



# EYNESHAM ECHO

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Issue No. 110

April 2008

## Atkins and the Abbey Fishponds

### Fishponds winter update 2007/8

A big thank you to the 16 members of Atkins Limited, Water and Environment Department, from Oasis Business Park, who spent a day of their annual leave working on the Fishponds. They helped to remove the boughs of a willow which formed a bridge to an island created between the 'new' pond and the recently excavated ditch.

This involved damming the ditch either side of the boughs so that

the water level and silt could be lowered to enable their removal. We now have an island which we hope will be sufficiently secure to encourage ground nesting birds. They also cleared one of the ancient fishpond irrigation channels which is illustrated in the abbey interpretation board. Not only all that but they cleared the scrub from the dry areas of the moat. And lastly, but by no means least, the team surveyed the area to provide us with a levels survey which should help us understand the water flow in the fishponds and the irrigation channels.



Over the winter our regular team of volunteers have cleared the path through the blackthorn clump and moved some logs to make a secluded sitting place. They have also cleared the bank of the Chilbrook near the playing fields and pollarded some willows to rejuvenate them whilst restricting their spread.

A small excavation exposed what has been identified as the road to Stanton Harcourt that was closed in 1217. Pottery and horseshoes found within the road surface confirmed that the road was in use before this date. Walls and other features were also discovered which were left exposed for a time so that people could see them. Sadly we have now had to cover these up because they were being vandalised.

### **Your** Parish Council

#### **Parish Council Village Drop-Ins**

Our first village drop-in was a success with six parishioners calling in to meet the two Parish Councillors and myself with questions etc. The next drop in will be held in the Bartholomew Room on Saturday 5 April 10am-11.30am and we hope to see you. Don't worry if you are not sure if the question is one we can answer - we can usually point you in the right direction if we don't know the answer.

#### **The Pavilion Party hire**

Are you planning a birthday party? Have you considered hiring the Pavilion, Oxford Road?

It is ideal for summer birthdays with plenty of open space and a lovely sunny aspect. It's great for children's parties and the hire rates are reasonable.

The usual fee for a session is £36 but a £6 discount will be offered to the first five people booking a children's party over the next month. Sessions are 9am - 1pm, 1pm - 5pm or 6pm - 10pm. So why not give the Parish Clerk a ring and check out availability and get your party booked now?

# The Echo

## Volunteers needed!

Debbie Seeney has put the Echo together for many years now and has given many hours over to the publication. However, she has decided that it is time to move on and hand it over to a new volunteer. The Parish Council are very grateful for all her hard work over the years and know that the local community would all wish to share in offering her our thanks.

Would you be interested in taking over the compilation of the Echo? It is produced bi-monthly and all items for inclusion are sent to the editor – the Parish Clerk. The Parish Council is working on a new format for The Echo and any training etc required could be arranged. If you have a few hours to spare every couple of months and are computer literate we would love to hear from you preferably by 20 April – just contact the Parish Clerk – details on the back page.

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## Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish meeting will take place in the Village Hall on 22 April at 7.30pm. Copies of the Annual Report will be available from the library from Friday 18 April for collection or will be available at the meeting.

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## Churchyard

As the available space in the churchyard reduces, the Parish Council is looking for suitable land for a churchyard extension in the village. If you know of or own any land that could be suitable for this please let the parish clerk or one of the councillors know. All help much appreciated.

## OCC Highways

The Parish Council walked the village with Paul Wilson from Highways at the beginning of March and he has promised to arrange for resurfacing of the footway on Witney Road as the pavement is very cracked and the bus shelter becomes a pond in the rain. It is hoped that this will be carried out very shortly. We also highlighted several other problem areas in the village, which will be worked on in the coming year.

## Play Areas

Many thanks to the mums who have put their names forward to join the play area committee. The committee will be carrying out a review of the play area equipment in the village as it is appreciated that the new equipment on Witney Road shows that the other areas could do with some attention in the future.

# East Eynsham

The Parish Council is continuing in discussions with both OCC & WODC with regard to the payments that could be made to the local infrastructure if the proposed development proceeds. Items high on the wish list include play area refurbishment, astro turf, improvements to the library, land for a new churchyard and more. Once the development plans have been submitted for comment we will advise the parish so they can inspect them.

If you have any queries regarding anything included here or anything else that the Parish Council can help with please do not hesitate to contact Sue Lee, Parish Clerk – Eynsham\_pc@btinternet.com or 01869 347652 .

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## Your Parish News



### Eynsham History Group

Members and friends are invited to our Summer Outing to Rousham Park House and Garden on Wednesday 18 June. The coach will leave from Eynsham Car Park, Back Lane at 1.00pm. The outing will include a guided tour of the house, time for a walk around the landscaped gardens, and tea with cake at The Holt Hotel. Please contact Revd. Michael Farthing (Outings Secretary), 32 Falstaff Close, Eynsham, OX29 4QA. Telephone 01865 883805 for a booking form.

## Eynsham Swap Shop

A swap shop took place on Saturday morning 8 March in the Scout HQ in Back Lane and it was a great success. Over 100 people visited and about 220 kg of items were taken to be re-used.

### *What* is a Swap Shop?

It is a waste exchange event where members of the public have the chance to dispose of things they don't want, things that are still useable, and pick up something they need – all for free! Many people describe it as a kind of cashless bring and buy sale. Participants do not need to bring anything in order to take away goods and vice versa.

There seems to be the interest and demand for more swap shops in Eynsham. In future we can benefit from grants if we form a Community Action Group, to encourage recycling and waste reduction. Please contact me if you are interested in being part of a Community Action Group (CAG): Liz Bickley 01865 884496 liz.bickley@tesco.net

## Virtual High Street

Eynsham shops & services need a promotion pack. Opportunity for a new graphic designer to make local contacts? Call Corin Willett on 01865 731717 or email info@eynsham-emporium.co.uk

## Bartholomew School Summer Black Tie Ball

As you may well have heard, as part of the 50 years of education in Eynsham celebrations, a Bartholomew Summer Black Tie Ball is to be held on Saturday 19 July 2008. It is being held at the Bartholomew School, Eynsham from 7pm – 1am. The cost is £50 per person and includes a drinks reception, dinner, entertainment, live music and dancing.

Tickets for the Ball will be available from 1 April 2008 which can be purchased in person from Bartholomew School during term time, The Deli, Liz & Alan Micklewright, Diane Caverhill or Debbie Lee. Please make cheques payable to Bartholomew School and on the back of the cheque write the names of those people attending, a contact telephone number and if there are any special dietary requirements. Any queries can be directed to:  
bartholomewball@hotmail.co.uk.

We look forward to seeing you at what promises to be a spectacular evening.



## Bartholomew Players' spring production

**Double Cut**, a thriller by Alfred Shaughnessy, is the Bartholomew Players' spring production at Eynsham Village Hall on Wednesday 14, Thursday 15, and Friday 16 May. Tickets are £7, concessions £6 from Evenlode DIY or on the door. Doors open 7.15pm and the performance starts 7.45pm.

## Artweeks in Eynsham

The annual Artweeks returns to the county from 3–26 May 2008 and will be in North Oxfordshire for the week of the 10–18 May. Eynsham will be buzzing with activity during this week with no fewer than 10 venues and at least 20 exhibitors. The best way to plan your visit is with an Artweeks Guide, available from libraries, Tourist Information Centres, museums, galleries, shops and many other public venues. Or visit [www.artweeks.org](http://www.artweeks.org) to download the Guide or search for artists by name, location or genre.

## Eynsham Country Market

is open every Thursday morning from 9 – 10.30am in the Church Hall, The Square, Eynsham and here you can buy locally homemade cakes, savouries, cookies, preserves and pickles. There are vegetables, plants and eggs in season. There are also crafts, cards, woodwork, jewellery and knitted goods. Coffee is served from 9am. Orders can be made for collection on the day (to be collected please by 9.45am on the day). On the first Thursday of every month our customers are invited to a 'free tasting'!

If you are interested in becoming a supplier to Eynsham Country Market, to leave an order or just make an enquiry, please telephone Sue Butler-Miles on 01865 880928 or Judith Bowden on 01993 704005.

## Council Tax

The District Council share for a Band D property in 2008/2009 has been set at £74.88 – up 4.9% – but second lowest again of all 238 English shire councils.

Revised charges for each band:

<b>A</b>	£904.72	<b>E</b>	£1658.66
<b>B</b>	£1055.50	<b>F</b>	£1960.23
<b>C</b>	£1206.30	<b>G</b>	£2261.80
<b>D</b>	£1357.08	<b>H</b>	£2714.16

## Eynsham Fire Station

We currently have a vacancy for a retained fire fighter, male or female so if you are 18+, physically fit and can provide cover during the working week, we have a vacancy for you. The job entails responding to fires, road traffic accidents and covering other fire stations. This is a very worth while service to the community with full training given *and* you get paid for it! If interested, please ring the fire station on 01865 881337 and leave your name & telephone number and we will get back to you.

## Childrens' books

Written and illustrated by Nan Westwood, can be found at the Bartholomew Room, The Square, Eynsham on Friday afternoon 23 May and all day Saturday 24 May. Her greeting cards and pictures will also be available.

## Royal British Legion

The Eynsham branch of the Royal British Legion has it's 80th anniversary this year but needs new members. It has meetings in alternate months some at the Village Hall & others at the White Hart. For further details please contact the secretary – Phil Whittaker – 01865 882030



## **Eynsham** Parish Councillors

Mr Gordon Beach, *Chairman*, 11 Fruitlands  
telephone: 01865 880979  
email: gordonbeach@btinternet.com

Mr David Rossiter, *Vice Chairman*, 5 Bartholomew Close  
telephone: 01865 881568  
email: david.rossiter@ntlworld.com

Mr Richard Andrews, 17 Dovehouse Close  
telephone: 01865 880106  
email: richard.andrews23@ntlworld.com

Mrs Adrienne Beavis, 100 Acre End Street  
telephone: 01865 731515

Mrs Leslie Gerrans, 19 Acre End Street  
telephone: 01865 880107  
email: jonathan.gerrans@hotmail.co.uk

Mr Trevor Green, 6 Chilbridge Road  
telephone: 01865 880428

Mrs Verity Hughes, 24 Beech Road  
telephone: 01865 880243  
email: verity@eynsham.demon.co.uk

Mrs Margaret Jones, 7 Thornbury Road  
telephone: 01865 881724

Mr Jonathan Miller, 41 Wytham View  
telephone: 01865 880117

Ms Sue Osborne, 38 Beech Road  
telephone: 01865 88028  
email: suzanne.osborne@bodley.ox.ac.uk

Mrs Linda Pialek, 3 Abbey Street  
telephone: 01865 883811

Ms Jackie Tinson, 33 Hanborough Close  
telephone: 01865 880830  
email: jax.jax@tiscali.co.uk

Dr Fred Wright, 'Charfield' 15 Cassington Road  
telephone: 01865 881496

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Sue Lee  
19 Bradshaw Close, Steeple Aston, Bicester OX25 4SA  
telephone: 01869 347652  
email: eynsham\_pc@btinternet.com

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Deadline for the next issue is 15 May 2008. Items for inclusion to Sue Lee, Parish Clerk. Details above.

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## **West Oxfordshire** District Councillors

Ms Frances Pike,  
telephone: 01865 881382  
email: frances.pike@westoxon.gov.uk

Mr Richard Andrews,  
telephone: 01865 880106  
email: richard.andrews@westoxon.gov.uk

Mrs Margaret Stevens,  
telephone: 01865 882384  
email: margaret.stevens@westoxon.gov.uk

## **Oxfordshire County** **Councillor** for Eynsham

Charles Mathew,  
telephone: 01865 881915  
email: charles.mathew@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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## **Eynsham** **Neighbourhood Team**

The Eynsham team, PC Richard Conner, Neighbourhood Specialist Officer, PCSO Robert Hopping and PCSO Helen Keentop have three priorities for the coming year. These are:

**Police visibility**  
**Speeding**  
**Youths hanging around/Lack of youth facilities**

They can be contacted on the non-emergency number: 0845 8 505 505 or email: eynsham@whosmybobby.co.uk

**In an emergency call 999**



*PCSO Robert Hopping and PCSO Helen Keentop*