Monday June 6th

Millenium Hall, Elm Close,
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egertonpreschool@btinternet.com
www.egertonplaygroup.co.uk



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VILLAGE DIARY

Regular Weekly

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|--|---|---|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| | 1pm Mother & Toddler (VH) 6pm Yoga (VH) 7pm Short Mat Bowls (GB) 7.45pm Yoga (VH) | 9am ERC (SP) 11am Egerton Friends (Garden schedule) From 2.30pm Library (See schedule) 6pm ERC (cycling - see website) | 1.30pm Yoga (VH) 7pm ERC Circuits (GB) | 8.45am ERC (SP) 9.30am Pilates (GB) 1.30 Short Mat Bowls (GB) 2pm Farmers Market (VH) | 10am - 12pm Telecottage | 9am ERC (see website) |

May 2016

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|---------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|-----|--|---|
| 2 <i>Bank Holiday</i> | 3 10am Borough Councillor (VH) 8pm EPC (VH) | 4 7.30pm Women's Institute (VH) | 5 | 6 | 7 Egerton Players Murder Mystery (VH) | 8 10am ERC/School 6th Annual Bluebell Run (Egerton School) |
| 9 2pm Over 60s (VH) | 10 | 11 2.30pm Arts Soc Lecture (VH) 7.30pm WI Table Tennis (VH). 8pm Millennium Hall AGM (VH) | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 7pm Egerton Pre-School Quiz (VH) | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 7.30pm WI Table Tennis (VH) | 26 7.30 Egerton Film Society (VH) | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 <i>Bank Holiday</i> | 31 8pm Egerton Folk Club (Queens Arms Pub) | | | | | 1 |

Key to diary: Venues

VH = Village Hall
GB = Games Barn
SP = Sports Pavilion
PVH = Pluckley Village Hall
SJC = St James' Church

Key to diary: Clubs & Societies

EPC = Egerton Parish Council
ERC = Egerton Running Club
EMC = Egerton Music Club
ECC = Egerton Cricket Club
EMF = Egerton Music Festival

June 2016

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|---|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----|---|--------------------------|
| | | 1 7.30pm Women's Institute (VH) | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 Telecottage AGM (Telecottage) | 7 10am Borough Councillor (VH) 8pm EPC (VH) | 8 7.30pm WI Table Tennis (VH) | 9 | 10 | 11 2pm Churchyard Walk (St James) 7pm Pluckley Quiz (Pluckley VH) | 12 |
| 13 2pm Over 60s (VH) | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 <i>Fathers Day</i> |
| 20 3.30pm Laugh A Minute (VH/playing fields) | 21 | 22 7.30pm WI Table Tennis (VH) | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 8pm Egerton Folk Club (Queens Arms Pub) | 29 | 30 7.30 Egerton Film Society (VH) | | | |

July 2016

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 Cricket Week (cricket pitch/SP) | 3 Cricket Week (cricket pitch/SP) 6.30pm EMF Festival Concert |
| 4 Cricket Week (cricket pitch/SP) | 5 Cricket Week (cricket pitch/SP) 10am Borough Councillor (VH) 8pm EPC (VH) | 6 Cricket Week (cricket pitch/SP) 7.30pm Women's Institute (VH) | 7 Cricket Week (cricket pitch/SP) | 8 Cricket Week & BBQ (cricket pitch/SP) | 9 | 10 |
| 11 2pm Over 60s (VH) | 12 | 13 MAGAZINE COPY DATE 7.30pm WI Table Tennis (VH) | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 8pm Egerton Folk Club (Queens Arms Pub) | 27 7.30pm WI Table Tennis (VH) | 28 | 29 | 30 7.30pm EMC Piano Recital (Egerton House) | |

Useful Village Contacts List

Council

| | | |
|----------------------|---|--------------|
| Member of Parliament | Damian Green | 01233 820911 |
| County Councillor | Charlie Simkins | 01233 756705 |
| Borough Councillor | Geraldine Dyer | 01233 770213 |
| Parish Councillors: | Richard King (Chairman), Peter Rawlinson (Vice Chairman), Jennifer Buchanan, Claire Foinette, Ambrose Oliver, Tim Oliver, Pat Parr, Alison Richey, Rob Walker | |
| Parish Clerk | Heather James | 01233 756501 |
| Tree Warden | Peter Rawlinson | 01233 756393 |

Church

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| G7 Benefice Rector | Revd Sheila Cox | 01233 712598 |
| Youth & Families Minister: | Mim Oliver | 07725 112141 |
| Egerton Free Church | Revd Ambrose Oliver | 01233 756459 |
| Egerton Churchwardens: | John Lumley | 01233 756249 |
| | Linde Ovington-Lee | 01233 756572 |
| PCC Secretary St James' | Jan Burgess | 01233 756147 |
| Flowers, St James' | Priscilla Harper | 01233 756437 |
| Bell ringers, St James' | Mike Yarrow | 01233 756387 |
| Friends of St James Church | Dick Crabb | 01233 756517 |
| Kent God's Acre Project | Sarah Widd | 01233 756460 |

Schools & Playgroups

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Egerton Primary School | Lee Selby (Headteacher) | 01233 756274 |
| Egerton Pre-School | Emily Leggat (Manager) | 07773 600982 |
| Egerton Mother & Toddler Group | Kimmy Burbridge | 01622 891201 |

Clubs & Organisations

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Air Training Corps (Ashford Squadron) | | 01233 637035 |
| Bethersden Cub Scouts | Mary Ford | 01233 820989 |
| Egerton Film Society | Richard King | 01233 756592 |
| Egerton Friends | Elaine Graham | 01233 756137 |
| Egerton Housing Association | Sue Palmer | 01233 756686 |
| Egerton Music Club | John Fraser | 01233 756254 |
| Egerton Telecottage | Carol Hulm | 07990 574214 |
| Egerton Players | Vanessa Perrin | 01622 851854 |
| Egerton Over Sixties Club | Jenny/Theo Oliver | 01233 756452 |
| Egerton Village Hall Bookings | Jim Cooke | 01233 840479 |
| Egerton Women's Institute | Gale King | 01233 756592 |
| Headcorn Scout Group | Ann Carroll | 01622 890061 |
| Weald of Kent Protection Society | Gale King | 01233 756592 |

Sport

| | | |
|---|-----------------|--------------|
| Egerton Games Barn Bookings | Joan Smyth | 01233 840362 |
| Egerton Sports Pavilion Bookings | Bill Smyth | 01233 840362 |
| Egerton Cricket Club | Paul Hope | 07885 509751 |
| Egerton Football Club | Geoff Wickens | 01233 756453 |
| Egerton & Pluckley Junior Football Club | John Harrison | 01233 840822 |
| Egerton Running Club | Sarah Elworthy | 01233 756205 |
| Egerton Short Mat Bowls | Mike Yarrow | 01233 756387 |
| Egerton Walking Group | Claire Foinette | 01233 756714 |

Emergencies, Care & Services

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| Ashford Citizen's Advice Bureau | www.ashfordadvice.org | 01233 626185 | |
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| | Headcorn | www.headcornsurgery.nhs.uk | 01622 890294 |
| | Lenham | www.lenvalleypractice.co.uk | 01622 858341 |
| Dog Warden | Colin Leek | 01233 330340 | |
| Electricity | EDF | 0800 783 8866 | |
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| Gas Leaks | British Gas | 0800 111 999 | |
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| Hospital | William Harvey | 01233 633331 | |
| Neighbourhood Watch | Lois Tilden | 01233 756221 | |
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