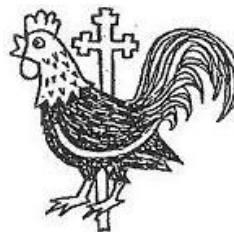


# East Coker Society Newsletter



April 2019

Free Issue No 174

Chair: John Sugg:	863435	
Secretary: Sarah Owen:	862218	
Treasurer and Distributor: Martin Wells	864198s	
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 7.00 pm on Wednesday 1 May in the Helyar Arms. All Villagers are most welcome to attend.

## Village Clubs and Organisations

### EAST COKER WINE CIRCLE

We have had a busy few months with the January event (WW1-themed) being a great success, and tastings and interesting talks.

#### Diary dates

Friday 12 April to Wednesday 17 April	Lochs and Glens trip.
Wednesday 1 May	NatWest Bank – Banking scams
Wednesday 5 June	Summer Drinks tasting with Mark Banham
Sunday 23 June	Boat Trip on the River Exe and lunch
Sunday 21 July	BBQ Summer Event 12.30pm

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8.00pm at East Coker Hall. Everyone welcome.

Sarah Rashley

### TIME TO SHARE

We meet every other Monday in the East Coker Hall at 2.30pm with Guest Speakers, homemade cake (courtesy of our wonderful village cake makers) and tea. Lots of good chat and fun. We also meet every Tuesday morning 10.00am – 12 noon in the Village Cafe for coffee and help with all things connected with computers, tablets, Wi-Fi and Tablets - or sometimes just putting the world to rights. Come along and try us out.

Sandra 862162

#### Diary dates

Monday 15 April	Easter Flower Demo with Elaine
Monday 29 April	India with Anne and Barrie
Monday 13 May	Cream Tea at Palmers
Monday 20 May	Seated Exercise with Beryl
Monday 3 June	Tea Dance with Brian
Monday 17 June	Living Life with Diane Summers
Monday 1 July	Birthday Party at The Pavilion

## THE BRITISH LEGION EAST & WEST COKER BRANCH

Winter is a quieter period for the branch, which does not mean we forget our Service families, veterans and their dependants.

Our full support to branch members is always maintained by way of a visit/phone call, a Christmas or get-well card and sadly at times a letter or card of condolence.

Some of you will not be aware; the Branch was recently awarded the Colin MacKenzie Cup for Branch Efficiency. This cup is awarded to branches with a membership of 101-500. Without the support of my committee and our many helpers and friends we would not have been able to achieve the award.

Let us continue to provide the support to branch members, their dependants and the many others who rely on the RBL for assistance.

A big 'thank-you' to you all.

### D DAY 75

**Thursday 6 June 2019** marks the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the D-Day Landings – one of the most remarkable Allied wartime operations.

Hampshire and Dorset coastal towns and villages played a big part in preparations for the landings. Churchill said, "you must turn Dorset into a springboard to launch an attack". No part of Hardy's Dorset or neighbouring Hampshire remained untouched as the invasion assembled in 1944.

**Poole** was the embarkation point for tens of thousands of troops.

**Weymouth & Portland** saw the biggest embarkation of men and equipment, primarily GI's. Nearly half a million men and 140,000 vehicles passed through these two ports. The Americans described **Portland** as the "biggest little port in the world". They were headed towards 'Bloody Omaha' where the heaviest losses were suffered.

A fully funded mini cruise for 300 Normandy veterans + carers has been organised by the RBL in conjunction with Arena Travel.

MV Boudicca will depart from Dover on Sunday 2 June and arrive in Poole Harbour on Tuesday 4 June, for MoD linked events.

The ship then proceeds to Portsmouth Harbour, arriving early Thursday 5 June, where there will be a UK D-Day 75 Commemoration Event on Southsea Common including a military ceremonial event, fly past, gala lunch for veterans and a Vintage Fair (which runs until Sunday 9 June).

Later in the day, the ship sails from Portsmouth to Normandy, escorted by a Royal Navy vessel and flotilla, arriving in Normandy on D-Day 6 June.

Various events have been arranged, which will be screened at Southsea Common and Portsmouth Guildhall Square relaying events from France.

Also, on 6 June a D-Day Commemoration Event will take place at the National Memorial in Staffordshire.

Full information on all events is available via the RBL website, or type in D-Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Thank you for your continued support

### Date for your diaries

Our Annual Cheese & Wine Evening is on Friday 3 May at East Coker Hall at 7.30pm.

David Holland, Chairman & PAO, 862782 [d.holland632@btinternet.com](mailto:d.holland632@btinternet.com)

Secretary Marilyn Smith, 863944.

Membership Sec. Dave Giles, 433644 [d.giles390@gmail.com](mailto:d.giles390@gmail.com)

## EAST COKER BOWLS CLUB

The Bowls Club meets every Tuesday evening, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, and Friday afternoons, 2.30pm - 4.30pm in East Coker Hall. We are a friendly club and are looking for 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? For more information, check out our website [www.eastcokershortmatbowlsclub.btck.co.uk](http://www.eastcokershortmatbowlsclub.btck.co.uk) or telephone our Club Captain, George Dudden on 01935 864222.

D Farrant, Club Chairman



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[www.adams-locks.co.uk](http://www.adams-locks.co.uk)

## EAST COKER GARDENING CLUB

Club members have again enjoyed three months of interesting talks. Day trips have been arranged for Wednesday 15 May to Killerton House in Devon and (following on from a talk about Kingston Lacy garden by the head gardener) for Thursday 20 June to Kingston Lacy in Dorset. Places on the Kingston Lacy trip are currently wait-listed. Non-members are welcome to join us for these trips. The Club holiday, just after Easter, will be based in Newbury, with trips to Highclere Castle, Hillier's Nursery, Nuffield Place, Greys Court, Hughenden (in the beautiful Chilterns) and Dorney Court.

The programme is as follows:

Thursday 9 May      ***Making a Bee friendly Garden*** – Neil Lovesey – Neil is one of our favourite speakers, always ready to impart and share his knowledge. He also brings with him an excellent range of plants to purchase.

Thursday 13 June      ***Kingston Lacy Garden*** – talk by Head Gardener, Andrew Hunt.

The plant for the summer competition this year is a white geranium. The plugs were given out to members at the March meeting, and judging will be at the August meeting. We look forward to some stunning entries!

The small committee do an excellent job of planning the Programme, making every effort to ensure that most members can 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

## EAST COKER PLAYERS

During our AGM in January, it was decided by the members to donate £100 each to Mind in Somerset and Yeovil Freewheelers from our Pantomime, Calamity Dame. The cheques were presented to David Fields from Mind in Somerset and John Field from Yeovil Freewheelers at our February meeting, before we watched the video of the production. Photographer Len Copeland took a picture which appeared in the Western Gazette.

We have a new producer for our next Pantomime - Jon Margetts. Jon has been involved with Pantomimes for many years. He has chosen Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood, and preparations have already begun.

Our read-through of the script will be on Monday 1 July 2019 at 7.00pm, with auditions on Monday 8 July 2019 at 7.00pm, both in the Dampier Room. We commence rehearsals at the beginning of September 2019.

### **Help needed.** Can you help us?

We will need extra help this year back stage with this big pantomime production. Help will be required with the back cloths, moving scenery and props. We also need more adults and children in the cast (minimum age 8 years). If you can help or are interested in joining the cast, please contact us.

Anne Hartley 862060 or Hazel Giddings 429163

## FILMFLIXS – Films at East Coker Hall



Film Night is usually the last Wednesday of each month. The committee try to provide a variety of films, recognising that we cannot please all the people all of the time! Please try to support the film nights which are put on for the benefit of the community. A lot of effort is put in by a few people, and we need to at least break even for each screening. The films are projected onto a large screen in the hall with speakers supplied by FilmFlixs.

Films requested for the next two months are:

### **Wednesday 24 April – *Stan & Ollie***

Stan & Ollie tells the story of how Laurel and Hardy, with their golden age long behind them, embark upon a tour of the music halls of Britain and Ireland. Despite the stresses of the tour, past resentments coming back to light, and Hardy's failing health, the show must go on: in the end, their love of performing - and of each other - ensures that they secure their place in the hearts of the public. Steve Coogan and John C. Reilly are 'Stan & Ollie' in the true story of Hollywood's greatest comedy double act.

### **Wednesday 29 May – *On the Basis of Sex***

The true story of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, her struggles for equal rights, and the early cases of a historic career that lead to her nomination and confirmation as U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice.

Showings commence at 7.30pm.

Doors open 7.00pm. Entry £6 per person.

For further details, contact 01935 863002 or 01935 862447



## EAST COKER WI

We meet on the last Thursday of each month at the East Coker hall at 7.30pm. We aim to provide members with a good social evening with a variety of speakers to inform and amuse. Many members who are single, for whatever reason, find the evenings a place to make new friends of similar interests. Our new programme begins in April with a talk on 'Hanging Baskets' by a representative from Palmers Garden Centre. In May, we are being treated to the works of Joyce Grenfell, which should provide an amusing interlude. In June, in place of a normal meeting, we will be arranging an outing to celebrate East Coker WI's birthday, 101 years since it was first begun, just after the First World War. In July, a speaker will be telling us about the 'Hidden Heroes and Heroines'. Who could they be? The August meeting will be on 'Hanging up my Pen' by Barbara Spencer-Jones.

For anyone (male or female) who enjoys gentle exercise with a lot of laughs, then join us once a month on a Monday at 2.00pm at the East Coker Hall for **'Fun and Games'**. These include indoor curling, archery, walking rounders, table tennis and seated volleyball. See our diary dates below for further information.

**Whist Drives** are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7.00pm during autumn, winter and spring, stopping when the weather perks up and gardens beckon. See diary dates.

For any further information, please contact our secretary, Ruby Rollo on tel. 475010.

#### **Diary dates**

Monday 8 April	Fun and Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thursday 18 April	Whist Drive	7.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thursday 25 April	Hanging Baskets	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thursday 30 May	Life and Work of Joyce Grenfell	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Monday 10 June	Fun and Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thursday 27 June	Birthday Outing		
Monday 8 July	Fun and Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thursday 25 July	Hidden Heroes and Heroines	7.30pm	East Coker Hall

#### **EAST COKER POETRY GROUP**

##### **Tuesday 30 April - Leonard Cohen - the man, his life and poetry**

Leonard Cohen was a poet and novelist before he became a singer. This evening tries to encapsulate this and present some of his beautiful poems and lyrics and will be presented by Heather Murphy.

##### **Tuesday 28 May – The English River**

Virginia Astley has chosen the River Thames for her latest collection of poetry. A much-admired songwriter and musician since the 1980s, Virginia is known for her engaging lyrics as well as for her melodious style. Now her other two passions take centre stage in this book: poetry and the River Thames. She grew up by the river's upper reaches and in recent years has returned to the Thames, working for a summer as an assistant lock-keeper, and walking its length to record and respond to its landscapes, river life and river folk as a poet and photographer. She will be reading from this collection with harp accompaniment.

This meeting will take the form of a 'sit-down' meal; the poetry and music intertwined between the courses. Booking will be required as we are limited in numbers, and the cost is expected to be £15.00 a head. Please contact David Cloke for menu choices etc.

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

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).

David Cloke

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

We continue to hold our coffee mornings on the last Friday of the month.

We are very grateful to the Forester's Arms for their continued hospitality. Also 'thank you' to all our faithful friends for their support.

This year we have had:

January - Help for Heroes - £245; February - RNLI - £325; and March – Cystic Fibrosis.

Future dates and charities are:

- Friday 26 April – Sutton Bingham Church
- Friday 24 May – Royal British Legion
- Friday 28 June – KidsOut – Yeovil Rotary Club

We look forward to seeing you all!

Penny 863055 and Cherry 863313



## RNLI COFFEE MORNING – FEBRUARY 2019


The regular monthly coffee morning held at the Forester's Arms in February was well attended in support of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. A very sociable gathering enjoyed a variety of delicious home-baked cakes and coffee. Many thanks to the Forester's Arms and to those who contributed cakes and raffle prizes as well as all those who attended. The overall sum raised was £325.00 towards saving lives at sea.

Peter Burrows, Chairman, Yeovil & District Branch RNLI

## COFFEE MORNING – FRIDAY 28 JUNE 2019

The Coffee Morning to be held on Friday 28 June in the Forester's Arms between 10.00am and 12noon will be in support of the charity **KidsOut**. Supported also by the Yeovil Rotary Club, this event will provide a unique opportunity for a deserving group of local children with special needs to enjoy a supervised day of relaxation and fun at Crealy Theme Park along with other similar groups from the south-west region.

Peter Burrows, Rotary Club of Yeovil

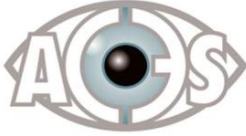


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We are happy to collect any unwanted glasses for us to use in our eye testing work in Kenya.

## EAST COKER FLOWER SHOW Saturday 17 August 2019 at East Coker Hall

**Tips for Entering** – Try to get the vegetables all the same size and colour if possible. Carrots must have foliage trimmed back to 7.5cm (3") and tied with string or elastic bands. Peas and Beans to be displayed with some stalk attached. Onions can be stood on sand on a plate, trim the top and tie with string or bands. Tomatoes must be displayed with calyces (the green flower bud case); they can be stood on sand on a plate. Beetroot must be plated. Gently wash potatoes, carrots, apples and dry. Wipe clean beetroot, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers and courgettes.

**Cut Flowers** – you can use any vase, and you can put newspaper or oasis in the vase to hold the flowers in place. The flowers will be viewed from all sides.

Please try and enter and support the show. We have different wine classes this year and It may be worth trying to give it a go. Looking forward to seeing all your hard work. Please try to encourage the children to enter the classes, there is **Prize Money** for the children. Also do not forget class 70 – Any Photo taken by a young person up to the age of 16 years old, the Olive Sharman Award plus £10 prize money.

Sarah Rashley

## EAST COKER SCOUT GROUP



We have been pleased to award several of the highest awards for the section during this term – Esme and Matthew achieved their Gold Chief Scout's Award (scouts); Joseph and Bailey achieved their Silver Chief Scout's Award (cubs); and Olivia, Marla and Harriet achieved their Bronze Chief Scout's Award (beavers). These awards demonstrate achievement across a broad range of activities during their time within each section. The Beavers have been taking photographs for their Photographer badge, decorating cakes for the Skills Challenge badge and will be learning how to look after their teeth.



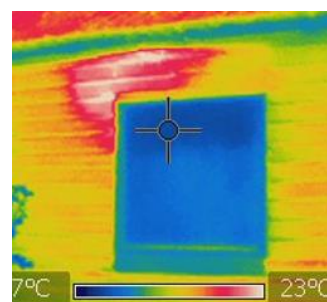
The Cubs have a busy term covering the Aviation 1, Chef, Pioneer, Entertainer and Disability Awareness badges. This has included an array of activities from a visit by a Merlin helicopter pilot to cooking pancakes. In February, the scouts completed an eight-mile hike in high wind and rain conditions. This was a practice for the Fox Trophy hike competition in April which covers 15 miles over two days. The Scouts will have to carry all their equipment and food. During Friday evenings, they have been learning First Aid, including CPR, and map reading, and are preparing to cook a two course meal as a patrol.



Bethan, Clare, Toby and Ruby continue their preparations for the World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia, USA in July. During their latest camp, they were woken up at 6.00am to practice passport and immigration control whilst tired! They also practiced cooking meals using the 'limited' ingredients that will be available on the Jamboree. They have ordered their extra uniform which will be delivered in April - we hope it all fits; and badges and spare scarves for swapping.

Fundraising for the Group (jumble sale and newspaper collections – see below for dates) has now had the Village Quiz added; see the separate Newsletter article.

The Yeovil Bee Society will be removing the bees from the Scout Hut wall soon. Hopefully they will not return, although the bee keeper says there is little that will deter them. The infrared picture shows that the bees are creating a lot of heat in the wall to the top left corner of the store window.



### Newspaper Collections: 9.00 am to 10.30 am

**Saturday 27 April**

**Saturday 25 May**

**Saturday 29 June**

The collection point is outside the school, opposite the Village Café on the last Saturday of each month. If possible, please flat-pack your newspapers and tie into bundles.

David Webber, Group Scout Leader [eastcokerscouts@gmail.com](mailto:eastcokerscouts@gmail.com)

### East Coker Village Quiz

In the last Newsletter, Martyn and Cherry announced they were stopping organising the Village Quiz – under their leadership the quiz has become a foundation of the village calendar. Having run the Bonus Quiz last November, the East Coker Scouts decided we could take this on to ensure the event continues in the village diary and to provide much needed funds to maintain our active programme of activities and our Scout Hut.

On the evening of Saturday 9 March, 23 teams settled themselves in to the East Coker Hall and answered questions on topics ranging from 'Film Buildings and Sets' to 'Sounds Tasty' and including 'Who is older, Theresa May or Tony Blair?'

Two teams almost managed to find one answer that the quiz gopher had not noticed, but sadly tonsils is not quite a complete anagram nostril – but nice try!

At the end of the evening, the Cockerel first prize was awarded to The Poetry Group (118 points) and the creme eggs went to the Rusty Cogs (84.5 points).

For this year, as a link to the previous quiz format whereby the winners chose a charity to receive the profit from the next event, the Scouts will pay £300 (30% of the profit) to Alzheimer's Research UK. This charity was chosen by the Poetry Group, as they also won in 2018. From next year, all the proceeds from the event will go towards running and maintaining the Scout Hut – it has much that needs attention including replacing the roof, a new entrance and to repair the floor.

We look forward to welcoming you again when the quiz returns on Saturday 7 March 2020.

David Webber, Group Scout Leader

### **The Poetry Group**



**The Rusty Cogs**



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

The sun is out, and it really feels like spring is here. Our wonderful outdoor garden has been fully utilised over the winter, but this week the mud kitchen and sandpit were places to linger once again. Sharing time with the children as they “cook” in the mud kitchen is a wonderful opportunity to talk, wonder and giggle. The Playgroup is a charity, and all fundraising is essential in supporting the Playgroup. Fundraising will enable the Playgroup to maintain and replace the resources that support the children’s learning and development. Our next fundraiser is the Annual Playgroup:

#### **Summer Fair**

Saturday 18 May 2019 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 years. We accept 2-year old funding, 15 hour Universal Early Years Entitlement, Extended Entitlement 30 hour free childcare, Tax Free Childcare and Childcare Vouchers. For more information on support with childcare costs, please visit [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) the Childcare Choices website which makes it easy to find out what's on offer.



We are open during term time at the following session times:

- Monday 9.00-12.00 – 1.00-3.00
- Tuesday 9.00-12.00 – 1.00-3.00
- Wednesday 9.00-12.00 – 1.00-3.00
- Thursday 9.00-12.00 – 1.00-3.00
- Friday 9.00-12.00 – 1.00-3.00

Children staying for lunch need to bring a packed lunch. Please enquire about extended opening hours, 8.00am-4.00pm.

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. East Chinnock Under Fives Playgroup is a smaller group and this can be a great benefit to the younger children. East Chinnock Under Fives Playgroup also run an integrated Toddler Session on Thursday mornings from 9.30am to 11.00am for £2 per family. To find out more information, please visit [www.eastchinnockunder5spreschool.co.uk](http://www.eastchinnockunder5spreschool.co.uk) or look at our Facebook page East Chinnock Playgroup.

East Chinnock Under Fives Preschool are holding a:

**Alice In Wonderland Easter Trail**

on Monday 22 April 2019 from 10.00am to 1.00pm

at The Recreation Ground, Weston Street, East Chinnock

there will be refreshments, cake stall, optional fancy dress & maddest hat, face painting, raffle and a special performance from Razzamataz @ 10.30am.

Fun for all the family.

Charity no. 1026644

For more information and to put your child/children on the waiting list for either East Coker Playgroup or East Chinnock Under Fives, please contact Kay Strode on 07503751133 or email [ecplaygroup@aol.com](mailto:ecplaygroup@aol.com)

**EAST COKER PRIMARY SCHOOL**



I am quickly realising that East Coker Primary school do not do things by halves. In another action-packed term we have had many exciting experiences for the children.

Before half term, we had a wellbeing week focussing on the steps to wellbeing: connecting to others, keeping active, giving to others, taking notice and learning new things. The week incorporated all these steps in creative and innovative ways. Children saw how small actions can make a big impact to themselves and others.

The school celebrated World Book Day by organising a week of literacy enrichment. The week started with a visit from published children's author Kate Scott, who delivered workshops based on her books. Our focus was poetry and vocabulary, with inspiration from nature and our beautiful local surroundings. The week culminated in a fancy-dress day, where children came as their favourite literary character, and a visit from renowned storyteller Martin Maudsley. Martin delivered workshops to each class based on local folk tales in his unique style (accompanied by his trusty ukulele).

The children from years 5 and 6 entered a 550-word story competition organised by the Yeovil Community Arts Association. I am very proud to say that the overall winner was Lucy Dennison, with Emily Palmer and Eden Rendall taking two of the three runners-up places. The competition was judged by novelist, Tamsin Cooke, who as well as Liz Pike (Chair of YCAA), commented on the overall quality of entries from East Coker Primary School. Well done to all those who took part; a very exciting literary future for children from East Coker.

East Coker has also had more sporting successes this term with a number of teams qualifying for the county finals. The girls' football team came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the county scoring more goals than any other team. Also, the school netball team has won the area tournament and will take part in the county finals at Millfield. We will let you know how they get on in the next newsletter. Our mixed year 5/6 football team won the EFL area cup and qualified for a regional tournament hosted by Swindon Town FC. We narrowly missed out on qualifying for the semi-finals. As well as competitive sport, we continue to offer a range of physical activities so all children, whatever their ability, can be more active. We are trialling an active maths programme and are looking to do more outdoor learning, so expect to see us in and around the village as we extend our learning outside the classroom.

James Rich, Deputy Headteacher

## The Churches

### THE CHAPEL - EAST COKER

We would love to welcome you anytime you would like to pop along to any of our meetings whether you have a faith or not! We are a growing community of people from all walks of life who gather together regularly to worship God, learn how to better follow Him and to encourage each other in our lives as Christians. If you are looking for answers to some of life's big questions why not come along to one of our events and find out more.

**Cafe Church at East Coker Village Hall.** A free breakfast, the chance to meet new people and an opportunity to see what church is really about. Great for all the family! Held on the first Sunday of the month at 11.00am.

**Sunday Mornings at East Coker Hall - 11.00am.** A time of worship, an inspirational and challenging short message, prayer and plenty of tea and biscuits. Includes Kids Church groups suitable for ages 2-14 years, and monthly all age service.

**Little Wheelers at East Coker Hall** is a baby and toddler Group which runs during term time from 10.30am-12.00pm. Parents/Guardians remain responsible for their children throughout the session.

**Prayer at the Chapel** is on the last Sunday of the month at 5.00pm. Come and have a cup of tea and spend a few minutes in prayer before the business of the week ahead.

For any further details of events or general enquiries, please email [ec.cf@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ec.cf@hotmail.co.uk) or take a look at our website [www.eastcokerchapel.com](http://www.eastcokerchapel.com). You can also follow us on Facebook.

Phil & Liz Dunning 07949 840442. Joe & Charlotte Dunning 07800 746754.

### ALL SAINTS' SUTTON BIMGHAM

The church will be holding a coffee morning at The Forester's on Friday 26 April. Please come along and support us whilst enjoying coffee and home-made cakes.



# COULD YOU VOLUNTEER WITH US?

Learn new skills, meet new people. Be there.

**A lot of people need us.** That's why our volunteers are always around to give anyone who is struggling to cope the space and time to talk.

## Find out about joining Samaritans

Our information evenings take place on the first Wednesday of every month at 25, The Park, Yeovil BA20 1DG at 7pm.

We welcome and value volunteers from all walks of life and full training is provided. You must be 18 and over.

☎ 01935 414 015\*  
✉ [recruitment@yeovilsamaritans.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@yeovilsamaritans.org.uk)  
🌐 [samaritans.org/yeovil](http://samaritans.org/yeovil)

\*Local call charges apply. Samaritans of Yeovil Sherborne and District is a charity registered in England and Wales (1168371).

## ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Greetings and welcome from all at St Michael's. Look out for our fine new Church Noticeboard on the Paddock just below the Almshouses. Here you will find contact details for our Rector, Colin Simpson and other useful contacts, also details of Services and events at St Michael's and across the Coker Ridge Benefice. The weekly Pew sheets in the Church also give details. Very shortly, we will have an exciting new Coker Ridge website. We continue to pray for a Church Warden.

**Important date for your diary – Messy Easter** Saturday 13 April at East Coker Hall – 4.00pm.

**Holy Week & Easter Services at St Michael's** are as follows:

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	14 April at 8.00am, Holy Communion - Book of Common Prayer and distribution of Palm Crosses.
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	10.00am – Holy Communion.
<b>Good Friday</b>	19 April at 12 noon – Reflections on the Cross.
<b>EASTER DAY</b>	21 April at 11.00am – Holy Communion.

Just a reminder for you of the Service rota for St Michael's:

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	11.00am - Sung Eucharist
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	8.00am – Holy Communion
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	6.00pm – Evensong
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	11.00am - Sung Eucharist
Every Thursday	10.00am – Holy Communion

### Future events

#### Turn Paintings into Musical Instruments

Saturday 27 April and Sunday 28 April, 12 noon – 2.00pm and 5.00pm – 7.00pm Help our Zambian Link Church, St Peter's, Twapia, to purchase instruments for their Boys' Brigade Praise Band.

Jacqueline Clough is clearing her Studio - £10 for a glass of Fizz and a painting of your choice. Many more bargains from £5. Event at The Old Farmhouse, West Mudford, BA21 5TJ, tel 01935 850256.

#### A Celebration of Marriage & Baptism at St Michael's, 8 June 2019

**Saturday 8 June, 2.00pm – 5.30pm.** A Celebration of Marriage & Baptism at St Michael's, East Coker. A display of Wedding dresses & Christening robes belonging to local folk. Wedding flowers, old photographs, Music & Teas - perhaps some Wedding Cake!

Donations to the Benefice Messy Church Fund. Enquiries: Jacqueline Clough

Tel 01935 850256, email [j.clough3229@gmail.com](mailto:j.clough3229@gmail.com)

## Village News

#### PLANT & CAKE SALE – Walnut Cottage, Coker Marsh – Saturday 25 May 2019

After the success of last year, the sale will be held again from 10.00am – 12.00pm at Walnut Cottage, Coker Marsh, East Coker.

There will be an even larger choice of plants; delicious homemade cakes; tea & coffee; raffle; book stall and hopefully a couple of craft stalls.

Any offers of cakes or raffle prizes would be extremely welcome.

Parking is on the road outside the cottage, and there will be people to help carry plants etc.

Contact Kate Best, 07796 991592. All proceeds from the cake stall, raffle, refreshments and book stall will go to St. Margaret's Hospice.

## THE VILLAGE CAFÉ

Exciting times, as the little café will hopefully have its very own website by the middle of May; this will have all opening hours, our holidays etc so as to avoid disappointment. Our apologies for the irregular hours we have been keeping these last couple of months.

Wishing you all wonderful Easter

Love, The Village Café xx

## PLANT SALE FOR CANCER RESEARCH - 2 Cross Cottages (adjacent to the triangle)

My son Jules and I are busy growing lots of plants that will be available from 1 May in aid of Cancer Research. There will be fuchsias, geraniums, lobelias etc for tubs and pots and planting out in the garden. All at 50p or less. Also, shrubs and vegetable plants, all at very reasonable prices.

My daughter-in-law, Rose, lost her mum two years ago and has already raised over £7,000 by cycling from London to Paris.

Plants will be available from the garden every day from 1 May for collection. Notices will be put up on the Village Noticeboards over Easter with details. We are adjacent to the Triangle at No 2 Cross Cottages.

Glenis

## ACTION MEDICAL RESEARCH

Our local Cream Tea delivery this year will be on Thursday 20 June; we will deliver an individual box, filled with 2 scones, 2 pots of jam, clotted cream, strawberries, a teabag, a knife and serviette, to any address in East Coker for £6 a box. Why not get together with some neighbours and friends and have a tea party in your garden with everything provided for you, and help us raise valuable funds for the hundreds and thousands of children in the UK whose lives are devastated by disease and disability?

Following the success of our National Cream Tea Delivery last year when we packed 8,500 boxes to be sent to businesses all over the UK - raising £55,000 for the Charity - we are this year gearing up to accept up to 10,000 orders. Obviously, this is a huge undertaking for a small committee such as ourselves but we were helped last year by many willing volunteers who came along to support us. If you would like to be involved this year, we will be working at The Gateway in Yeovil on Tuesday 25 June and Wednesday 26 June.

For further details, please contact me on 01935 478409 or [janedonnelly81@outlook.com](mailto:janedonnelly81@outlook.com)

## AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE

We've had a complaint regarding speeding vehicles on Sandhurst Road as you leave Yeovil heading into East Coker so it's a reminder, I'm afraid this month, to stick to the relevant speed limits, in this case it still is **30mph**.

If anyone is interested in finding out about Community Speed Watch which is where local Volunteers can help with regards to this, please let me know.

More advice is available on the Avon and Somerset Police Website or stop us and speak to us when you see us out and about.

Regards, **Fiona Wilson**  
PCSO 8380

Neighbourhood Policing Dept | Avon and Somerset Police  
Yeovil Police Station, Horsey Lane, YEOVIL, Somerset BA20 1SN  
**Tel** 101 | **Ext**    **Mob** 07889659261

Email [fiona.wilson@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:fiona.wilson@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

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## EAST COKER PARISH COUNCIL

We say goodbye to our present clerk, Gill McPherson. Thank you for all your hard work over the past four years, and good luck in your new job, Gill. But a welcome to our new clerk, Judith Heggarty. Judith has lived in the village for 15 years and is a welcome new member of our Parish Council Team. She can be contacted on 863778 or email [clerk@eastcokerparish.com](mailto:clerk@eastcokerparish.com) (office hours only please).

### Defibrillator at the Pavilion

A plaque has been erected at The Pavilion in memory of the late Councillor, Jimmy New. The unveiling will take place on Wednesday 8 May at 6.45pm. All welcome.

### The Chapel

The Working Group now have many ideas for how we can use this lovely quiet space. Quiet reflection, book swaps, T.S. Eliot/William Dampier information boards, Roman Villa. Suggestions and ideas very welcome, and if you would like to be involved in this project, please contact The Clerk.

### Neighbourhood Plan

This is now complete and is used every month at Parish Council Meetings during planning discussions. It can be viewed at the Village Café, and a copy can be taken away as long as it is returned to Keita within a day or so for others to see. This has been a long project, but the results are amazing, and the document will be used for many years to come to help us in the community with future Planning.

### Community Lunch/Loneliness Project

The Parish Council will host a Community Lunch at The Pavilion on 29 June at 12.30p.m. This will be free, and all ages are very welcome. There will be a guest speaker, raffle, lots of food, entertainment and some fun. Watch this space for more information and Posters.

### Highways and Potholes

Please report any potholes you notice on your travels to The Clerk. There is also a very useful app which is called 'Fix My Street'.

### Village Traffic - Speed and Signage

As you will have noticed, signage has now been erected throughout the Village. It has been suggested that a neighbourhood speed watch should be conducted. If you are happy to volunteer for this, please contact The Clerk.

### Pavilion Refurbishment

The survey has now been conducted and Plans are ongoing. The Working Party meet frequently, and there should be some news in the next newsletter.

## **Dogs**

Please could you keep your dogs under close control when walking them in our village. Dogs should never be off a lead when in a field of sheep. We have had a few really serious and disturbing incidents involving sheep and wild life recently and it is very distressing.

## **Ranger**

If you see the Ranger, Karen, working around the Parish, please offer her a cuppa. If you see anything that needs her attention, please contact Chair, Bridget Sugg on 863435 (no calls after 6.00pm please).

## **Police Community Support Officers**

We now have two great Officers who are often around the Village and nearly always in the Village Café on Tuesday mornings between 10.00am and 11.00am. They are very approachable and helpful, and if you notice anything that needs reporting, please call in to the Café or contact The Clerk.

**Email circulation list.** If you would like to be kept up-to-date with Parish Council news, please contact the Clerk. GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) are followed and you can opt-out at any time.

**Councillors' contact details** are on our website [www.eastcokerparish.com](http://www.eastcokerparish.com).

## **BADMINTON**

Are you interested in playing badminton on a Thursday afternoon during term times? We are a group of mixed ability and would welcome new members. Playing from 2.15pm until 3.15pm but being able to extend the time if numbers increase.

If you are interested, please contact either Hebe Bowes, tel. 863884 or Joyce Pryor, tel 862816

## **STAMPS FOR CLIC SARGENT (Cancer & Leukaemia in Children)**

A very big 'thank-you' to everyone who saves their used stamps, a huge bagful has been received by the charity.

The Village Café will now accept them, so please save all your stamps for this worthy cause as they are reused to make money for this charity, which funds vital research into childhood cancers.

## **THE MOBILE LIBRARY**

We are very fortunate to still have the Mobile Library visiting East Coker every four weeks from 12.40pm to 12.55pm on a Tuesday, stopping at the Helyar Arms. These dates are published on the Parish Council's website calendar at [www.eastcokerparish.com](http://www.eastcokerparish.com) and in East Coker Society's Diary.

**Dates: Tuesday 9 April      Tuesday 7 May      Tuesday 4 June      Tuesday 2 July**

## **BONFIRES**

It pays to plan well before having a bonfire. Please inform neighbours and check that hedgehogs have not taken up residence. Think of the direction of the wind, and don't allow damp material to smoulder. Late in the afternoon allows people to enjoy sitting in the sun, washing to be dried, and gardening to be done without having to retreat indoors from bonfire smoke and falling ash. Please be neighbourhood-friendly.

## **EAST COKER WEA**

Coker WEA branch is a collaboration of three wards - those from East & West Coker and Hardington.

On Saturday 13 April we have a study day, from 10.00am – 1.00pm, in Hardington, on the genealogy of Medieval Women in Somerset traced through their land ownership.

For more information on this topic, please register via the WEA website <https://enrolonline.wea.org.uk/online/coursesearchresults.aspx> or telephone 0300 303 3464. Alternatively, contact Viv on 863953 or Jayne on 86238.

## REFUSE COLLECTION FOR EASTER & MAY BANK HOLIDAYS

The after Easter (Wednesday) refuse collection will be Thursday 25 April.

The 6 May Spring Bank Holiday (Wednesday) refuse collection will be Thursday 9 May

The 27 May Bank Holiday (Wednesday) recycling collection will be Thursday 30 May

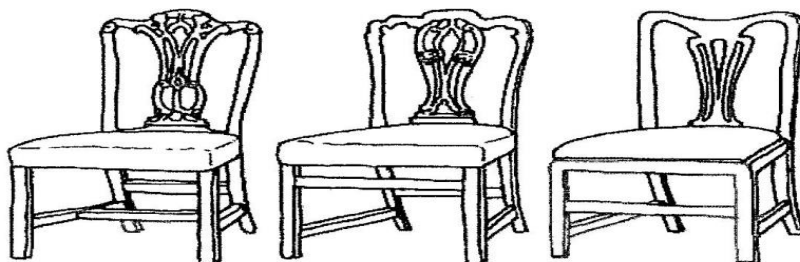
## NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the Newsletter will be in **July 2019**. Copy, please, to Lesley Lindsay, Little Meadow, Coker Marsh, East Coker or email [l.lindsay@eastcoker.com](mailto:l.lindsay@eastcoker.com), by **Friday 21 June 2019 or before if possible**.

# **KEN MARSH**

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# QUARTERLY VILLAGE DIARY

April 2019 – July 2019

Mon 8 April	W I – Fun & Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Tues 9 April	Library	12.40pm-12.55pm	Helyar Arms
Thurs 11 April	Gardening Club – Hanging Baskets	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
12 - 17 April	Wine Circle – Trip to the Lochs		
Mon 15 April	Time To Share – Easter Flower Demo	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 18 April	W I – Whist Drive	7.00pm	East Coker Hall
Mon 22 April	Alice in Wonderland Easter Trail	10.00am - 1.00pm	East Chinnock
Wed 24 April	FilmFlixs – Stan & Ollie	7.00pm – 7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 25 April	Easter Refuse Collection		
Thurs 25 April	W I – Hanging Baskets	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 26 April	Coffee Morning – Sutton Bingham Church	10.00am -12.00pm	The Forester's
Sat 27 April	Scouts Newspaper Collection	9.00am - 10.30am	Opposite the Café
Mon 29 April	Time To Share – India	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Tues 30 April	Poetry Group – Leonard Cohen	7.30pm	Helyar Arms
Wed 1 May	Plant Sale in aid of Cancer Research		2 Cross Cottages
Wed 1 May	East Coker Society AGM	7.00pm	Helyar Arms
Wed 1 May	Wine Circle – NatWest on Scams	8.00pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 3 May	RBL – Cheese & Wine	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Tues 7 May	Library	12.40pm-12.55pm	Helyar Arms
Wed 8 May	Parish Council – Plaque unveiling	6.45pm	The Pavilion
Thurs 9 May	Gardening Club – Making a Bee Friendly Garden	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 9 May	Early Spring Bank Holiday Refuse Collection		
Mon 13 May	Time To Share – Cream Tea	2.30pm	Palmers
Wed 15 May	Gardening Club – Killerton House		
Sat 18 May	The Playgroup – Summer Fair	12.30pm - 3.30pm	The Pavilion
Mon 20 May	Time to Share – Seated Exercise	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 24 May	Coffee Morning – RBL	10.00am -12.00pm	The Forester's
Sat 25 May	Scouts Newspaper Collection	9.00am - 10.30am	Opposite the Café
Sat 25 May	Plant & Cake Sale at Walnut Cottage	10.00am - 12.00pm	Walnut Cottage
Tues 28 May	Poetry Group – The English River	7.30pm	Helyar Arms
Wed 29 May	FilmFlixs – On the Basis of Sex	7.00pm – 7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 30 May	W I – Joyce Grenfell	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 30 May	Late May Bank Holiday – Recycling		
Mon 3 June	Time To Share – Tea Dance	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Tues 4 June	Library	12.40pm-12.55pm	Helyar Arms
Wed 5 June	Wine Circle – Summer Wine Tasting	8.00pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 8 June	Marriage & Baptism Exhibition	2.00pm – 5.30pm	St Michael's Church
Mon 10 June	W I – Fun and Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 13 Jun	Gardening Club – Talk on Kingston Lacy	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Mon 17 June	Time To Share – Living Life	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thur 20 June	Gardening Club – Kingston Lacy		
Thur 20 June	Action Medical Research – Cream Teas		
<b>Fri 21 June</b>	<b>Copy for July Newsletter</b>		
Tues 25 & Wed 26 June	Action Medical Research – National Cream Tea Delivery		The Gateway, Yeovil
Thur 27 June	W I – Birthday Outing		
Fri 28 June	Coffee Morning – KidsOut	10.00am -12.00pm	The Forester's
Sat 29 June	Community Lunch	12.30pm	The Pavilion
Sat 29 June	The Scouts – Newspaper Collection	9.00am-10.30am	Opposite the Café
Mon 1 July	Time To Share – Birthday Party	2.30pm	The Pavilion
Mon 1 July	The Players – Script Reading	7.00pm	East Coker Hall
Tues 3 July	Library	12.40pm-12.55pm	Helyar Arms