

East Coker Society Newsletter



October 2014

Free Issue No 156

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Secretary: Sarah Owen	862218	
Treasurer: Martin Wells	864198	
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East Coker Society News

RISING COSTS HIT NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION!

East Coker Society has been producing a quarterly Newsletter since 1975 providing a valuable communication service for all the clubs, societies and organisations within the Parish. In more recent years, we have tried to encourage more households to receive their copy by email or via our website www.eastcoker.com to reduce the considerable printing costs. We are still issuing the Newsletter by email to only 282 households in the Parish, as compared with 570 paper copies at a cost of £720 per annum. This has to be raised through fund-raising.

SSDC have provided a community printing service for many years, but have recently announced a significant increase in their rates, which would entail finding **£2,132 each year** for the same number of copies.

What can you do about it?

- Receive your copy by email instead of a paper copy. Please contact Lesley Lindsay at l.lindsay@eastcoker.com giving your full name, email address and postal address.
- If you have no other option but to receive a paper copy and wish to continue receiving the Newsletter, please contact Sarah Owen, Paddock Cottage, East Coker, Yeovil BA22 9JP, tel 862218, giving your full name and postal address.

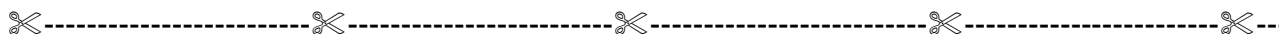
All personal details are secure and will not be disclosed to anyone else. **Please act now!**

BOOK NOW FOR THE WINTER FAYRE

Saturday 25 October 2014 2.00pm – 4.00pm at East Coker Village Hall

Tables for the Winter Fayre are now available for individuals or organisations. 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.

If you wish to reserve a table, please initially contact Sarah Owen, tel 01935 862218 and then complete the form below, and send it with either cash or cheque (made payable to East Coker Society) **by 20 October** to Paddock Cottage, East Coker, Yeovil, Somerset BA22 9JP. This will ensure your stall is reserved.



WINTER FAYRE SATURDAY 25 OCTOBER 2014, 2.00pm – 4.00pm – EAST COKER VILLAGE HALL

Name of Organisation.....

Type of Stall.....

Contact Name.....

Telephone Number.....email.....

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

VILLAGE EVENTS DIARY – PLEASE USE IT

The 2014 Diary is now at the Village Stores, East Coker, and can be found in the shop – please ask.

Please put forthcoming village events in the Diary to avoid dates clashing. Thank you.

'DISCOVER EAST COKER' – WALKING PACK

A new 'Discover East Coker' pack which includes photographs, details about places of interest, a detailed map and five fully researched walks supplied in a plastic wallet is available for £2 from the following outlets:

East Coker Village Store	The Forester's Arms
East Coker Tea Rooms	The Helyar Arms
Goose Slade Farm Shop	The Yeovil Court Hotel
Butchers & Post Office, West Coker	Yeovil Tourist Information Centre
St Michael's Church Bookstall	Cartgate Tourist Information Centre

We hope residents and visitors will use this guide to explore our beautiful parish.

BONFIRES in Autumn

Please consider your neighbours before having a bonfire in the middle of the day. Also, think of the direction of the wind. Later in the afternoon allows washing to be dried, leaves to be raked and gardening to be done without having to retreat indoors from bonfire smoke and falling ash.

Village Clubs and Organisations

EAST COKER MONTHLY CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS

The event in June for the Save East Coker fund raised £215, followed by £256 in July for the Flying Colours appeal, and £150 for Mind in August.

The forthcoming events will be for:

- Cancer Research on 31 October
- Children in Need on 28 November
- East Coker Scouts on 30 January

There are still a few spaces in the calendar of events for next year. If you, or anyone you know, would like to hold a coffee morning for a charity in 2015 please contact Cherry or Penny.

Please come along to the Forester's Arms, between 10.00am and 12noon, and give your continued support to all these deserving causes. Many thanks to Charlotte and all the staff at the Forester's for the support they give to these popular village get-togethers.

Cherry Sowerbutts 863313 Penny Marpole 863055

TIME TO SHARE

Time to Share goes from strength to strength! We now have a Wi-Fi Club and it's just great!

Here are our Monday afternoon events up to Christmas. Everybody welcome whatever your age.

Monday 13 October – Life in Exmouth - Sylvia Le-Fevre
Monday 27 October – Christmas Fund Raising/Bring and Buy
Monday 10 November – How I became a 16c Kitchen Maid - Kay Wych
Monday 24 November – Carol Service, St Michael's Church - Charles Hatton
Monday 15 December – Christmas Lunch

Sandra Snelling 862162 Mobile 07717723448 email sandra.snelling@googlemail.com

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION EAST & WEST COKER

On Monday, 4 August at 10.00pm, a Service to Commemorate the start of World War I was held at St. Martin of Tours Parish Church, West Coker. The service was well attended with villagers from East Coker, Hardington and Closworth, joining those from West Coker. A retiring collection raised £158, for the RBL Poppy Appeal. Sincere thanks to Pat Ricketts for leading a very memorable service, on such a momentous occasion.

Our thanks go to Paula Compton for the wonderful display boards, detailing the history of the men, from East and West Coker, who made the ultimate sacrifice in World War I. Please spare the time to view the boards and reflect, they will be on display in East and West Coker churches throughout the Remembrance period.

The 2013 Appeal has now closed. Our final total is **£7370.41**, a record. Sincere thanks to all who gave so generously.

The 2014 Appeal House to House collections will commence on Saturday 25 October through to Saturday 8 November. Please greet our collectors with a smile; yes, you will know some of them as they have been volunteering for a number of years and as the years roll by it does become a little more difficult. Please! Please! consider being one of the team. Remember a little of your time goes a long way in helping those who are suffering for a life-time, both physically and mentally.

Events

Saturday 4 October 10.00am – Noon - The Branch Coffee Morning in aid of the Poppy Appeal. To be held in East Coker Hall. Entry £2.50 includes coffee and biscuits. There will be Produce, Cake & RBL stalls, plus a Draw.

Wednesday 15 October 7.00pm for 7.30pm – An Evening of Music & Song. St Martin's Church, West Coker. Featuring HMS Heron Volunteer Band and Yeovilton Military Wives Choir. Proceeds to West Coker Church Roof Fund, and Youth Club, to help fund two club members to visit WW1 Battlefields and Memorials in France and Belgium. Admission is £10.00. Tickets available from West Coker Garage and Post Office – or from Ann 862704 or Sue 862172

Remembrance Sunday Services will take place on 9 November.

Thursday 27 November 7.30pm – Branch AGM. Dampier Room, East Coker Hall.

Chairman David Holland 862782; **Secretary** Marilyn Smith 863944; **Membership** Caroline Field 863271; **Treasurer** Clifford Humphreys 862242.

Committee Russell Chatwin 414080; Wendy Weston 862472; Barbara McAulay 423871

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EAST COKER SHORT MAT 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. There is no age limit for adults.

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

EAST COKER POETRY GROUP

East Coker Poetry Group meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Helyar Arms (Apple Loft or skittle alley). Our website - www.eastcokerpoetry.org.uk

EAST COKER READING GROUP

We are a group of (currently) 8 people who meet once a month (usually on a Tuesday evening) to talk about the book we have been reading the previous month – unless the book was not very interesting, in which case we talk about anything that comes to mind! As the Library charges Reading Groups a monthly fee we, in turn, charge a fee of £1 per month to each member. We are a very easy-going group – if you don't like the book, don't feel obliged to read it! The discussions are always interesting - even on the odd occasion when the book hardly gets a mention! If you are considering joining the group or wish to have more details of the books we read and what we do, please do contact Kevin Chapman on 07812726853 or 422594 or email ec.cf@hotmail.co.uk

BURTON BOOK CLUB

Due to the success of the Reading Group we have now formally divided into two groups, reading different books. Burton Book Club (which also has 8 members) meets once a month (usually) on a Wednesday afternoon for one hour. We currently meet over coffee/tea at Goose Slade Farm Tea Shop. Otherwise what is said about the East Coker Reading Group (above) holds good for the Burton Book Club and the same contact details apply.

EAST COKER 400 CLUB

Summer 2014 draw

£100 Mrs Angie Mead; £50 Mrs Ann Cameron; £40 Mr John Horwood; £30 Mr P. Pisani; £20 Mr J. Bryan; £15 Mrs Doreen Bates; £10 Mr Tony Mitchell.

If anyone would like to join the 400 Club, which makes regular donations to local charities or good causes, the annual subs are £20 (payable quarterly by Bankers Order) then please contact Gloria or Bob Mead 862364, Mary Ashley 862263, Arthur Rees 862828 or Mike Weston 862472

EAST COKER WINE CIRCLE

The Circle meets at the East Coker Hall on the first Wednesday of each month from 8.00pm. Guests and new members are always welcome and further information may be obtained from the chairman 862060.

Diary dates

9 October	Jekyll & Hyde	Octagon Theatre
5 November	Goose Slade Farm Talk	
3 December	Baytree Preserves, plus bread-making competition, bread and cheese supper	

EAST COKER PLAYERS – Put this event in your diary! Saturday 13 December 2014

The return of the Cheddar Male Choir with soloist Jessica Stephens

Doors open 7.00pm for 7.30pm in East Coker Hall. Tickets £12.00 for a superb festive event to include mulled wine and mince pies (£10.00 Students – soft drink). The choir returns after 18 months to raise funds for 'Save East Coker'.

Tickets or early reservation from Anne and Barrie Hartley tel 862060, and on sale at the Village Shop from 14 November.

Come and have a great evening and support the village.

Pantomime

The Players are back after their summer break and are busy rehearsing, learning songs and lines for the Pantomime. We welcome Barbara, Grace, Helen, Zoe and new sound man Tony to the group.

During the summer, we had the sad news that Keith Shutler, one of our back stage crew had passed away. Keith was a very valued part of the back stage team for many years and once even played the part of the Gorilla in 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'.

Our next production will be Cinderella – a traditional pantomime with a modern twist written by John Langdon, a long standing member of the Players. He has also written some of the songs to be performed. The pantomime will be directed by Ian White.

Performance dates – Friday 28 November 7.30pm. Saturday 29 November 2.30pm and 7.30pm, at the East Coker Hall.

Tickets - Adults £6. Children £4. Available from the Village Store in November.

We will also be holding our popular Christmas Bingo on Friday 5 December, in the East Coker Hall, 7.00pm for 'Eyes down' 7.30pm. A fun evening for all the family.

If you are interested in joining us next year as a director, performer or backstage help, please contact us.

We look forward to hearing from you or seeing you at the next event. Anne 862060 or Hazel 429163.

EAST COKER GARDENING CLUB

Members of the Gardening Club have been kept busy during the last three months. David Usher, a former Head Gardener at Hestercombe House, gave a fascinating talk on Gertrude Jekyll, inspiring some of our members to find out more about her. August found us sitting in one of our member's beautiful gardens, enjoying a social evening with food provided by Hamish Pork. At the September meeting, Angie Blackwell, from Cottage Flowers, in Ilminster, kept us amused with her stories whilst demonstrating how easy it is to put together arrangements of foliage and flowers gathered from our gardens and the hedgerows. A favourite was a ring of hydrangea flower heads. The programme for the remainder of 2014:

9 October	Chelsea	David Hitchcock
13 November	AGM	
11 December	Houseplants for Christmas	Talk by the Gardens Group

The 2015 programme is being finalised.

Trips

Wednesday 30 July – a sunny, warm day, and off we set to Holt Farm, the Yeo Valley organic garden at Blagdon, where the Head Gardener gave us a conducted tour. The gardens are set in a beautiful location and, with stunning ironworks made by a local blacksmith, are a real inspiration. Our tour was followed by a delicious lunch, thanks to the staff in the Holt Farm café. On the return journey, a stop at Dobbies at Shepton Mallet gave our members an opportunity to wander around the garden centre and to indulge in a cream tea.

The last trip for 2014 was on 30 September, to the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens in Romsey.

Club Holiday

Plans for the 2015 annual Club Holiday are being finalised. Based at Frensham Ponds, Farnham in Buckinghamshire, members can look forward to four days of visits to various places of interest, including Syon House, the Savill Gardens, a trip on the Thames...

Meetings, trips and the annual holiday are all very well supported. We are always happy to welcome new members and visitors. Why not join us for an enjoyable, sociable evening, with the opportunity to visit gardens and places of interest. The annual subscription is currently £10, 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. For further information, please contact Helen Styles 862447 or Stan Shayler 420291.

SAVE EAST COKER

On 28 August SSDC published four Main Modifications to its Proposed Local Plan for public consultation. The consultation period is six weeks, ending on Friday 10 October so all objections need to be submitted to the Council Offices by 4.45pm on that day. Following the consultation period, all comments will be sent to the Planning Inspector for him to consider before he produces his final report on his findings following examination of the Local Plan. The report could be received by SSDC in November. If the Inspector rules that the plan is "sound" then the council could vote to adopt it at the end of the year or early in 2015. However, there are still a number of areas where we believe the Plan is based on flawed evidence and the Inspector could decide not to approve it.

The Main Modifications are meant to resolve key concerns which the Inspector highlighted in the last round of the examination earlier this summer. Two of them are particularly relevant to East Coker and we should be writing objections to them before 10 October. MM 9 calls for more detail (in Policy YV2) on landscape mitigation measures for the North East Urban Extension to reduce the visual impact of the development when viewed from the west and north-west of the A359. We maintain that similar measures are necessary to reduce the visual intrusion of the proposed South Urban Extension (Keyford) when viewed from the south and south-west, particularly when approaching Yeovil from Dorset on the A37. Wording needs to be included to modify Policy YV2 accordingly. We should **object** to this not being done.

The second Main Modification affecting East Coker is MM 10. This deletes the original proposal for Policy YV3 which defined the East and North Coker Buffer Zone. This was designed to provide protection against future spreading of the proposed development area, impacting the many heritage assets of East Coker and even more Grade 1 agricultural land. We should certainly be **objecting** to the Council's intention to abandon this policy.

Further details about the Main Modifications and the public consultation can be found on the SSDC website at, http://consult.southsomerset.gov.uk/consult.ti/Further_Main_Modifications/consultationHome

SAVE EAST COKER – FUND RAISING

We continue our campaign to Save East Coker and, as you will see from Martyn's piece above, we are still fighting the cause on numbers, the need for a buffer zone, and preserving Grade 1 agricultural land.

Many generous and kind East Coker folk have loaned us money to enable us to pay our bills as fund-raising alone has not been sufficient.

The money has been lent on the promise that it will be repaid as soon as possible, and so we continue with our Fund Raising Programme into 2015 and perhaps 2016.

The sociability and fun of these events is second to none, and I know I can depend upon your continued support.

The last event of this year organised by Barrie and Anne, takes place on Saturday **13 December**, when the Cheddar Male Choir will entertain us yet again in the East Coker Hall. Tickets are available from Vicky at the Village Shop or from Anne Hartley on 862060 - £12 for adults and £10 for students, to include mulled wine and mince pies.

And now moving on to 2015. March/April – to be decided – many ideas in the pipeline, so watch this space! I am hoping to persuade Di Miskin to run yet another successful Wandering Supper in May or June. A Plant Sale and Dog Show in June, and an Auction of Promises in October, but these are yet to be

discussed and dates agreed. New ideas and offers of help are always gratefully received by the fund-raising team. Or if you feel like running a coffee morning just let me know.

We continue to receive donations from all over the country – big and small – they help our finances considerably.

If you would like to donate, details of our bank account are shown below, or you can send cash or cheques to Sandra Snelling, 9 Long Furlong Lane, East Coker, BA22 9LQ or set up a direct debit if this is easier for you.

East Coker Preservation Trust bank details:

Nat/West Bank 60-24-37 Account No. 13844504

Many, many thanks to you all, Sandra.

ECPT contacts

Joe Coles 863146

Peter Woodford 863633

Martyn Sowerbutts 863313

John Fysh 863963

Richard Vanderpump 864565

Sandra Snelling 862162

VINTAGE-STYLE CARDS

Local artist, photographer and textile designer, Alison Finch, has produced a range of vintage-style cards of East Coker, along with notebooks and pictures. 20% of sales will be donated to the ECPT.

Contact originliart@btinternet.com Commissions welcome.

ACTION MEDICAL RESEARCH

We have a few tickets left for our Diva Lunch on Friday 10 October, which is being held at The Tithe Barn, Haselbury Plucknett. Tickets are £30 which includes a two-course lunch, fashion show, stalls and entertainment. Tickets available from Jane Donnelly, 478409.

There is a new film about Paddington Bear being released at the end of November, and as Paddington is our mascot we are in negotiations at the moment to have special viewing of the film in Yeovil in aid of the Charity. If any of you would be interested in coming along to this if you let me know on the telephone number above, or Angie Mead 862972, we will give you the date for this as soon as we can. I have seen a trailer of the film and it is certainly one to bring the children and grandchildren along to – it looks great.

Jane Donnelly

Somerset & Dorset Chairperson, Action Medical Research

Email: jane@donnelly81.fsnet.co.uk

EAST COKER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The monthly Whist Drives have stopped for the summer and will recommence on Thursday 18 September at the East Coker Hall at 7.30pm, when anyone will be welcome. We also organise trips to the Swan Theatre to see their productions.

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

Diary dates

Thursday 16 October

Thursday 30 October

Whist Drive at 7.30pm at East Coker Hall

Street Pastors at 7.30pm at East Coker Hall

Young People

EAST COKER SCOUT GROUP

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 25 October

Saturday 29 November

Saturday 27 December

Autumn Jumble Sale – Saturday 18 October at East Coker Hall from 2.00pm. **Remember we will collect.**

Contact Max Bugler 862186.

EAST COKER PLAYGROUP – find us on www.eastcokerpreschool.co.uk

How quickly the summer passes and autumn term arrives. Summer sessions held during the holidays are over and the Playgroup welcomes both returning and new families. Once again, books are shared in the book corner, paintings are created, the home corner is alive with domestic life and 'superhero's' ride their cars around the outside area.

The Playgroup is reliant on fundraising to provide the resources to facilitate the learning and development that occurs daily within the setting. Our next fundraiser is the annual Craft Fair to be held on the Sunday 9 November 2014, 10.00am to 3.30pm. There will be a variety of stalls and the Playgroup hold a raffle and provide refreshments during the day. Come along and make a start on the Christmas shopping. We look forward to seeing you. Craft Fair contact is Mrs Parham, tel 862262.

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 encouragement 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. We are open during term time with sessions every weekday morning and afternoon sessions on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday with optional lunch cover for children who like to bring a packed lunch.

If you are seeking childcare for your 2-year-old, East Chinnock Under Fives playgroup accepts children from their 2nd 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. 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 runs an integrated Toddler Session on Thursday mornings, from 9.30am to 11.00am for £1 per family.

To find out more information, please visit www.eastchinnockunder5spreschool.co.uk

Information about both playgroups can be found on their web sites and/or by contacting Kay Strode on 07798 812540.

The Churches

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

It has been a lovely time for summer weddings at St Michael's, with three weddings and a wedding blessing. Fortunately, the weather was fairly kind on all four occasions.

By the time you read this, our annual Pets' Service will have taken place, but early October sees the start of our Harvest celebrations. On Sunday 5 October our Family Harvest Service takes place at 10.45am, followed by lunch in the East Coker Hall. Our thanks go to all those who help make this such a joyous time. We look forward to the school coming to church the following morning to celebrate their Harvest Festival.

Once again this year we will be supporting the Shoebox Appeal for children around the world. East Coker School and the churches in the Benefice will be helping us send as many boxes as we can. If you would

www.eastcoker.com

like to take part, please ring Judith Shaw 863218 for details. To help develop our work with children and young families locally, a small group has been working energetically over the summer to find funding for a part-time Children's Work Leader. This will open up some exciting new possibilities and we hope to have further news soon.

November has a more sombre mood, beginning with our commemoration of All Saints/All Souls on Sunday 2 November, and followed the week after by Remembrance Sunday. In this centenary year, the start of the First World War, resulting in so many fatalities and casualties, remains much in our minds. The backcloth of so much violence in different parts of the world this summer serves as a reminder of our continuing debt of gratitude to those who made the supreme sacrifice to secure the freedoms we are so fortunate to enjoy.

Plans for our Christmas celebrations are being made. Our evening of carol singing round the village takes place on Monday 15 December at 6.45 pm and this year the collection will be for the Children's Society. Our Carol Service will be on Sunday, 21 December at 6.30pm. Our Midnight Service begins at 11.00pm on Christmas Eve, followed by our Family Communion at 10.45am on Christmas Day itself. We do hope you will be able to join us

The Rev'd Charles Hatton

Further information about St Michael's can be found at our website <http://www.eastcokerchurch.org.uk>

Details of all Services at the seven churches in the Coker Ridge Benefice (together with the monthly Newsletter and weekly Notice Sheet) are available online at <http://www.cokerridge.org.uk>

All Souls'/All Saints' Service, St Michaels, East Coker

On the first Sunday in November we have held a special service for those we have loved but see no longer. For many years the service was at night but people have found it difficult to come out in the dark and for the last three years we have combined the service with the morning service. This year the service will be on Sunday 2 November at 10.45am. If you hope to come and you would like your loved ones remembered at the service, please let me have their names by 26 October.

Monica 862834

CHRISTMAS AT CLOSWORTH

With schools now back it is time to think of Christmas. We shall be holding our usual Nativity at Cloworth on 24 December at 4.00pm. At the time of writing I am not certain whether we shall have a real live baby Jesus, but I hope the children will come dressed as angels, shepherds or kings, or children from many lands. (That means almost anything!).

The service lasts about 30 mins and consists of carols, readings and prayer and ends with the children playing musical instruments.

IF there is snow or ice, as it has happened before, please phone to check the service is on.

Monica 862834

EAST COKER CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, BURTON LANE

Weekly Meetings Sundays Services 11.00am. Other services as announced. **All** are welcome to **all** of our services.

Coffee Stop The Hall is open each Wednesday from 11.00am until 1.00pm for coffee and tea. There are usually some 10-14 present. 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.

We also run **Home Groups** on alternate Tuesday evenings for anyone who may be interested in discussing the Christian faith and there is a youth group meeting midweek for those aged between 18 and 30.

Little Wheelers Mother and Toddler Group meeting at the East Coker Hall each Tuesday (during term time) from 10.30am - 12.00pm. £2.50 per family to include coffee/tea and cake for the adults (with squash and biscuits for the children).

Girls' Get-Together takes place once a month on a Thursday evening when (usually) some 30 or so ladies of all ages get together for a meal and watch a demonstration or listen to a short talk.

Kevin Chapman is available from Tuesday to Friday. He can be contacted on 07812726853 or 422594 or email ec.cf@hotmail.co.uk - Please do feel free to get in touch if you have any queries about the Christian faith or if you would like someone to pray with you or simply to talk to. Alternatively you may wish to look at our website on www.eastcokerchapel.com

'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.' John's Gospel, Chapter 1 verse 1 (NIV)

Village News

HEDGELAYING – HATHERSTONE WOOD – Saturday 11 October – 10.00am – 4.00pm

Any time you can spare will be helpful. No experience necessary – just bring enthusiasm, gloves, a saw and an axe.

Contact Chris Blight 863689 for more information.

EAST COKER VILLAGE FETE – REPORT 2014

Thank you to everyone who attended the Village Fete on 5 July. We believe that there were some 600+ in attendance as well as a small army of helpers manning stalls, tables and attractions. Due to your generosity many charities and causes benefitted and we are aware that Action Medical Research received some £450 from the sale of their refreshments, and that ECPT received £477 at their tombola, whilst St Michael's raffle produced almost £150.

For our part, we at East Coker Christian Fellowship are not, primarily, interested in making money. We see organising the Fete as a service to the community. However, after taking into account all of the expenditure involved in booking the Llamas, the Assault Course, Hiring the East Coker Hall etc, we had an excess of income (primarily entrance fees and pitch fees) over expenditure of £258.58.

As our aim is not to make money we gifted £100 to Royal British Legion, £100 to Canine Partners and £48.58 to St John's Ambulance. This left us with £10 which we have paid as the deposit on the Hall and field for next year's fete.

Next year the first Saturday in July is the 4th and we have already ordered Bugfest (at a cost of £160) so we hope that you will make a note in your diary to come along and maybe handle a Tarantula or something equally exotic – not sure yet whether Bugfest will be bringing the Python and/or Boa Constrictors!

Anyone looking to secure a pitch for next year can contact Kevin Chapman, Pastor, on 07812726853 or email ec.cf@hotmail.co.uk or, if you want to know a little more about us, visit our web site at www.eastcokerchapel.com

SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY

The mobile library route for East Coker is Tuesday, every four weeks, from 2.30pm - 2.50pm at the Helyar Arms, and 2.55pm - 3.10pm at Mill Close.

Further information from Libraries Direct 08453459177 or www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries

7 October 4 November 2 December 30 December

STAMPS FOR C.L.I.C.\SARGENT (Cancer & Leukaemia in Children)

A very big thank you to everyone who saves their used stamps and takes them into the village shop, a huge bagful has just been received by the charity.

Please keep saving them as they are reused to make money for this charity, which funds vital research into childhood cancers.

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Or Email: CCMELECTRICS@TISCALI.CO.UK

Mayfair Cottage, 5 Long Furlong Lane, East Coker, BA22 9LQ



Building Regulations Part P Compliant



COURTYARD CAFÉ

How time flies! We can hardly believe that we have been open for almost a year. In that time we have had tremendous support from so many people both here and further afield. We are also delighted to be listed as East Coker's top cafe on Trip Adviser! Here are some of the lovely things visitors have said about your café:

'A real Gem in a beautiful Village.....'

'When we arrived, the ladies of the village were gathered inside around a long trestle table, working on arts and crafts, everyone laughing and talking. How lucky they are to have the Courtyard Café on their doorstep.'

'Lovely little Tea Room'.

So if you haven't already, do pay us a visit and find out what the buzz is! A warm welcome awaits you. In the meantime here are a few dates for the diary.

Wednesday 1 October - Winter lunch menu starts

Saturday 4 October Craft afternoon.

Saturday 11 October Lunches for Short mat bowls teams.

Saturday 1 November Craft afternoon Lunches for short mat bowls teams.

Saturday 6 December Craft afternoon Lunches for short mat bowls teams.

Thursday 11 December Short Mat Bowls Club Christmas Lunch (private party).

Allan

EAST COKER PARISH COUNCIL

Neighbourhood Plan

We received feedback from you and have amended our documents accordingly. Councillor Kath Wilson has successfully accessed further government funding to pay for the time of consultants to guide us through the next stage of writing the draft Neighbourhood Plan. At our next meeting, we will be producing the Vision and Objectives for the draft plan.

For more details or to comment, please contact Kath on 475029 or kath.wilson@sky.com

Are you getting the best from the Nippy Bus Service?

Arising from comments during our research gathering, I was intrigued to find out how people could access the West Coker doctor's surgery via the N8 and N8 DRS (Demand Response Service) and therefore I phoned the bus company on **01823 823888**, website is www.nippybus.co.uk/default.asp?cPage=8.

A **very** helpful young woman answered my questions. I asked if it would be possible for somebody living near the Helyar Arms to get to the surgery in West Coker using their service. It is possible. The client needs to phone, giving some time before needing to travel, eg day before is great, or morning for afternoon pickup is possible. They have stops where they can pick up, not from the house directly and they can organise timings etc for both journeys. For wrinklies, like me, with a Bus Pass, this service is free. Forgot to ask about younger people, but on their website there is an indication of prices for zones.

Parish Ranger

We are grateful to our Parish Ranger for the work that he does in keeping our parish in good order. During the summer months, Council voted to employ him for 2 days a week to address the increased workload. If you spot something that would benefit from his attention, please contact Councillor Bridget Sugg before 6.00pm on 863435 or 0709 7621106.

Youth provision for East Coker

Councillor Rod Jones has been successful in gaining external funding to continue the youth project being run on behalf of the Parish Council by 'Active Learning and Skills'.

The meetings will happen on Mondays and will re-commence on Monday 8 September from 1900-2100 at the Pavilion. Children from 10-18 are welcome to attend. The cost is £1, and activities include: outdoor games, cooking, life skills, air hockey etc. Please support this parish project and ensure its continued success.

For further information contact Councillor Rod Jones on rod@lightningtrainingsolutions.co.uk or 473575.

Grant applications

The Council made a grant of £500 to East Coker Cubs and Beavers to replace two old bell tents. Cubs had raised extra money by selling refreshments at a recent football tournament.

For further details of administration of grant applications, please contact Parish Clerk on 862062 or clerk@eastcokerpc1.wanadoo.co.uk

Councillor Kath Wilson on behalf of East Coker Parish Council

HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING & REFUSE COLLECTIONS CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

The refuse and recycling collections will be as usual during Christmas and New Year's Eve. The green wheelie bin will be collected on the 17 December and then not again until 14 January.



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EAST COKER RAINFALL REPORT SUMMER 2014

East Coker enjoyed a glorious summer. The dry warm theme of June extended into July with high pressure dominant from the start, giving us sunny days and above average temperatures; but very little to write about in the way of a rainfall report! The hot and dry weather lasted until 19 July with little rainfall other than a brief thunderstorm providing little more than 8mm (1/3 inch) on the 12 July. This brief respite for the garden was quickly forgotten as the hottest weather of the year continued until the 19 July when the increasingly warm continental air brought 20mm (less than 1 inch) of rain in a few hours by way of a succession of dramatic thunderstorms. The storms cleared quickly and the high pressure air mass quickly re-established itself bringing more hot and dry weather with no further rainfall until August. A mere 29mm (just over an inch) fell in the month, significantly below average July monthly rainfall of 49mm.

August lived up to my long-held belief that it generally rains in August (except 2013, 2004, 2000, 1996 and 1990). Moist Atlantic air pushed aside the settled summer conditions as a succession of low pressure systems brought cooler and wetter weather in from the West. 32mm (just over 1 inch) fell between 1st August and 4th August. This was followed by 4 days of dry weather reverting to traditional August westerly weather bringing intermittent showers and a further 14mm (just over ½ an inch) of rain between 9th and 15th August. Dry but cooler weather did return between the 15th and 25th August. 29mm (just over 1 inch) of rain fell over the bank holiday between the 25th and 28th August. Total rainfall for the month was 72mm and not too far above the monthly August average of 60mm.

September carried on where July left off, settled fine weather returned with above average temperatures for the entire month. 8mm (1/3 inch) of rain fell on 2 September and then no further rain until 20 September. By this point in the month it was the driest September in Southern England for 50 years. 2mm of rain was recorded on the 20th September but no further rain was recorded as of the 25th September and there was no forecast rain until October. Monthly totals are looking to be 10mm (well short of ½ inch), well below the average September rainfall of 57mm and likely to be one of the driest Septembers since records began.

Ian Boswall

GOOSEY FAYRE 2014 - GOOSE SLADE FARM SHOP

All at Goose Slade Farm wish to thank everyone who supported this year's Goosey Fayre. We hope you all enjoyed the day and we are pleased to announce that, with your help, we managed to raise £700 for Julia's House, the children's hospice in Dorset. Winners of the raffle were Mike Evans for the hamper, Arthur and Angela Rees the goose, Mr Bartlet the case of beer and Christine Mead the Christmas brooch.

The name of the dog was Pippa, and the winner received a free dog-groom donated by Amanda of 'Spruced up Spaniels', Hardington. The number of 'sweets in the jar' was 103, and won by the Tomkins family from Yeovil, with the closest guess of 104.

Order books are open for your Christmas goose and all other Christmas meats. Our Tea shop will remain open through the winter serving home-made soup, jacket potatoes and freshly made sandwiches and of course tea, coffee and delicious cakes. We look forward to serving you soon.

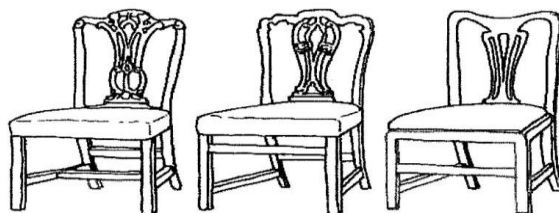
OPEN 10.00am – 6.00pm, Tuesday to Saturday. tel 863735. www.thegoosefarm.com

Also, for anyone interested in the Samaritan's purse Christmas boxes, we have leaflets, and finished boxes can be dropped off here at the farm shop.

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the Newsletter will be in **January 2015**. Copy, please, to Lesley Lindsay, Little Meadow, Coker Marsh, East Coker or e-mail l.lindsay@eastcoker.com, or to The Stores, East Coker, by Tuesday 30 December 2014.

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QUARTERLY VILLAGE DIARY OCTOBER 2014 – DECEMBER 2014

Tues 7 Oct	Library		
Thurs 9 Oct	Gardening Club – Chelsea	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 9 Oct	Wine Circle – Octagon Theatre	7.00pm – 7.30pm	Yeovil
Fri 10 Oct	Action Medical Research – Diva Lunch		Tithe Barn
Sat 11 Oct	Hedge-laying – Hatherstone Wood	10.00am – 4.00pm	
Mon 13 Oct	Time To Share – Life in Exmouth	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Wed 15 Oct	RBL – Musical Evening	7.00pm – 7.30pm	St Martin's Church
Thurs 16 Oct	W.I. – Whist Drive	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 18 Oct	Scouts – Autumn Jumble Sale	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Tues 21 Oct	WEA – East Coker Branch AGM	4.00pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 25 Oct	ECS – Winter Fayre	2.00pm – 4.00pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 25 Oct	Scouts – Waste Paper Collection	8.30am - 10.30am	Near the school
Mon 27 Oct	Time To Share – Bring and Buy	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 30 Oct	W.I. – Street Pastors	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 31 Oct	Coffee Morning – Cancer Research	10.00am – 12noon	The Forester's
Tues 4 Nov	Library		
Wed 5 Nov	Wine Circle – Goose Slade Farm	8.00pm	East Coker Hall
Sun 9 Nov	Playgroup – Craft Fair	10.00am – 4.00pm	The Pavilion
Mon 10 Nov	Time To Share – Kate Wych	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thur 13 Nov	Gardening Club – AGM	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Mon 24 Nov	Time To Share – Carols	2.30pm	St Michael's
Thur 27 Nov	RBL – AGM	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 28/Sat 29 Nov	The Players – Pantomime – Cinderella	2.30pm & 7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 28 Nov	Coffee Morning – Children in Need	10.00am – 12noon	Forester's Arms
Sat 29 Nov	Scouts – Waste Paper Collection	8.30am - 10.30am	Near the school
Tues 2 Dec	Library		
Wed 3 Dec	Wine Circle – Baytree Preserves	8.00pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 5 Dec	The Players – Christmas Bingo	7.00pm – 7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thur 11 Dec	Gardening Club – Houseplants	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 13 Dec	The Players – Musical Evening	7.00pm – 7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Mon 15 Dec	Time To Share – Christmas Lunch	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 27 Dec	Scouts – Waste Paper Collection	8.30am - 10.30am	Near the school
Tues 30 Dec	Library		
Tues 30 Dec	Copy for January's Newsletter		