

East Coker Society Newsletter



October 2010

Free Issue No 140

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| Chair: John Sugg | 863435 | westcountry4cars@tiscali.co.uk |
| Newsletter Editor: Lesley Lindsay | 862868 | L.Lindsay@eastcoker.com |
| Secretary: Sarah Owen | 862218 | |
| Treasurer: Keith Helliar | 863700 | |

East Coker Society News

MORE EMAILS PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE!

At the Society's recent AGM the current extremely low number of residents who opt to receive the Newsletter by this means was discussed and the Committee felt it opportune to ask again for those villagers with computers to advise Lesley Lindsay of their e-mail address in order that the considerable cost of printing hard copies can be substantially reduced. It will also ease the occasional difficulties over manual distribution which arise through illness and holidays etc.

We have roughly 800 households in the village, yet only 189 have taken up the e-mail option. In asking for villagers co-operation it is stressed that:

- a) Individuals' e-mail addresses are secure and will not be disclosed to any other party.
- b) All villagers who wish to continue to receive hard copies of the Newsletter can continue to enjoy this option.
- c) Please remember many e-mail recipients do not print the whole document but only the pages that interest them, particularly the all important calendar of events.

LITTER

East Coker is admired by visitors from both home and abroad. We are so fortunate to live in such a beautiful village. Some people already help with litter picking. We can all help by clearing the areas close to our own homes or on our walks around the village.

VILLAGE EVENTS DIARY 2010

The 2010 Diary is now at The Store, East Coker, and can be found at the back of the shop on the bottom shelf near the stationery. **Please could village organisations put their forthcoming events in the Diary to avoid the dates clashing.** Thank you.

THE EAST COKER SHOPPING BAG

The East Coker Bag is a **'must-have'** item if you live in East Coker! It is also a good Christmas present for posting as it is light in weight. The cotton shopper is available with either long or short handles, and has the East Coker Cockerel on one side. Environmentally friendly, and good for the 'green' consumer! Available from The Store, East Coker, or Sarah Owen 862218

Village Clubs and Organisations

AUTUMN!

Autumn is the 'Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness' as John Keats wrote. Please, therefore, consider your neighbours before having a bonfire in the middle of the day. Late afternoon allows washing to be dried, leaves to be raked and gardening to be done without having to retreat indoors from bonfire smoke.

ADVANCE NOTICE of the WINTER FAYRE – In aid of All Saints' Sutton Bingham Roof Fund

Saturday 20 November 2010, 2.00pm – 4.00pm at the East Coker Village Hall

Book early! Tables for the Winter Fayre are available. The price is £2 a foot, for 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 foot tables. Setting up of tables will be from 1.00pm onwards.

Individuals or organisations who wish to reserve a table should please fill in the form below, and send it with either cash or a cheque, by 6 November at the latest, made payable to, **Carol Blackmore**, Pippins, Higher Burton, East Coker tel. 862192. This will make certain your stall is reserved.



WINTER FAYRE SATURDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2010 – East Coker Village Hall – 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Name of Organisation.....

Type of Stall.....

Contact Name and Telephone Number.....

Size of table at £2 per foot..... I enclose £.....Signed.....



EAST COKER READING GROUP

We generally meet on the first Tuesday evening of each month. There are currently nine members (eight women and one man) and we are hopeful of also forming a daytime group. We are currently reading 'Silent Boy' by Torey Hayden. Next month we are looking at 'The Return' by Victoria Hislop.

If you wish to have more details, or are interested in joining the group or forming a daytime reading group, please contact Kevin Chapman on 07812726853 or 01935 422594 or email ec.cf@hotmail.co.uk

MONTHLY CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS

Five charities have already booked events for 2011. Many thanks to everyone at the Helyar Arms for their continuing support of these popular and worthwhile village charity events.

Friday 29 October – Action Medical Research
Friday 26 November – Children in Need

Cherry Sowerbutts 863313, Penny Marpole 863055

EAST COKER ACTION MEDICAL RESEARCH

Many thanks to all of you who supported our Cream Tea event in June. We delivered over 550 individual cream teas in Yeovil, Crewkerne and Sherborne. We also organised deliveries in Chippenham and the Bridport area and so, in total, our profit from this event was £5,118.40. We will be continuing this next year and following requests from an office in London hope, with the help of an overnight courier service, to deliver to them and other offices in London!

We are holding a Christmas Shopping Fayre on Thursday 4 November at the East Coker Village Hall from 3.00pm to 8.00pm. There will be many stalls selling a large selection of good quality gifts to suit all age groups and pockets. Tickets are £4 in advance or £5 on the door including a drink and a mince pie. Tickets and more information available from Jane Donnelly 478409, Angie Mead 862972 and Barb Raison 862553

Jane Donnelly

EAST COKER PLAYERS

We had a very busy time during July with our display and wandering minstrel at the Village Fete, also an informative Voice Workshop with Ian White and a damp but enjoyable BBQ evening at The Poplars

Since coming back after the holiday break, we have had an improvisation workshop and a Saturday morning backstage visit to the Octagon where we were allowed to stand on the set of Hi-de-Hi and see their costumes.

Still to come this year

4 October – Halloween Show Meeting 7.00pm. Bring your ideas of what you would like to do. Sing a song, dance, read a poem, anything on a spooky theme. Maybe this year you would like to help back stage or front of house. Come along.

18 & 25 October – Halloween Rehearsals.

30 October – Halloween Supper Show. Price of tickets TBA to include soup and bread supper – bring your own drink.

19 November – Theatre Outing. Bright Sparks – Octagon. Tickets £9

6 December – Christmas Social.

Membership – Adults £5 Children £2 (Min. age 8 years). If you are interested in joining us and/or would like to be involved in the next production, please contact us.

Anne Hartley 862060 or Hazel Giddings 429163

EAST COKER POETRY GROUP

Tuesday 26 October – Competition Evening. The winner of this year's competition will be announced and all poems entered will be read. All meetings at The Helyar Arms, East Coker

Contact Group Co-ordinator David Cloke on 862623

WESTERN GAZETTE CORRESPONDENT

After 17 years as an accredited Western Gazette correspondent for East Coker I have decided to resign. Anyone seeking publicity should contact the News-desk directly in future.

David Pryor

EAST COKER WINE CIRCLE

Following its highly successful wine festival, run under the auspices of the East Coker Show, local winemakers are now gearing themselves up for their challenge at the South Western Counties Wine and Beer Championships at Newquay, Cornwall. We have been encouraged by the success of last year's Chairman's Choice, for which non-established winemakers were asked to make an orange wine to a set recipe. Tony Mitchell won the Circle's Internal Competition for this wine and Ken Copley won the novice cup at the East Coker Show. A dozen members have taken up the offer for this year's Chairman's Choice for which they have to make a light Germanic style white wine, from cartons of fruit juice. A recent forum in the Dampier Room was well attended, when members were tutored in the process. The year ahead promises to be a very interesting and enjoyable one with more emphasis being placed on alcohol-related topics, including tastings of wine, Welsh whisky, liqueurs and cider. Such has been the positive feedback following the Summer BBQ event when Fine Whines provided live music throughout the afternoon, that it is expected that their playing for the theme party on 15 January will prompt an increase in demand for tickets. A two-course meal and punch is included in the £8 price of the ticket. Please book early to avoid disappointment as tickets will be strictly limited. Anyone interested in joining the Circle should contact the Secretary, Joyce Pryor, on 862816 or e-mail da.jo@btinternet.com. The Circle's web page is shortly to be updated and can be found at www.eastcokerwinecircle.co.uk.

Diary dates

13 October Recycling Workshop – East Coker Village Hall 8.00pm

3 November Liqueur and Whisky Tasting and Talk – East Coker Village Hall 8.00pm

1st December 'Call My Bluff' style wine-tasting – East Coker Village Hall 8.00pm

15 January 2011 Theme Party 'Black & White' music by Fine Whines – East Coker Village Hall 7.30pm

2 February 2011 Talk and tasting by Ilchester Cheese Co. – East Coker Village Hall 8.00pm

EAST COKER W I

We have had some very interesting speakers at our monthly meetings in the last three months. Our scheduled speaker for May cancelled at very short notice and we were fortunate to find Robert Allwood available to tell us all about the Flax Industry in East Coker in past years. There are still tell-tale signs if you know where to look. Models of gypsy caravans were on display for July meeting and explanations of how and why they were made. The biggest eye-opener was the August meeting when David Peet told us all about the Mercy Ship which is manned entirely by 400 volunteers and brings hope and help to so many Africans in medicine and operations. The continuing programme will be just as interesting. Our winter monthly Whist Drives, open to everyone, start on Thursday, 21 October at 7.30pm at the East Coker Village Hall. This is a fun evening with good prizes so please come and join us. We are especially looking forward to the County Annual Meeting when farmer, Adam Henson, of 'Countryfile' fame will be speaking at Westland's in November.

For further information about our organization please contact secretary Joyce Pryor 862816

Diary dates

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Thursday 21 October | Whist Drive 7.30pm East Coker Village Hall |
| Thursday 28 October | A Man's view of the W.I. 7.30pm East Coker Village Hall |
| Thursday 18 November | Whist Drive 7.30pm East Coker Village Hall |
| Thursday 25 November | A Mill Worker's Tale 7.30pm East Coker Village Hall |
| Thursday 16 December | Whist Drive 7.30pm East Coker Village Hall |
| December | Eating out date and venue to be arranged |
| Thursday 20 January 2011 | Whist Drive 7.30pm East Coker Village Hall |
| Thursday 27 January 2011 | The Great Crane Project 7.30pm East Coker Village Hall |

EAST & WEST COKER BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Thank you, once again, to all who gave so generously to the 2009 Poppy Appeal. Most of you are aware our branch area total of £6000 was a record. The national figure has now reached £33,570,454. Total funds raised by the charity in 2009 (inclusive of the Poppy Appeal) were £107.2M. Out of this total £65M was spent on Welfare.

Our 2010 Poppy Appeal will launch in October and I ask you to support our dedicated collectors when they call. Your donations help us to support around 10.5 million eligible people in the UK. The RBL receives thousands of calls for help every year. This figure is likely to increase as hostilities continue in Afghanistan. From 2001 to 5 September 2010 334 British forces have been killed and over 5,000 personnel injured in the continuing war on terrorism. The Legion provides welfare support, not only to those engaged in the current conflicts, but also to servicemen and women, past and present, who are currently serving or have served for at least seven days in the armed forces. Dependants are also eligible.

Poppy Support is the umbrella term for our wide range of welfare services. It is split into a number of categories one of which is Poppy Advice. Through this the RBL offers advice on war pensions, compensation claims, benefits, money matters and careers advice for those leaving the forces. Poppy Calls – this service has recently started operating in our area. What is it? A free dedicated handy-person service to those eligible and living independently, who are unable to carry out small repairs and minor alterations in the home e.g. putting up grab rails, shelves, curtain tracks, changing light bulbs, tap washers, fitting door & window locks hanging/repairing doors etc. If there is a job not listed, please call. If they can help they will. Do you know of any ex-service person or dependant requiring help or assistance? In the first instance please contact any of those listed below or call – a) Poppy Calls 01480 478031 - b) Legionline 08457 725725

Chairman: David Holland 862782; Secretary: Marilyn Smith 863944; Acting Membership Secretary Caroline Field 863271

Events Branch Coffee Morning, Saturday 23 October, East Coker Village Hall 10-30am – 12noon. Branch AGM, Wednesday 17 November, Dampier Room, East Coker Village Hall 7.30pm. Sunday 14 November, Remembrance Services at St Michael's East Coker & St Martin's West Coker.

Thank you all for your continued support.

David Holland

Copperfields Services

Property Maintenance

Pete Clarke

01935 432215

07756 839225

Extensions

Conversions

Painting & Decorating

Garden Landscaping

No job too small

Reliable Local Family Business

EAST COKER GARDENING CLUB

October to January 2011 Programme

Thursday 14 October – Kerton Sweet Peas – Mr P. Kerton

Thursday 11 November – AGM held at the Quicksilver Mail, Yeovil

Thursday 9 December – Photography in the Garden – John Marriage

Thursday 13 January – Gardening Folklore – Mike Burke, Castle Gardens

Monthly meetings are held in the East Coker Village Hall on the second Thursday of the month, commencing at 7:30pm. Visitors and new members are always welcome. For further information, please contact Catherine Denney, Honorary Secretary (862294) or Stan Shayler, Honorary Treasurer (420291).

EAST COKER FLOWER SHOW & WINE FESTIVAL – 21 August 2010

Thank you for a good turnout of people we had a very good day, the sun was shining on us and we made £205.05. This will go towards next year's charity. We have a missing Regency Green Denby large tea plate. If any one picked it up, please could you contact Sarah Rashley or Leigh at The Stores or Gloria Mead. Thank you.

Results

MAUDSLEY SILVER CHALLENGE CUP - Joyce Pryor

ARCHIE NEVILLE MEMORIAL CUP - Mike Bayliss

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS CUP - Don White

RALPH EACOTT PLAQUE - Roy Thomas

PITTARD ROSE CUP - D Carter

JANE HARVEY POT PLANT SALVER - Sally Anderson

DON WHITE CHALLENGE CUP - Ian Anderson

MOLLY KETTLEWELL HERB CUP - Christine Mead

MISS KEEFE CUP - Christine Mead

DRAKE MEMORIAL CUP - Edna Mitchell and Jean Carter

EILEEN DOYE MEMORIAL CUP - Davina Knobbs

CHRISTINE MEAD CUP - June Gatcombe

SOCIETY PHOTOGRAPHIC TROPHY - David Pryor

JOHN WHITTOCK MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP - David Pryor

EAST COKER GARDEN CLUB - Danika Bunce and Adam Buttle

GLORIA MEAD CUP - Henry Cruickshank

MISS E B DRAKE CHALLENGE CUP - Oliver Cruickshank

Wine Festival

EAST COKER WINE CIRCLE CUP - Vince Wolney

STANDRING MEMORIAL CUP - Vince Wolney

EAST COKER WINE CIRCLE TROPHY - Vince Wolney

DICK ROLPH CUP - Vince Wolney

DICK ROLPH NOVICE ROSE BOWL - Ken Copley

TELLIS CROSS FUNDAY

Despite the rainy August this year the first Tellis Cross Funday was a great success, with over 250 visitors throughout the afternoon. With support from local residents and local businesses they managed to raise £300 to run future activities. There was plenty to do on the day, Gill and Dave Bennett, of Tellis Cross, ran the craft stall, bring and buy stall and splat Matt the rat, sponsored by Wickes of Yeovil. Gordon and Ashley, from The Plucknett, Yeovil, kindly donated their time to feed the hungry visitors with a superb BBQ and Steve Roberts, the MC, kept everyone entertained on the day with a fantastic disco.

The winner of beat-the-goalie competition was Zachary Hartlebury of Yeovil. Other stalls included traditional games such as lucky dip, coconut shy, hook a duck, tombola and raffle. The main prize for the raffle was donated by D R Jones Builders, who kindly gave special VIP tickets for their box at Yeovil Town FC. The organisers are already looking forward to next year, and having a bigger, better Funday in aid of a local charity. They would like to say thank you to everyone who donated prizes and their time and look forward to seeing you all next year.

Young People

EAST COKER TEA-ROOMS

Penny, Ann and the students welcome regular and new customers to The Tearooms (near the School). We are open every day from 9.00am – 4.00pm Monday to Friday throughout the year for Coffee and Cakes, Light Lunches and Tea and Cakes, serving good home-cooked food. Cream Teas are also available with prior notice.

We are closed Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays.

For more information visit our website www.eastcokertearooms.co.uk Telephone 863351

J. H. Norman & Sons

103 West Coker Road
Yeovil, Somerset
BA20 2JF
01935 476527
07734 867672

Motor Engineers
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EAST COKER SCOUT GROUP

Autumn Jumble Sale – Saturday 9 October, East Coker Village Hall 2.00pm. **REMEMBER WE WILL COLLECT.** Contact Max Bugler 862186

Waste Paper Collections: 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 30 October

Saturday 27 November

Saturday 1 January 2011

WEST COKER SCOUTS AND GUIDES CHRISTMAS POST

The Scouts post is great value for local deliveries of Christmas cards. At just 15p a card it's a snip. It's also a fund-raiser for the Scouts and Guides, so your support comes straight back into the local community. Good for your pocket and good for the village.

The collection boxes are out early November, same places as last year. They are located at The Foresters Arms, The Helyar Arms and 32 Nash Lane.

Delivery areas include the Cokers, East Chinnock, Hardington, Pendomer, Odcombe and Yeovil.

To make sure your cards arrive in best condition, put the addressed envelopes into a poly bag with 15p per card. Then put the whole bag into one of the collection boxes which are regularly emptied.

Last date for collection is Monday 13 December. Full instructions on the box.

WEST COKER SCOUTS AND GUIDES CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.

The Bazaar will be a chance to do some local Christmas shopping in the comfort of the Scout Hut, Halves Lane, West Coker.

Come and see Santa in his grotto. We will be selling gifts, toys, cakes, refreshments, and there are loads of raffle prizes.

Date is Saturday 27 November, 11:00am – 12:30pm

EAST COKER SCHOOL

Autumn Term

We welcome two teachers Miss Crabb to teach Class 3 and Miss Evans class 2 during Mrs Hickey's maternity leave. Bruce Williams has joined us as a part-time groundsman.

Years 4 and 5 will be at camp from 15-18 October

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| Half Term | 21 October – 1 November |
| Term 2 | 1 November – 17 December |
| Term 3 | 4 January – 18 February |

Richard Powell, Head Teacher

The Churches

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Services

| | | |
|-------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 3 October | 10.00am Family Eucharist | 6.00pm Evensong |
| 10 October | 8.00am Holy Communion | 10.00am Sung Eucharist |
| 17 October | 10.00am Sung Eucharist | 6.00pm Evensong |
| 24 October | 10.00am Sung Eucharist | 6.00pm Evensong |
| 31 October | 10.00am Matins | 6.00pm Evensong |
| 7 November | 10.00am Family Leaflet | 6.00pm Evensong |
| 14 November | 8.00am Holy Communion | 10.50 Remembrance Service |
| 21 November | 10.00am Sung Eucharist | 6.00pm Evensong |
| 28 November | 10.00am Sung Eucharist | 6.00pm Songs of Praise |
| 5 December | 10.00am Family Eucharist | 6.00pm Evensong |
| 12 December | 8.00am Holy Communion | 10.00am Sung Eucharist |
| 19 December | 10.00am Sung Eucharist | 6.00pm Carol Service |
| 24 December | 11.00pm Midnight Mass | |
| 25 December | 10.00am Sung Eucharist | |
| 26 December | 10.00am Sung Eucharist (to be confirmed) | |

Service for those we have loved but see no longer.

The service this year is on 31 October at 6.00pm at St Michael's Church. The preacher is The Venerable Nicola Sullivan, Archdeacon of Wells. If you would like the names of your loved ones read out during the service please let me have them by 23 October. Names after this date may have to be added to the end of the list. They are not restricted to those who lived in East Coker.

Cool Sunday 7 November Family Service – 10.00am.

Once again we are going to turn off the heating in the church and send the oil money saved to Tearfund to support a project for people suffering from global warming. Remember to wrap up warmly – just like the old days!

Fill a Child's Life with Joy this Christmas

Sunday 7 November – St Michael's is supporting the charity Operation Christmas Child that seeks to give some happiness to children across the world living in poverty and war-torn areas by sending gifts of filled shoeboxes. Local shops are happy to supply shoe boxes to be filled with small gifts such as toys, sweets, gloves, scarves, crayons, stationery, toiletries etc. Please no liquids, toys related to wars or story books. There will be leaflets in church with further ideas. Judith Shaw

Bring along a shoe box, on the 7 November and we will help you cover it with gift paper.

Fairtrade/Tradecraft – Look out for the stall at the Winter Fayre on Saturday 20 November at the East Coker Village Hall – lots of food and gift ideas for Christmas.

Pakistan Flood Victims Appeal

Come to a Curry Lunch (beef, mild chicken, vegetarian + a pudding). Saturday 30 October 12.30pm – 2.00pm in the Gospel Hall, Burton Lane, East Coker.

A joint venture of St Michael's Church and the East Coker Christian Fellowship. All welcome. Cost £6+pp recommended donation.

BIBLE MID-WEEK MEETINGS

A Series in Colossians – 'Rooted in Jesus'

Wednesday 20 October – 7.00pm. Jeremy White, formerly Rector of Uplyme. Colossians 3:1 - 4:1 Raised with Jesus

Wednesday 17 November – 7.00pm. Edward Armitstead. Colossians 4:2 – 18 Proclaiming Jesus

These meetings take place in the East Coker Village Hall. Do join us and bring your friends with you. Refreshments are served after each meeting.

For further details contact Roy Hodder 862519 or Edward Armitstead 862785

ALL SAINTS' CLOSOWORTH

10 October 6.30pm – Evensong

17 October 10.00am – Family Service

24 October 9.00am – Holy Communion

14 November at 6.30pm – Evensong will include a short act of Remembrance and a two minute silence.

21 November 10.00am – Family Service

28 November 9.00am – Holy Communion

12 December 6.30pm – Carol Service.

19 December 10.00am – Family Service

24 December at 4.00pm – Nativity Presentation. This is a service for both young and old. I hope the children will come dressed as kings, shepherds and angels. I hope we shall have a real live baby Jesus. It's a lovely start to Christmas.

26 December 9.00am – Holy Communion (not confirmed yet)

For more details please phone me on 862834. Monica.



Are you suffering from joint and muscle stiffness, high blood pressure, headaches or postural and mobility issues, or are you feeling stressed and finding it difficult to cope with your life? Massage can help! As well as smoothing out the aches and pains and tensions it can also contribute to your general sense of well being and aliveness.

Why not take the opportunity to find out how that might feel?

I am a qualified massage practitioner and I live and work in East Coker. You will be treated with sensitivity and respect at all times within a homely and peaceful environment.

To have a chat and/or book an appointment call Rosie on 01935 862767 or 07733121819.

EAST COKER CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, BURTON LANE

Weekly Meetings Sundays 11.00am. 2nd Sunday of the month 11.00am – Family Service. Other services as announced. **All** are welcome to **all** of our services.

Coffee Stop The Hall is open every Wednesday from 11.00am until 1.00pm for coffee and tea. Everyone is welcome to come along and it is simply meant to be a place where friends can get together for a chat. There is no charge for the refreshments.

This Autumn we are running an Alpha for Young People and we are also organising a Home Group. Anyone interested in either please contact Kevin.

Kevin Chapman is available in the village each Tuesday and Wednesday. He can be contacted on 07812726853 or 422594 or email ec.cf@hotmail.co.uk. Please do feel free to contact him if you have any queries about the Christian faith, or if you would like someone to pray with you or simply to talk to.

'Unto Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen' Ephesians, chapter 3, verses 20 and 21.

Village Fete We have not heard from everyone who had stalls at the Village Fete, but we are aware that well in excess of £1,000 was raised for the various charities, clubs and organisations represented. Once again thank you for your support.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH SUTTON BINGHAM

Services

17 October 11.30am Sung Holy Communion
 7 November 9.00am Spoken Holy Communion
 21 November 11.30am Sung Holy Communion
 5 December 9.00am Spoken Holy Communion
 19 December 11.30am Sung Holy Communion

Carol Service to be announced

Friends of Somerset Churches & Chapels, on their Annual 'Ride and Stride' Event

Every year in early September, Rev. Roger Burt cycled in aid of **Sutton Bingham Church** and the **Friends of Somerset Churches & Chapels on their Annual 'Ride and Stride' Event**, visiting local churches. He regularly raised £400 for these two causes. Following his retirement, I decided to get off the Quad bike, get onto the Mountain bike and visit all 7 of our Local Ministry Group (LMG) churches, Closworth, Sutton Bingham, East Coker, Pendomer, Hardington, East Chinnock & West Coker. I also visited Odcombe, Brympton and Lufton – to complete 10 of the rural churches in this part of South Somerset.

On 11 September, I travelled over 25 miles and I hope you will consider sponsoring me either per church, per mile or in the form of a donation. Sutton Bingham needs to raise £50,000+ for its Roof Repair – work starts on 11 October. We have amassed £36,000 towards that target and we are hoping for a grant from FSCC, so it is vital we support their fundraising as well.

I would like to raise £500, to be divided between the two causes.

This is the major fund-raiser for the FSCC, which grant-aids essential repairs to our historic churches, and all over the country cyclists raise money for their churches and chapels on this date. Hopefully next year we could better organised and make it a Group 'Ride and Stride', with all seven LMG churches participating. It was a most rewarding day, cycling through our quiet lanes in perfect autumn weather, enjoying the countryside and the charm of our very diverse churches, and keeping fit in aid of two very worthwhile causes.

The historic Norman church of Sutton Bingham celebrates 900 years in 2011, and we very much hope to have the roof repaired and paid for in time for this celebration.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY SPONSORED ME

Please return the sponsorship form below to: Heather Snook, Darvole Farm, East Coker, Yeovil, Somerset. BA22 9QJ Tel 474138 / Mobile: 07971 550915

If you are a taxpayer and are happy to Gift Aid your donation, please complete your address and sign your name – this will be worth an extra 28p per pound donated. **Your sponsorship will be equally divided between All Saints' Church, Sutton Bingham and the Friends of Somerset Churches and Chapels. Please make cheques payable to FSCC (Reg. Charity No 1055840). They will repay Sutton Bingham Church.**

I wish to sponsor **HEATHER SNOOK** for the **FSCC & ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, SUTTON BINGHAM 'RIDE & STRIDE' Event 11 September, 2010.**

I enclose £ **NAME**.....

ADDRESS.....

..... **POSTCODE**.....

SIGNATURE..... Date 2010

I am a British Taxpayer and I wish to Gift Aid my donation. (Delete if necessary)

The Winter Fayre – Saturday 20 November 2010, East Coker Village Hall, 2.00pm – 4.00pm
Cake Stall, Books, Christmas Cards, Father Christmas will be calling in on his way to the North Pole and the usual Christmas gifts will be on sale. Entrance only £1.50 to include a drink and mince pie. Children free to include a drink and biscuit.

Thank you to everyone who helped and came to the Coffee Morning held by Bridget and John Sugg. We raised £577 towards the Roof Fund.

Churchwardens Mrs Carol Blackmore 862192 Mrs Heather Snook 474138

Village News

WEA EAST COKER BRANCH

The Russian Arts in Context – Tutor Valerie Stevens. Six weekly meetings from Tuesday 28 September (NB no meeting 2 November). In the Dampier Room, East Coker Village Hall, 2.30pm – 4.00pm. Cost £29.00. Enquiries and enrolments to Sarah Smith 862466, cheques payable to WEA East Coker Branch.

STAMPS FOR C.L.I.C.

After 20 years I am unable to collect used postage stamps for C.L.I.C. (Cancer and Leukaemia in Childhood). However Vicky at The Stores will accept them and Lesley Lindsay will take them to the C.L.I.C. shop in Yeovil. The stamps are sold and the money is used for vital research. Thank you for your efforts and please keep saving them.

Micky Hall

SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY

The mobile library visiting times and dates for the stops in 2010/11 are:

28 October 18 November 09 December 20 January

East Coker

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| The Helyar Arms | 11.45am – 12 noon | North Coker Bus Shelter | 12.05pm – 12.25pm |
| Meadow View | 12.30pm – 12.50pm | Maudslay Fields | 12.55pm – 13.15pm |
| Sutton Bingham | Bower Farm | 13.25pm – 13.45pm | |

SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER – BST ends at 2.00am. Please put your clocks back 1 hour

EAST COKER VILLAGE STORE

The kids are back at school, what's next, oh yes ...**CHRISTMAS!**

Don't despair! Our Christmas display will be held on Tuesday 2 November, Wednesday 3 November and Thursday 4 November. We will have lots of goodies on show, perfect for presents or treats for you and your family over the festive season. The idea is simple. Just come along and place your order and we will have it ready for collection, normally for the end of November. You pay when you collect it.

As a special offer during the Christmas Display, all Christmas cards and gift wrapping accessories will have 10% discount if purchased and taken on the day.

You can even book a driving lesson whilst you are here (Paul's pupils keep passing their tests hence he has vacancies available) – how's that for choice at your local village store.

So, put on your coat, have a refreshing autumnal walk to East Coker Village Store, peruse our stock at your leisure, place your order and return home safe in the knowledge that your Christmas preparations have begun.

Best Wishes – Paul, Vicky, Emmalia and Lillia Moorhouse.

WESTLAKE SURGERY TRAINING DAYS

As in previous years, the surgery will be closed for part of one morning each month for staff training. On these mornings, there are none of the usual surgeries but a locum doctor is available to see anyone needing an appointment.

The surgery is open from 8.30 am – 11.00am as usual and then closes completely until 1.30 pm. If a medical emergency occurs during that time then patients can either dial 999 or the surgery can be contacted on 0787 575 0811. The surgery opens again as usual from 1.30 pm.

The dates of the training days in 2010 are: - Friday 22 October Friday 26 November

EAST COKER PARISH COUNCIL

The proposed **Barrier Gate** at the entrance to the Pavilion Car Park has now been installed and will be 'periodically locked' for security and to prevent the anti-social use of the area by cars.

Following the announcement that, because of **dog fouling** of the sports' grounds, dogs may be banned from the area, a response by local dog walkers, who have offered to monitor the situation, has brought a positive result. The subject will again be discussed by the Parish Council in October. Dog walkers have also commented on the excess amount of **litter** left by teams and their spectators after matches and a joint effort by all to keep the pitches clear of all debris will hopefully improve the general appearance of the field and keep the pitches safe for players.

Next May 2011 sees **Elections for Local and Parish Councils**. Several members of the present Parish Council have intimated that they will not be standing for re-election, so new Parish Councillors will be elected. This is a worthwhile, voluntary committee and the District Council offers training for new councillors. It is your chance to have a say in local issues and to help make significant decisions for the parish in the future. If you think you would like to be involved in what goes on in the village at Parish Council level and wish to know more about the role of a parish councillor, either contact Pauline Gubbins, Parish Clerk 862062, or speak to one of the present Council. New, enthusiastic councillors, who are practical and have an open-minded and rational outlook on what is happening in the community, are needed to move forward with a modern rural Parish Council that prides itself on its integrity and common sense.

Please could everyone make a special effort to pick up **litter**. The roads into the village are particularly littered with fast food rubbish, none of which is probably thrown from cars by those who live in the village! However, the culprits do not care about how tidy our village roads look and we are the only ones who are going to make the effort to clear it up. If you are out for a walk, please take a carrier bag with you and help tidy-up our verges.

DEAD HONEY BEES IN EAST COKER

Some of you may know that two of our colonies of honeybees died in the village at the end of May. We put up notices asking if anybody had used a pest control firm to poison a bees nest. We were advised that this was the most likely cause of our problem, as other bees will rob out the poisoned nest. It has turned out that this was not the answer.

When colonies of bees die suddenly we are asked to send samples to the National Bee Unit. After doing their tests they send the remainder to Natural England and the Wild Life Unit for pesticide analysis. Honeybees are a useful indicator of what is going on in the environment as they are sensitive and looked after by beekeepers, who usually notice when something is wrong. They are also extremely important in the environment as without their pollination there are no seeds, fruit or nuts for the birds and small mammals to feed on. "No bees, no food, no us" is a commonly used slogan.

A scientist from Natural England has just been to see us with the results of the chemical tests. The chemical responsible was 'Fipronil'. It has caused a lot of bee deaths, especially in France, and its use has been severely restricted by EEC legislation. In this country its main use is in Frontline, a veterinary product used to control fleas and ticks on dogs and cats. It can be obtained on prescription as a spray. It is just possible that somebody sprayed a few bees, but unfortunately it didn't just kill them. When they return to the hive it spreads around and kills the whole colony. The other uses are in some ant and cockroach killers, but if used properly it should not be attractive to bees. There is a final product used to control vine weevils called 'Vi-Nil', which was withdrawn from the market last year. If anyone still has a supply in their garden shed, please don't use it. Dispose of it safely.

It all remains a bit of a puzzle. None of the licensed products seem very likely and yet the dead bees had very high levels of Fipronil. It is also very toxic to birds. Natural England and the Wild Life Unit are still looking into the case, but it would be very helpful if anyone has any information that would be of use. Please contact us on pauledwards@waitrose.com or 864413.

Paula & Paul Edwards

HATHERSTONE WOOD (millennium woods)

Can you spare 2-3 hours twice a year to help with maintenance/conservation work? The next work party is on Saturday 9 October at 9.30am. All ages and abilities welcome. For more details please phone Chris Blight on 863689.

A PLEA FROM AN EAST COKER RESIDENT

We recently took care of a dog for ten days and took the opportunity to walk the lanes and bridle-ways of East Coker. We were disgusted to find that other dog walkers did not feel that it was necessary to clear up after their pets, thus making the walks a continuous "look where you are walking" experience. Come on you regular users of these paths – make it clean for visiting dogs!

EAST COKER BULK OIL – PURCHASE SCHEME

The price of heating oil stayed pretty constant throughout the summer, but in July 30 of us ordered almost 26,000 litres between us and saved about 2p / litre on the price of 1000 litres. That was actually more than one load and meant a lot of miles saved for the tanker.

As the scheme grows I am finding it quite time-consuming and am considering reducing it to three or even two orders per year. This would also make each order larger so we may get a better price. If the heating season is from September or October to May, how would it be if we filled up in July or August to take advantage of summer prices and then had top-ups at the end of November and end of February or even just one at the beginning of February? The essential thing is to plan ahead and keep in phase. For myself I fill our tank in July and top it up as required in January / February. Please let me know what you think.

Before you ask, I just do the donkey-work, collecting the requirements, ringing round the suppliers and placing the order and you pay the supplier directly. I don't have anything to do with the money. 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) or 864413. Email makes it much easier to circulate information and I do not divulge email addresses. The next order will be towards the end of October, so please let me know your requirements by 7.00pm on Thursday 21 October.

Do It Now – The More We Buy, The More We Save!

RAINFALL DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF THE YEAR

'It hain't no use to grumble and complane,
It's jest as cheap and easy to rejoice;
When God sorts out the weather and sends rain,
W'y rain's my choice'

James Whitcomb Riley (1852-1916)

Last June produced no rainfall after the 9th, save for a mere trace on the 29th, and the month's total was an inch and one-sixteenth (2.5cm). I had suggested crossing our fingers for rain overnight and sunny days there-after, but only the latter were manifest in July, when total rainfall was a fraction below 1½ inches (3½cm), and the meteorologists began largely to confine their prognostications to the phrase "scattered showers", which is synonymous with "not the foggiest – maybe damp" and hardly much use.

August took note of this and was generally a dull month, with the skies often threatening showers but then tending to scatter them elsewhere than upon North Coker Hall. Just over ¼ inch (½ cm) fell on the 4th, 14th and the 25th, but the summer's show-stopper was the night of 22nd/23rd when steady rain measured 1¼ inches (3cm) in the gauges, and all the trees and shrubs perked up in relief. The August total was just below ¾ inches (8cm).

September the 5th and 6th combined to deliver a full ½ inch (1cm), but up to the 21 September, total quarterly rainfall is only 5⅞ inches (12.75cm) (30% down on the third quarter average), and for the first nine months of 2010 17¾ inches (44.5cm), which is less than half the full-year average over the last fifteen years. Downpours are not uncommon in the months of October, November and December, and this year they would, within reason, be more than welcome.

Clive Bingley

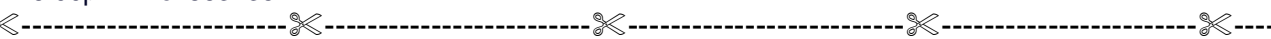
CLASSES IN FLOWER ARRANGING

Are you looking to do something artistic this Autumn? Phone Sue Mason on 891400 or e-mail johnandsuemason@btinternet.com to find out about her short course and small classes in 'designing with flowers and foliage for the autumn'. Beginners made very welcome.

GOOSE SLADE FARM SHOP – GOOSEY FAYRE

We are pleased to report that Goosey Fayre was another huge success; the weather was again glorious enabling all the outdoor and fundraising activities to take place. With the help of volunteers, family and friends we managed to raise **£480** for St Margaret's Hospice. People were able to sample all sorts of goodies in the food marquee as well as roast goose, goose sausages and goose burgers. The cream teas were ever popular with the large barrel organ providing a lovely fairground atmosphere. A huge thank you to all who supported us. Don't forget to order your meats and, of course, the all important Christmas goose for the festive season. **We will be open on Mondays throughout December.**

We look forward to serving you soon. Phil, Liz and Lindsey Dunning. Open Tuesday to Saturday 10.00am – 6.00pm. Tel 863735



VILLAGE DIARY: OCTOBER 2010 – JANUARY 2011

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Wed 13 Oct | Wine Circle – Recycling Workshop | East Coker Hall | 8.00pm |
| Thurs 14 Oct | Gardening Club – Kerton Sweet Peas | East Coker Hall | 7.30pm |
| Thurs 21 Oct | W I – Whist Drive | East Coker Hall | 7.30pm |
| Sat 23 Oct | RBL – Coffee Morning | East Coker Hall | 10.30am - 12 noon |
| Tues 26 Oct | Poetry Group – Competition Results | The Helyar Arms | 7.30pm |
| Thurs 28 Oct | W I – a Man's View of the W I | East Coker Hall | 7.30pm |
| Thurs 28 Oct | Library | | |
| Fri 29 Oct | Coffee Morning Action Medical Research | The Helyar Arms | 10.00am - 12 noon |
| Sat 30 Oct | The Players – Halloween Supper Show | East Coker Hall | |
| Sat 30 Oct | Scouts' Newspaper Collection | Near the School | 9.00am - 10.30am |
| Sat 30 Oct | Curry Lunch | Gospel Hall | 12.30pm - 2.00pm |
| Sun 31 Oct | BST ends at 2.00am. Put clocks back 1 hour | | |
| Tues 2 Nov to Thurs 4 Nov | Christmas Display | East Coker Stores | |
| Wed 3 Nov | Wine Circle – Liqueur & Whisky Tasting | East Coker Hall | 8.00pm |
| Thurs 4 Nov | Action Medical Research – Christmas Shopping Fayre | East Coker Hall | 3.00pm - 8.00pm |
| Thurs 11 Nov | Gardening Club – AGM | Quicksilver Mail | 7.30pm |
| Wed 17 Nov | RBL – AGM | Dampier Room | 7.30pm |
| Thurs 18 Nov | W I – Whist Drive | East Coker Hall | 7.30pm |
| Thurs 18 Nov | Library | | |
| Fri 19 Nov | The Players – Theatre Outing | The Octagon | |
| Sat 20 Nov | The Winter Fayre | East Coker Hall | 2.00pm - 4.00pm |
| Thurs 25 Nov | W I – A Mill Worker's Tale | East Coker Hall | 7.30pm |
| Fri 26 Nov | Coffee Morning – Children in Need | The Helyar Arms | 10.00am - 12 noon |
| Sat 27 Nov | Scouts' Newspaper Collection | Near the School | 9.00am - 10.30am |
| Sat 27 Nov | West Coker Scouts & Guides - Christmas Bazaar | Halves Lane | 11.00am - 12.30pm |
| Wed 1 Dec | Wine Circle – Call My Bluff | East Coker Hall | 8.00pm |
| Mon 6 Dec | The Players – Christmas Social | East Coker Hall | |
| Thurs 09 Dec | Gardening Club – Photography | East Coker Hall | 7.30pm |
| Thurs 09 Dec | Library | | |
| Thurs 16 Dec | W I – Whist Drive | East Coker Hall | 7.30pm |
| Wed 22 Dec | Last date for Copy for the January 2011 Newsletter | | |
| 2011 | | | |
| Sat 1 Jan | Scouts' Newspaper Collection | Near the School | 9.00am - 10.30am |
| Thurs 13 Jan | Gardening Club – Gardening Folklore | East Coker Hall | 7.30pm |
| Sat 15 Jan | Wine Circle – Theme Party | East Coker Hall | 7.30pm |
| Thurs 20 Jan | W I – Whist Drive | East Coker Hall | 7.30pm |

Dear Friends,

Harvest Thanksgiving on 26 September at St Michael's Church brimmed with a community spirit which was a credit to so many and a focus of warm-hearted worship.

Nearly a hundred people were involved in the preparation or presentation. The tall Gothic arch of flowers was spectacular; the decorations throughout were exceptional. The loan of rural relics was most generous. The Church officers/choir/bellringers/cleaners/tea ladies/wellie boot suppliers (if you have not retrieved your own boots, they are on the pew in the children's corner, please can you collect now) so much help I'm worried about forgetting someone. A huge thank you. Particular thanks are due to those who are not of East Coker or are members of other churches but gave generously of time, gifts, ability and effort. It was a joy to share the village Harvest Thanksgiving with so many.

With blessings and gratitude, John and Sue Mason

P.S. Watch out for Christmas Morning – ideas are beginning to flow.

EAST COKER 400 CLUB

The winners of the October draw: £100 Mrs C Mead; £50 Mr P Moore; £40 Mrs A Cameron; £30 Cdr J White; £20 Mrs M Rawlins; £15 Mr D Jenkins; £10 Mr R Allwood; £10 Mrs J Swain.

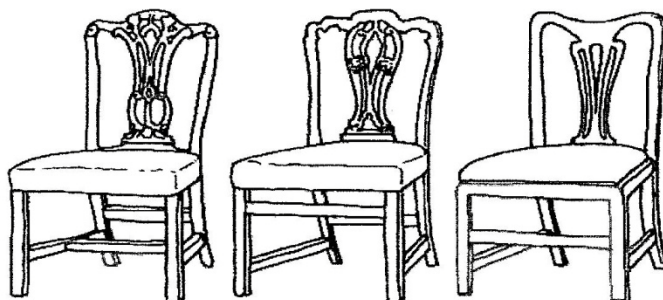
If anyone would like to join the 400 Club, the annual subscription is £20 (payable quarterly by Bankers Order), please contact Mike Weston 862472, Gloria Mead 862364, Mary Ashley 862263 or Arthur Rees 862828

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the Newsletter will be in January 2011. Copy, please, to Lesley Lindsay, Little Meadow, Coker Marsh, East Coker or e-mail L.Lindsay@eastcoker.com or to The Store, East Coker by **Wednesday 22 December 2010**

KEN MARSH

u p h o l s t e r y



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