



Thousands flock to Carnival

Despite a damp start and finish to the day, more than 3,500 people attended this year's Carnival on July 5. The Parish Council heartily congratulates the Carnival Committee on yet another tremendous success following on from all their hard work in the mammoth task of planning and organising. Despite media reports that the need to insure floats was having an adverse effect on events like this, the procession once again attracted all eyes, with Acre End Pre-School winning the prize for best decorated vehicle. Their float – inspired by their summer curriculum and the television programme *Fifi and the Flowertots* (see the young lady in Fifi outfit, below) – was on the theme of growing fruit, vegetables and flowers. The sinisterly gliding Mermen (pictured, right, with Bump to One Club members following) were also firm favourites.



The Carnival chairperson Julie Jordan asks us to point out that the committee is always looking for people to help on the day even if they have only an hour to spare. If you would like to volunteer for next year, please contact her on 01865 880042.



With proposed access to the site along Merton Close, the Chilbridge Road proposal is for affordable housing for local people who have been resident in the village or associated parish for the past 12 months; or who have lived here in the past for a minimum of three years; or who have been employed here for the past 12 months; or who have parents, grandparents, siblings or children who have been resident for the past 12 months. In addition, candidates will need to have registered on WODC's waiting list whether they are interested in renting or in shared ownership properties. Please contact WODC's Housing Service on 01993 861010 for more details, and advise them you are interested in rural housing as there is an additional form to be filled in for this.

Proposed developments

The Parish Council has been advised that the consultants who are putting the planning application together for the East Eynsham development are several weeks away from submitting it to West Oxfordshire District Council for consideration. Meanwhile, at the Parish Council's July meeting Cottsway Housing Association gave a presentation on its proposed housing scheme in Chilbridge Road, plans for which were due to have been submitted to WODC by the time you read this. The summary of Cottsway's village consultation, which was distributed at the meeting, is now available on the village website (www.eynsham.org.uk), and paper copies can be obtained from Cottsway on 01993 890000 (ask for William Munro or speak to an adviser).

Hanging baskets

Many thanks to Pat Whitlock for creating such splendid hanging baskets for the Bartholomew Room – they have created a fantastic, much appreciated splash of colour in the village centre.

Parking in Market Square

The Parish Council has received several requests for parking restrictions to be introduced in Market Square. The suggestion is for a two-hour maximum stay Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. We would like to hear other residents' views on this. Please contact the Parish Clerk Sue Lee (contact details on the back of this *Echo*).



One of the fruitier entries in the Eynsham Carnival Shirt Race, an event dating from 1958. Entrants produce a variation on the theme of pram and fancy dress (clearly the dafter the better) and get to make a tour of eight local watering holes.

Volunteers needed to stand in

The Parish Council is very fortunate to have Ron Powell, Mick Lyne, Jimmy Howells and Trevor Green carrying out many tasks around the village such as play area inspections, litter picking on play areas, grass cutting and strimming and fence mending; in addition, Trevor and Alan Wakefield maintain the churchyard. However, there are occasions such as holidays when they can't all be around for daily tasks, including checking play areas for litter or locking up the Pavilion at night. If you would be happy to stand in on a very occasional basis, please let the Parish Clerk know. It would be great to have a list of volunteers who could keep the parish running smoothly.

Overhanging foliage

The rain and warmth have led to a flurry of complaints about foliage overhanging pavements and roads. Please take time to check your garden and make sure that your trees, shrubs and other plants are not impeding pedestrians, cyclists or motorists. The County Council will write to offenders if it spots a problem, but please pre-empt this by just having a quick look this weekend and dealing with any overhanging foliage.

Firewood on offer

A dangerous willow tree has been taken down on the Wytham View play area behind Dovehouse Close, and as a result there is a large stock of firewood to dispose of. If you would like to collect some, please contact the Parish Clerk and she will arrange a time for the play area gates to be

opened for you. But be aware that willow needs to be seasoned for at least a year, so you would need somewhere to store this wood until winter 2009-10.

Out-of-date notices

It is good to see notices around the village, alerting us all to forthcoming events. But, to keep the village tidy, if you put a notice up, please take it down once the event is over!

Who to contact

If the Parish Council can help you with anything – small or large – please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Clerk, Sue Lee (contact details on the back of the *Echo*).

Road run

Eynsham Roadrunners are organising a Charity Fun Day at the White Hart, Newland Street, for Sunday, August 17, 4pm-8pm. To book your place to run one mile for charity, contact Tony (07976 055450; eynshamroadrunners@googlemail.com) or just turn up on the day. Running is from 4pm to 6pm and the entrance fee is £2 adults, £1 children. Attractions include a barbecue, Aunt Sally, golf game, treasure hunt, raffle and stocks. Proceeds will go to Epilepsy Action, Churchill Cancer Centre, and Eynsham and Cassington primary schools (for sports equipment).

Army Cadet Force

Three Eynsham Army Cadets – Cadet Sergeant Alice Hames, Cadet Sergeant Tiffany Parsons and Cadet Corporal Katherine Hames – have been presented with BTEC awards by Her Majesty's Vice Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, Malcolm Cochrane. The trio, who are members of the Eynsham Detachment of the Oxfordshire (The Rifles) Battalion Army Cadet Force, are specially to be congratulated on their commitment to working for these awards at the same time as pursuing their college and sixth form studies.

The Army Cadet Force is open to young people aged 12 to 18. The Eynsham Detachment (which meets on Monday evenings, 7.30-9.30pm, at Eynsham Village Hall in Back Lane) would be delighted to welcome new members. "Those who give up their time to run our Army Cadet Force deserve a big thank you," says Parish Council chairman Gordon Beach, who attended the award ceremony.

Pavement parking

Residents have drawn the attention of Eynsham's Police Community Support Officers to a problem with people parking on pavements. "As we patrol the village we will be paying particular attention to this," says a police spokesperson. "If we feel that any vehicle is causing an obstruction, a fixed penalty notice can be issued."

Milk thefts

Thieves have been continuing to take bottles from doorsteps across the community. Eynsham's Neighbourhood Specialist Officer PC Richard Conner would like to encourage people to report any such thefts both to the police and to the dairy. "It might be your elderly neighbour or relative who has to go without their milk and cannot get out to the shop to buy it," he says. PCSO Helen Keen agrees, adding: "Residents need to remember to call us if they see anyone on their driveway who should not be there. People who steal milk may not hesitate to commit other offences like breaking into your car." Anyone with information should call her on 0845 8 505 505.

Front Garden Competition

The results of the Eynsham Front Garden Competition 2008 are: **BEST ENCLOSED FRONT GARDEN**, 1st Ken and Lynda Webb, 2 Thornbury Road; 2nd Irmgard Smith, 2 Newland Close.

BEST OPEN-PLAN FRONT GARDEN, 1st Monica and Roy Allen, 34 Dovehouse Close; 2nd Anthony Pendrey, 16 Millmoor Crescent.

BEST HOUSE FRONT, 1st Bridget Pitcher and Diane Carverhill 13 & 15 Queen Street; 2nd Marie Evans, 49 Newland Street.

BEST BUSINESS FRONT, 1st The Newlands Inn, Newland Street; 2nd Greens Funeral Services, 21 High Street.

Organiser Pat Whitlock thanks everyone who helped with the preliminary judging.

Eynsham Garden Club

The Club welcomes all comers to its next meeting when the speaker will be Timothy Walker on "What have plants ever done for us – and how we can go on living together". "Timothy is a first-rate speaker who is always extremely popular," says a club spokesperson. "Come and hear him for yourself – you won't be disappointed." Date: Wednesday, September 10 at 7.30pm. Venue: Eynsham Village Hall, Back Lane. For further details please contact Pam Breeze on 01865 880725 or eynshamgardenclub@hotmail.com.

Charities with grants on offer

The Eynsham Consolidated Charity invites applications for money grants from local residents in need or distress, and it can also help to provide items or services, or back-up help from other quarters. Another charity, the Bartholomew Educational Foundation, offers money grants to students and apprentices under 25 – to be spent on items such as books, equipment and travel. To apply, for yourself or for anyone else, please write to the Clerk, Robin Mitchell, at 20 High Street, Eynsham OX29 4HB. All enquiries are dealt with in absolute confidence. The next meeting of the trustees is on Monday, September 8, when

applications will be considered. Visit www.eynsham.org for more information (look under "Community").

Neighbourhood Action Group

The Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG), whose members include West Oxfordshire County Council and Thames Valley Police, is looking for companies to sponsor its campaign to provide local youth centres with facilities, such as internet cafés, that recent surveys of youth centre members reveal are needed. Sponsorship could take the form of cash, equipment (old computers, for example) or any other sort of help, and could have a vital role to play in keeping young people off the streets. Sponsors will also be able to advertise in the centres and in NAG literature. Anyone who can help should contact Police Community Support Officer Helen Keen (tel. 0845 8 505 505; e-mail helen.keen@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk).

Summer activities

WODC's leisure centres have launched an action-packed summer of activities for children and young people, with play schemes and discount offers running in Eynsham (at the Bartholomew Sports Centre), Carterton, Chipping Norton and Witney. The Bartholomew Sports Centre is also offering people of any age the chance to play badminton for just £1. For more information, visit www.nexuscommunity.org.



A splendid display from St Peter's Church, which was part of Eynsham's July 2008 Flower Festival



Colourful insect life, as seen on the Beavers' Carnival float last month

Parenting support

Parenting Support Sessions begin again in September. A free seven-week course for parents of children aged two to five years, this is an opportunity to learn new parenting skills in a small group and a relaxed atmosphere. Contact Sue Rous on 01993 881968 for more information.

Adult learning courses

Adult courses taking place at Bartholomew School and Eynsham Village Hall this autumn include Skills for Life, French, Italian and Spanish language, stained glass, acrylic painting, computing and yoga. There are also Saturday workshops in subjects ranging from watercolour painting to Indian head massage. A brochure will be delivered door to door by August 16, with the enrolment line (0845 351 0646) opening on August 19. More details from www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/adultlearning.

Eynsham Art Class

This weekly class (two terms indoors and a third term on location, sketching) will begin again on Friday, September 26, 10am to noon, in the Pavilion, Oxford Road. New-comers are welcome whenever places are available. Enquiries to Beth F. Wood (01865 881026; 07821 866136 or artclass@fsmail.net).

Community governor

Bartholomew School thanks everyone who has applied for the role of community governor. A decision will be made early in September and all applicants will be informed.

Your Parish Councillors

Mr Gordon Beach, Chairman , 11 Fruitlands, tel: 01865 880979, e-mail: gordonbeach@btinternet.com

Mr David Rossiter , Vice Chairman , 5 Bartholomew Close, tel: 01865 881568, e-mail: david.rossiter@ntlworld.com

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• Your County Councillor

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Deadline for the next issue is September 8, 2008. Items for inclusion to Sue Lee, Parish Clerk, 19 Bradshaw Close, Steeple Aston, Bicester OX25 4SA, tel: 01869 347652, e-mail: eynsham_pc@btinternet.com

Lots more information and updates at Eynsham Online, www.eynsham.org.uk

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