

# East Coker Society Newsletter



April 2017

Free Issue No 166

|   |        |  |
|---|--------|--|
| Chair: John Sugg:                       | 863435 |  |
| Secretary: Sarah Owen:                  | 862218 |  |
| Treasurer and Distributor: Martin Wells | 864198 |  |
| Newsletter Editor: Lesley Lindsay       | 862868 | <a href="mailto:l.lindsay@eastcoker.com">l.lindsay@eastcoker.com</a> |

## East Coker Society News

### EAST COKER SOCIETY AGM

Our AGM will take place at 7.00pm on Wednesday 24 May in the Helyar Arms. You are welcome to attend.

### ADVANCE NOTICE OF WINTER FAYRE

East Coker Society's Winter Fayre will be held on **Saturday 28 October from 2.00pm to 4.00pm**. If you would like to reserve a table, please contact Sarah Owen on 01935 862218 for a booking form.

Sarah Owen (Secretary)

## Village Clubs and Organisations

### FILMFLIX – Films at East Coker Hall

Film evenings restarted in January this year. Attendances have been quite good, and we hope that numbers of those attending will continue to rise. The programme for the next two months is as follows:

- **Wednesday 26 April – Sully.** On 15 January 2009, the world witnessed the "Miracle on the Hudson" when Captain "Sully" Sullenberger glided his disabled plane onto the frigid waters of the Hudson River, saving the lives of all 155 aboard. However, even as Sully was being heralded by the public and the media for his unprecedented feat of aviation skill, an investigation was unfolding that threatened to destroy his reputation and his career. Directed by Clint Eastwood. Starring Tom Hanks, Aaron Eckhart, Laura Linney.
- **Wednesday 24 May – I, Daniel Blake.** A middle-aged carpenter who requires state welfare after suffering a heart attack is joined by a single mother in a similar scenario. By British filmmaker Ken Loach, *I, Daniel Blake* won the Palme d'Or at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival.

The film for June has yet to be decided on. Look out for the posters on the village notice boards, or contact us on one of the numbers given below.

Showings will commence at 7.30pm. Doors open 7.00pm. Entry is £6 per person. For further details, contact 863002 or 862447

### EAST COKER W.I.

Monday 3 April                      Fun and games, 2.00pm East Coker Hall

## THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION EAST & WEST COKER BRANCH

A reminder! The Branch will be holding their Annual Cheese & Wine Evening at East Coker Hall on Friday 21 April 2017 at 7.30pm. Entrance £5.00, including refreshment and first drink.

During the evening, we will have speakers and Poppy Appeal awards, plus our grand raffle. Come along and meet friends old and new.

East Coker District Poppy Appeal for 2016 is coming to an end, and our total is £7,661.82. This is a little down on 2015, but when you consider our area covers five villages with a total population of about 7,000 we do very well. A big thank-you to all who gave so generously.

Thanks also to our schools, businesses etc and also our dedicated house-house collectors. Without all your help, the Poppy Appeal would not be the success it is.

If we are to continue with the Poppy Appeal in our district, I ask once again if any of you are willing to become a collector. You do not have to be a member of the RBL. It takes about three hours of your time once a year. Fourteen of our present collectors have been collecting for more than 20/30 years, and two have passed the 50+. Please consider joining the team and help the RBL in its continued support into the future for our service families, veterans and their dependants.

Please contact David Holland, 862782 Marilyn Smith 863944 or Wendy Weston 862472.

Chairman David Holland [d.holland632@btinternet.com](mailto:d.holland632@btinternet.com)

## EAST COKER HALL CHARITABLE TRUST

### Notice of AGM to be held on Monday 8 May 2017

The Annual General Meeting of the Trust will be held on Monday 8 May 2017 in the Dampier Room, East Coker Hall, Halves Lane, commencing at 7.30pm.

Any organisation wishing to have a representative on the Committee must apply in writing to the Secretary, Mrs H Styles, 21 Mill Close, East Coker BA22 9LF. Applications should be submitted at least two weeks before the meeting.

All residents of East Coker Parish aged 18 years and over are eligible to attend the meeting.

### Committee Members

The Trust is seeking a person to take over from the current Treasurer, who will stand down at the 2017 AGM. The committee is also seeking a person to act as the Health and Safety Officer. We would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in helping to run this valued village amenity.

If you would like to know more, please contact John Hollis, Chairman; 863002, Clive Murrell; Treasurer, 862827 or Helen Styles, Secretary; 862447.

## EAST COKER PLAYERS

'*May Mayhem with the Players*' is the title of our next production. To be held on Saturday 20 May 2017 at 2.30pm and 7.30pm, in the East Coker Hall. The first half will be a variety of entertainment, and the second half a one-act play called 'Bonding' by Geoff Bamber.

During the interval, we will be serving cakes and tea (2.30pm) or a Ploughman's Supper (7.30pm). Tickets to include refreshment - adults £6 and children (in full time education) £4 - will be available from Vicky on 862711 from Tuesday 18 April.

We look forward to seeing you.

Diary Dates – Pantomime read through Monday 3 July 2017. Auditions – Monday 10 July 2017

If you are interested in joining us for our May production or for our Annual Pantomime in November, please contact Anne Hartley 862060 or Hazel Giddings 429163

## EAST COKER GARDENING CLUB

The Club had a very good start to 2017, with renewals and several new joiners giving a healthy membership base. The January talk, *Low Maintenance Gardening*, gave inspiration, whilst in February a foray into the world of fungi gave insight into the life of this fascinating group of organisms. At the March meeting, David Usher explained how soil is made up in his talk entitled *The Answer lies in the Soil*, which was a reminder of geology learnt many years ago.

Judging of the Spring Bulb Competition will take place at the April meeting. Petunia plug plants were distributed at the March meeting for members to grow on, for judging later in the year.

Plans for day trips this year are well under way, with the trip to Ugbrooke House in Devon on Wednesday 21 June extremely well subscribed. On Friday 4 August, members will enjoy a day at the Taunton Flower Show. During July there will be a visit to a member's garden. The annual holiday, this year based in Sussex, is fully subscribed. Members look forward to four days of visits to gardens and places of interest, which this year include Chartwell, Great Dixter, Scotney Castle, The Weald and Downland Museum and Hinton Ampner.

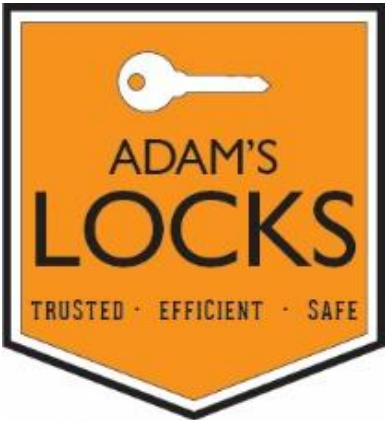
The programme for the next five months:

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 13 April  | <b>Trug making by a miserable Trugger – I think that's what the wife called me</b><br>Carl Sadler |
| 11 May    | <b>Orchids in the Home and Orchid Clinic</b> – Ian Parsons  |
| 8 June    | <b>Insectivorous Plant</b> – Roy Cheek  |
| 13 July   | <b>Summer Event</b>   |
| 10 August | <b>Bonsai</b> – John Trott  |

The small committee does an excellent job of planning the programme, making every effort to ensure that all members are able to benefit from most of the talks, events and trips.

Meetings, day trips and the annual holiday are all very well supported. New members and visitors are always welcome. We are a friendly lot – why not join us for an enjoyable, sociable evening? You do not need to be good at gardening; talks cover a wide variety of subjects. The annual subscription is £15, with subs of £1 per meeting. Visitors £3. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, commencing at 7.30pm in the East Coker Hall, Halves Lane, East Coker.

For further information, please contact Helen Styles 01935 862447 or Stan Shayler 01935 420291





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## EAST COKER BOWLS CLUB

The Bowls Club meets every Tuesday evening, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, and Friday afternoons, 2.30pm - 4.30pm in the East Coker Hall.

We are a friendly club and are looking for experienced and new players to join us. Tuition can be given to those wishing it, and bowls can be provided for your initial practice. Why not come and see for yourself?

We also have a junior section, and are looking for young players, minimum age 9 years up to 18. For information regarding the junior section, please contact Mervyn Westlake 863227. For other information, call George Dudden 864222.

D Farrant, Club Chairman

## BURTON BOOK CLUB

We are a friendly group who meet once a month on a Wednesday afternoon at Goose Slade Farm Tea Shop. We pay a fee of £1.00 per month for books, which we get from the library, and £2.00 into a kitty for drinks, and when funds allow we have a free month. We have read books that we may not have chosen as individuals, and mark them on merits of enjoyment and content.

This year we have read and enjoyed

*How it all began* by Penelope Lively  
*The Last Runaway* by Tracy Chevalier

*The Crow Trap* by Ann Cleeves  
*My Cousin Rachel* by Daphne du Maurier

If you would like to know more, please contact either Jennie Warman on [jennifer.warman@btinternet.com](mailto:jennifer.warman@btinternet.com) tel 421638 or Penny Marpole on [penny.marpole@btinternet.com](mailto:penny.marpole@btinternet.com)

## EAST COKER POETRY GROUP

Our meetings are held at the Helyar Arms, East Coker and normally start at 7.30pm on the last Tuesday of the month.

### **Tuesday 25 April - Dinner with Poetry on the theme of *Avia - Poems with Birds***

This will be a 'sit down' meal in the Apple Loft Restaurant at the Helyar Arms with poetry by Catherine Simmonds, whose excellent and atmospheric poems have delighted us at many of our past meetings.

There will be a charge of £15 for the evening and the menu is traditional English fare:

Goose Slade Farm Sausages with Mashed Potato; Fish and Chips; Tomato and 3-Cheese Tartlet (Vegetarian);

Sticky Toffee Pudding with Butterscotch Sauce; Lemon Posset Ice Cream.

We do need to know if you are coming (and your menu choice) at least two weeks before the meeting. Contact Diana Turton via [info@eastcokerpoetry.org.uk](mailto:info@eastcokerpoetry.org.uk) or myself if you would like to attend this themed poetry evening.

### **Tuesday 30 May - Publishing a Poetry Collection**

Douglas Walker from the Self Publishing Partnership in Bath will talk about publishing poetry collections. Seeing your work in print is quite a thrill.....

For more information about the East Coker Poetry Group, contact David Cloke, Group Co-ordinator, 862623 email [info@eastcokerpoetry.org.uk](mailto:info@eastcokerpoetry.org.uk). Please check our website for the most up to date details of any meeting [www.eastcokerpoetry.org.uk](http://www.eastcokerpoetry.org.uk)

## TIME TO SHARE

|                 |                           |                 |                         |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Monday 10 April | Tai Chi                   | Monday 24 April | Icelandic Pictures      |
| Monday 8 May    | Crafts                    | Monday 22 May   | Sing-a-long             |
| Monday 5 June   | Fun and Games with the WI | Monday 19 June  | Outing to Wilton Outlet |
| Monday 3 July   | BIRTHDAY PARTY!           |                 |                         |

Join Time to Share every other Monday in the East Coker Hall from 2.30pm – 4.00pm.

Sandra Snelling

## **EAST COKER MONTHLY CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS**

The year has started well, with the January coffee morning generating £225 for Help for Heroes. In February, the event was also very successful and a total of £400 was collected for the RNLI.

The forthcoming events will be for

- Chernobyl Children's Lifeline on Friday 28 April
- Live On (Royal British Legion) on Friday 26 May
- KidsOut (proposed by Yeovil Rotary) on Friday 30 June

There are still vacancies in the calendar of events for this year, so if you know anyone who would like to hold a coffee morning for a charity, please ask them to contact Cherry or Penny.

Please come along to the Forester's Arms and give your continued support to all these deserving causes. Many thanks to all the staff at the Forester's for the help and support they give to these popular village get-togethers.

Cherry Sowerbutts 863313 Penny Marpole 863055

## **EAST COKER VILLAGE QUIZ 2017**

The Twelfth Annual Village Quiz was held in East Coker Hall on 11 March. Twenty teams of eight competed in an evening of questions which tested their knowledge on subjects ranging from Acronyms to the names of Famous Lovers. In the interval, an excellent fish-and-chip supper was enjoyed by all.

This year, the Early Train team was victorious with the Secret Seven Team as runners-up. The questionably prestigious wooden spoon prize (cream eggs) went to the Cream Egg Crew (who had clearly been training hard to achieve their goal!).

A good selection of prizes was generously donated for the raffle which was well supported and contributed towards the overall proceeds for the event, which came to a total of £906. This will be donated to The Friends of Somerset Young Carers Project, the charity nominated by last year's winners – The Dregs (from East Coker Wine Circle).

Many thanks to all who helped with the smooth running of the event, and to all who gave prizes for the raffle.

Next year's quiz will be on Saturday 10 March 2018.

Martyn and Cherry Sowerbutts 863313

## **THE EAST COKER BULK OIL PURCHASE SCHEME**

In January, forty-eight of us ordered 38,560 litres of oil at 37.95ppl. That's topping up on a grand scale. Western Fuels gave us a very good deal. To illustrate the benefit of doing a bulk order, quotes for 1,000 litres varied from 39.80 to 47.73ppl and for the bulk order from 37.95 to 41.75ppl; that's a saving of at least 1.85ppl. The asking price now (19 March) is 36.99ppl. We used to say 'Fill up in the summer and top up in the winter', but there no longer seems to be a consistent pattern to the price movements. Our next order will be in July/August.

Before you ask, I just do the donkey-work; collating the requirements, ringing round the suppliers and placing the order. You pay the supplier directly. Please note that with some suppliers the delivery note is also the request for payment and there may be a surcharge if you don't pay promptly. If you have already taken part and found it worthwhile, encourage your friends and neighbours to join in. The more we can order, the better the price.

To participate or with any questions contact me, preferably by email [pauleddwards@waitrose.com](mailto:pauleddwards@waitrose.com), or 864413. Email makes it much easier and quicker to circulate information and I do not divulge email addresses. I circulate an email reminder before co-ordinating each order.

Paul Edwards

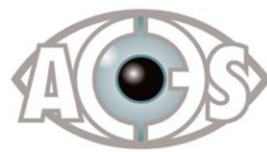




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#### **EAST COKER WINE CIRCLE**

Burns Night was an enjoyable evening with music, entertainment, dancing and food. Thank you to all who helped to make it a great evening.

As the Circle's group won the Village Quiz last year, we chose to donate the proceeds to the Friends of Somerset Young Carers Project.

Wine Circle meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of the month at 8.00pm, at the East Coker Hall.

- Wednesday 5 April Bulgarian Wine Tasting and Talk
- Wednesday 3 May Ian Bannon - talk on wines of South America
- Wednesday 7 June AGM and Wine Tasting – Rosé & Sweet – Majestic Wines – Cake and Wine Competitions.

We welcome members new and old.

Sarah Rashley

#### **EAST COKER FLOWER SHOW AND WINE FESTIVAL – Saturday 19 August 2017**

The schedules will be out soon in various places around the village. We now have a new e-mail address to enter if you would prefer - it is [eastcokerflowershow@hotmail.com](mailto:eastcokerflowershow@hotmail.com)

The changed classes are in the January edition of the Newsletter, but a reminder of the Photography classes are Class 71 – Shadows; Class 72 – Sky; Class 73 – Coastline; Class 74 – Cobwebs; Class 75 – Village Life; Class, 76 – Bridges x4.

To encourage younger people to enter the Show, the committee have decided to add a **Group Class** for which a prize will be given to the overall winning group. Good luck! All the children's classes have prize money to 3<sup>rd</sup> place which is kindly donated to the classes. Hope to see the gardens growing and everyone busy with crafts etc.

Sarah Rashley, Secretary



## ~ POT LUCK PLANTS ~

### EAST COKER'S OWN MINI NURSERY

Stock includes a wide range of seasonal bedding plants for tubs & baskets, hardy perennials and alpines.

Hanging baskets planted to order  
(as seen at the Helyar Arms in Summer 2016)

For any enquiries, to arrange a visit,  
to order hanging baskets,  
please call Kate on 07796991592

ALL POTS RECYLED. COMPETITIVE PRICES!

## Young People

**EAST COKER PLAYGROUP** – find us on [www.eastcokerpreschool.co.uk](http://www.eastcokerpreschool.co.uk)

The Playgroup children have had a busy Spring Term. They have investigated the Weather and Seasons in the first half term and explored the many types of Transport in the second half term. The children enjoyed raising funds with a Sponsored Pancake Challenge in February, and will be having an Easter Egg Hunt with a coffee morning for parents and carers on the last day of term.

The Playgroup is a charity, and all fundraising is essential in supporting the Playgroup. Fundraising will enable the Playgroup to maintain and replace resources and facilitate the children's educational summer outing. Our next fundraiser is the Annual Playgroup Fair which will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 20 May 2017 from 12.30pm to 3.30pm at the Pavilion, Long Furlong Lane, East Coker. There will be a variety of stalls, a raffle, BBQ and refreshments. Please come along for lunch and stay for the afternoon, we would love to see you.

The wealth of experience of our fully qualified staff offers quality childcare and education through play, exploring the wider environment and local community with project-based activities. Ofsted have consistently given the group excellent reports and commended us for the interaction and encouragements between staff and children, partnership with parents, teaching, management and the emphasis on fun.

Children can join us from the age of 2½, and Early Years Entitlement is available in the funding period after their third birthday. Children staying for lunch need to bring a packed lunch. We are open during term time at the following session times:

- Monday 9.00am - 12.00pm, 1.00pm - 3.00pm
- Tuesday 9.00am - 12.00pm, 1.00pm - 3.00pm
- Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00pm, 1.00pm - 3.00pm
- Thursday 9.00am - 12.00pm, 1.00pm - 3.00pm
- Friday 9.00am - 12.00pm - 1.00pm

If you are seeking childcare for your 2-year old, East Chinnock Under Fives Playgroup accepts children from their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday to starting school. For the past few years, the staff at East Coker Playgroup also staff East Chinnock Under Fives Playgroup, both Playgroups feed into East Coker Primary School. This began when East Chinnock Under Fives Playgroup was threatened with closure due to staff shortages and has worked to the benefit of both groups, each maintaining their own committee and identity. East Chinnock Under Fives Playgroup is a smaller group, and this can be a great benefit to the younger children. The opening times are term time with sessions every week day morning, and an afternoon session on

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, with optional lunch cover for children who like to bring a packed lunch. Find us at [www.eastchinnockunder5spreschool.co.uk](http://www.eastchinnockunder5spreschool.co.uk)

East Chinnock Under Fives Preschool invites you to join us on a  
**Beatrix Potter Trail and Cream Tea on Monday 17 April 2017 from 10.00am to 12.30pm**

(arrive before 11.30am to start the trail).

Set off on a walk around East Chinnock following a Beatrix Potter trail, £1 per child.

The walk is under ½ mile on road and country tracks – wellies are advisable!

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Enjoy a homemade cream tea and a selection of cakes.

Find us at East Chinnock Under Fives Preschool, The Church Rooms, Weston Street, East Chinnock.

Everyone welcome – all ages.

Charity no. 1026644

**Stop Press:** East Coker Playgroup to offer Summer Holiday Sessions in July and August. For more information and to put your child/children on the waiting list for either Playgroup, please contact Kay Strode on 07798 812540

## **EAST COKER SCOUT GROUP**

Many people will have seen that our extension has been built on the back of the Scout Hut by Hazlegrove Construction. We are now fitting out inside, mainly using self-help and with electrics from Bayley Electrical. The toilet area is ready for cubicles (on order) and toilets (ready and waiting - thanks to Watertite). The preparation area is ready for plumbing, and Howdens are designing and providing a free-of-charge layout for us. We have also received two wall heaters from YESS Electrical. All the scouts (and parents) are watching and waiting with keen interest. We will be planting two new trees around the hut as well (funded by Morson Technical Group).

This has all been made possible due to the generosity of many people within the village and a £10,000 National Lottery Grant. We remain within our budget and are very conscious that this is just a start. We will continue to seek funding for a new entrance, store, main heaters and replacement roof.

The new space will greatly enhance our facilities and provide new activity space.

The Beavers have been on a visit to the Fire Station, making papier-mâché planets and are now working on their Communicator Badge. The Cubs have just been to Wookey Hole with over 400 cubs from across Somerset. The day included a trip through the caves, the 4D cinema and the circus show. They have also been making planets for their Astronomer Badge, eating pancakes and learning emergency First Aid. A patrol of Scouts completed the muddy District 10-mile Hike in February and are now preparing for the Fox Trophy, a two-day hiking competition, before Easter. For their Creativity Challenge Badge, the Scouts made large models of their patrol symbols (Kangaroos, Koalas and Kookaburras), which were then ceremonially burned at Max's Field.

All our sections are working towards their summer camps between May and July.

We operate with an Executive Committee providing support to our section leaders. If anyone has some spare time, we have vacancies on our committee to help us maintain our facilities and equipment that enables us to deliver such a great programme of activities. We only meet every two months. Your help would be greatly appreciated, please contact us.

**Spring Jumble Sale** – Saturday 15 April 2017 at 2.00pm at East Coker Hall.

Please contact Max Bugler 862186 if you wish anything collected.

## **Waste Paper Collection**

The collection point is opposite the school on the last Saturday of each month, from 8.30am to 10.30am. If possible, please flat-pack your newspapers and tie into bundles.

Saturday 29 April

Saturday 27 May

Saturday 24 June

Saturday 29 July

David Webber, Group Scout Leader.





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## The Churches

### **EAST COKER CHAPEL, BURTON LANE BA22 9LJ**

Our morning worship service (which incorporates 'kid's church') is held each Sunday morning at 11.00am. Led by our own worship band, we have mainly new songs and some traditional ones, usually with a guest speaker. It lasts for about an hour, and is always followed by coffee and biscuits. However, on the first Sunday of each month, we hold our café/breakfast church at East Coker Hall from 11.00am onwards, come and enjoy church but not as you know it. Cafe church is an informal, relaxed café-style gathering where you can enjoy freshly-brewed coffee, tea, croissants, cereal and toast.

Little Wheelers baby and toddler group is held on Tuesday mornings at East Coker Hall at 10.30am, all mums, dads and grandparents welcome.

Coffee Stop is held at the Chapel on a Wednesday morning from 11.00am, where anyone is welcome to pop in for free tea and coffee and friendship.

We hold a Girls' Night on the 4th Thursday evening of the month at the Chapel starting on 23 February at 7.30pm. These evenings are intended for girls/ladies of any age, we have a light supper followed by either a craft or cooking demonstration or a short talk or life story.

We have currently two home groups running which meet fortnightly.

For further details of any of the above, please contact either Phil & Liz Dunning on 863735 or Joe Dunning on 07800 746454

### **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, CLOSWORTH**

For many years now we have held an All Ages Family service at Closworth on Good Friday, 14 April. This Service begins at 10.00am, and lasts about 40 minutes and has hymns, reading, prayers and a short talk. It ends, hopefully, with Cold Cross Buns and coffee. There is a children's activity during the talk.

**Songs Of Praise** – We are hoping to hold a 'Songs of Praise' on Sunday 28 May at 6.30pm. Please send requests to Monica 862834

[www.eastcoker.com](http://www.eastcoker.com)

## ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

On behalf of everyone at St Michael's may we wish you a Happy Peaceful Easter.

Our Services over the Easter period are set out below. We would love to see you at some of the services taking place.

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Palm Sunday 9 April</b>    | 8am - Holy Communion<br>11am - Matins   |
| <b>Thursday 13 April</b>      | 7pm - Benefice Communion and Watch      |
| <b>Friday 14 April</b>        | 12noon – Reflection                     |
| <b>Easter Sunday 16 April</b> | 11am - Sung Eucharist<br>6pm - Evensong |

Our Service rota at St Michael's has recently been changed, and is now as follows:

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday | 11.00am - Sung Eucharist                            |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday | 8.00am – Holy Communion<br>11.00am – Morning Prayer |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday | 10.00am – Café Church<br>6.00pm – Evensong          |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday | 11.00am- Sung Eucharist                             |

The Café Church is an informal get-together, with an opportunity to enjoy coffee and croissants, there is a time for talk, prayers and a hymn. Everyone is most welcome and there are activities for children.

When there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month there is always a Benefice Service at one of the seven churches in the Coker Ridge Benefice. April has a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday and the service will be at Hardington Mandeville at 10.00am on Sunday 30 April.

Unfortunately, Ellie, our Children's Worker, left for a new post at the end of last year. We were very sorry to see her go as she had made a big impact at St Michael's, with lots of lovely events and activities. As I write, we have just advertised and interviewed for a new Children's Worker. Please keep a look out for new activities and events from our new worker in the not too distant future. One event that is being planned is a **Messy Church** on Saturday 3 June, this will be in St Michael's Church. More details will follow nearer the time.

### Contact details:

Rev. Colin Simpson – [rector42@icloud.com](mailto:rector42@icloud.com) and tel 862429

Judith Shaw (Churchwarden) – [judith.foxholes@gmail.com](mailto:judith.foxholes@gmail.com) and tel 863218

### Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, 9 April we shall be having Matins, BCP and celebrating Christ's ride into Jerusalem. We shall not be processing from outside the Church due to age and the infirmity of some of the congregation, but hopefully the Choir will process round the Church. Monica 862834

## Village News

### THE VILLAGE CAFE

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support. We are now open 7 days a week, and Sunday lunch has been very well received. We offer topside of beef or pork with all the normal accompaniments for £7.95.

Starters and puds are available.

Please keep your comments coming, as it truly helps me to improve the café.

Wishing you a wonderful Easter.

Love Kieta, Sarah, Claudia and Emma xxxx

## PLANT SALE IN AID OF ST. MARGARET'S HOSPICE

We will be holding our plant sale on Saturday 20 May 2017 between 10.00am and 1.00pm at Weavers Lodge, East Coker.

Last year we made a bumper amount for the hospice so hope this year will be the same. Parking is very limited, so please could you park on the road. There will be a large supply of boxes available, and someone to wheel your plants to the car, if needed. There will be willow baskets and filled containers for sale for that special someone, or even yourself.

A raffle will also be held, tickets available on the day and drawn at the close of sale. Prizes will be a flower planter, fruit basket, vouchers and many more.

Sorry, but plant sales cannot be made before the day.

Hope to see you in May, Christine and Glenn Seymour 863961

## THE COKER RIDGE BENEFICE CHOIR

Many years ago, the Benefice Choir was formed from singers from Hardington, West Coker, East Chinnock and Penderome churches. With the addition of East Coker, Closworth and Sutton Bingham to form the current larger benefice, we have an additional pool of singers, who join us for special services and events.

Whilst we sing mostly church music, we enjoy other genres of music, and have lately been trying some folk song arrangements, and are currently looking at Beatles and Johnny Cash songs for a wedding this year!

Rehearsals normally take place in the music room of my home, Weavers' Cottage, Hardington, down the lane from 'Sonny's', on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month starting at 7.45pm.

We would love to welcome additional voices, especially men, altos and younger people – no limits! I would also be very grateful if we could find one or more choir accompanists. Obviously, reasonable keyboard skills would be essential, and the ability to sight-read, but we do not need a virtuoso! There must be a number of pianists/organists keeping very quiet within the seven villages of the Coker Ridge Benefice.

Robin Carpenter, choirmaster, 862339

## EAST COKER PARISH COUNCIL

**Neighbourhood Plan** Thank you to those of you who attended the Open Morning, Saturday 11 March, and returned your comments on the plan. The morning was very successful and we are in the process of collating all of the returned comments.

***We have also had representations from South Somerset District Council and a number of major landowners about the implications of the review of the South Somerset Local Plan which has started and been subject to recent publicity, and how the Neighbourhood Plan should reflect this.***

***We will begin the work required with regard to all the comments received and will be in touch when ready for the next stage in the process.***

This is now the end of the consultation process and we are no longer able to accept further comments.

**Annual Parishioner Evening** – An opportunity for Parishioners to meet the Parish Council and Community Group Leaders. Refreshments will be provided. Thursday 18 May, 7.00pm – 9.00pm. The meeting is open to everyone who lives in the Parish.

**Website** Details to follow.

**Christmas Tree** The Parish Council would like thank Palmers Nurseries for their generosity in giving the Parish a Christmas Tree, which, when taller, will replace the temporary trees we have been using.

**Drain Clearance** The maintenance programme is continuing. Please contact the clerk if you note a blocked drain.

**Pot Holes** Please report any pot holes to the Clerk.

**Found.** A gold ring has been found in the Stoney Lane area. Please contact the Clerk if you or someone you know has lost one.

**Grant Aids** are available from the East Coker Parish Council, from April, for the benefit of East Coker Groups and Societies. If you have a parish group which would benefit, please email the Clerk for further details or download the application form from our website.

We have an issue in the Parish with **'fly tipping'**. If you see any rubbish that has been dumped illegally, please contact the Clerk.

Maintenance of the **Chapel** The Parish Council would welcome suggestions/ideas regarding the utilisation of the Chapel.

If you see the **Ranger**, Darren, working in and around the Parish, a cuppa would be most welcome. If you see anything that needs his attention, please contact Chairman B Sugg, 863435 (no calls after 6.00pm please).

The Parish Council hold a **monthly meeting**, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7.00pm at the Pavilion. It is a public meeting to discuss planning and other issues affecting the Parish. You are all welcome to attend. If you would like to speak at the meeting, please contact the Clerk.

**Email circulation list.** If you would like to be kept up-to-date with regular news and events around the Parish, please email the Clerk. Your email address will not be made public or used by any other third party.

**Councillors contact details** are on our website, [www.eastcokerparish.com](http://www.eastcokerparish.com). The Parish Clerk, Gillian Macpherson, can be reached on 864354 or email [clerk@eastcokerparish.com](mailto:clerk@eastcokerparish.com).

### **Save the Date**

Thursday 18 May – 7.00pm – 9.00pm - Parishioner Annual Meeting – The Pavilion

Saturday 1 July – 6.00pm – 1.00am - Cokerfest. New exciting bands and a separate Gin Bar! **Website** [www.cokerfest.co.uk](http://www.cokerfest.co.uk)

### **REFUSE COLLECTIONS – EASTER**

Wednesday 19 April - Collection of Recycling and Green Bins will be one day later on Thursday 20 April.

### **LIBRARY**

Below are the details of mobile library stops in East Coker at The Helyar Arms on a Tuesday, every four weeks from 12.40pm – 12.55pm.

18 April

16 May

13 June

11 July

### **MINI MUSIC**

Mini music is a song group for babies, toddlers and their parents. We meet every Wednesday morning from 10.00am to 11:30am in Hardington Mandeville Village Hall.

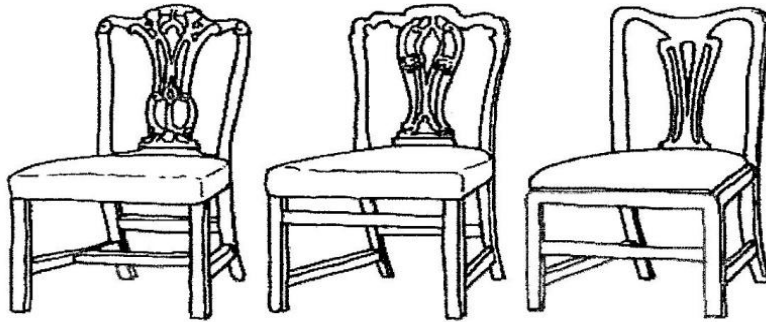
Songs and musical games are followed by refreshments in the hall, more playtime for the little ones and a chance to make new friends. Cost is £2 per child, and siblings under one year a £1.

If you would like more information, please contact Kate on 07815 055775.

### **NEXT ISSUE**

The next issue of the Newsletter will be in **July 2017**. Copy, please, to Lesley Lindsay, Little Meadow, Coker Marsh, East Coker or email [l.lindsay@eastcoker.com](mailto:l.lindsay@eastcoker.com), by **Wednesday 21 June 2017**

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# QUARTERLY VILLAGE DIARY

April 2017 – July 2017

|                    |  |                 |                     |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|---------------------|
| Wed 5 April        | Wine Circle – Bulgarian Wine Tasting           | 8.00pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Mon 10 April       | Time To Share – Tai Chi                        | 2.30pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Thurs 13 April     | Gardening Club – Trug Maker                    | 7.30pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Sat 15 April       | Scouts – Spring Jumble Sale                    | 2.00pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Mon 17 April       | East Chinnock Pre-school - Walk                | 10.00-12.30pm   | East Chinnock       |
| Tues 18 April      | Library – at the Helyar Arms                   | 12.40pm-12.55pm | The Helyar Arms     |
| Fri 21 April       | RBL – Cheese & Wine                            | 7.00pm-7.30pm   | East Coker Hall     |
| Mon 24 April       | Time To Share – Icelandic Pictures             | 2.30pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Tues 25 April      | Poetry Group – Dinner with Poetry              | 7.30pm          | The Helyar Arms     |
| Wed 26 April       | FilmFlix – Sully (Miracle on the Hudson)       | 7.00pm-7.30pm   | East Coker Hall     |
| Fri 28 April       | Coffee Morning – Chernobyl Children's Lifeline | 10.00am-12.00pm | The Forester's Arms |
| Sat 29 April       | Scouts Newspaper Collection                    | 8.30am-10.30am  | Near the School     |
| Wed 3 May          | Wine Circle – Talk                             | 8.00pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Mon 8 May          | Time To Share – Crafts                         | 2.30pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Mon 8 May          | East Coker Hall Trust – AGM                    | 7.30pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Thurs 8 May        | Gardening Club – Orchids                       | 7.30pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Tues 16 May        | Library – at the Helyar Arms                   | 12.40pm-12.55pm | The Helyar Arms     |
| Thurs 18 May       | Parish Council – Annual Parish Meeting         | 7.00pm-9.00pm   | The Pavilion        |
| Sat 20 May         | Scouts – Spring Jumble Sale                    | 2.00pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Sat 20 May         | The Players – 'May Mayhem'                     | 2.30pm & 7.30pm | East Coker Hall     |
| Sat 20 May         | The Playgroup – Spring Fair                    | 12.20pm-3.30pm  | The Pavilion        |
| Sat 20 May         | Plant Sale - in Aid of St Margaret's Hospice   | 10.00am-1.00pm  | Weaver's Lodge      |
| Mon 22 May         | Time To Share – Sing-a-long                    | 2.30pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Wed 24 May         | East Coker Society – AGM                       | 7.00pm          | The Helyar Arms     |
| Wed 24 May         | FilmFlix – I Daniel Blake                      | 7.00pm-7.30pm   | East Coker Hall     |
| Fri 26 May         | Live On (RBL)                                  | 10.00am-12.00pm | The Forester's Arms |
| Sat 27 May         | Scouts Newspaper Collection                    | 8.30am-10.30am  | Near the School     |
| Tues 30 May        | Poetry Group – Publishing a Poetry Collection  | 7.30pm          | The Helyar Arms     |
| Mon 5 June         | Time To Share – Fun & Games                    | 2.30pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Wed 7 June         | Wine Circle – AGM & Wine Tasting               | 8.00pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Thurs 8 June       | Gardening Club – Insectivorous Plants          | 7.30pm          | East Coker Hall     |
| Tues 13 June       | Library – at the Helyar Arms                   | 12.40pm-12.55pm | The Helyar Arms     |
| Mon 19 June        | Time To Share – Outing                         |                 |                     |
| <b>Wed 21 June</b> | <b>Copy for June Newsletter</b>                |                 |                     |
| Sat 24 June        | Scouts Newspaper Collection                    | 8.30am-10.30am  | Near the School     |
| Fri 30 June        | Coffee Morning - Kids Out (Yeovil Rotary)      | 10.00am-12.00pm | The Forester's Arms |
| Sat 1 July         | Cokerfest                                      | 6.00pm-1.00am   | Longlands Lane      |
| Mon 3 July         | Time To Share – Birthday Party                 |                 |                     |
| Mon 3 July         | The Players – Pantomime – read through         |                 | East Coker Hall     |