

# East Coker Society Newsletter



October 2016

Free Issue No 164

Chair: John Sugg 863435  
Secretary: Sarah Owen 862218  
Treasurer: Martin Wells 864198  
Newsletter Editor: Lesley Lindsay 862868

[l.lindsay@eastcoker.com](mailto:l.lindsay@eastcoker.com)

## East Coker Society News

### PLEASE SUPPORT EAST COKER SOCIETY'S WINTER FAYRE

**Saturday 29 October 2016 2.00pm – 4.00pm at East Coker Hall**

Start your Christmas shopping early and bring your friends and family. We can offer a wide selection of produce including Christmas cards and decorations, diaries, calendars, bric-a-brac, home-baked cakes, savouries, preserves, farm foods, garden plants, books, crafts, pictures, pottery, jewellery, knitwear, home furnishings, wooden products, children's toys and many more items. Refreshments provided.

Spaces are still available for stall holders. Please contact Sarah Owen 01935 862218.

✂-----✂-----✂-----✂-----✂-----✂-----✂

### WINTER FAYRE SATURDAY 29 October 2016, 2.00pm – 4.00pm – EAST COKER HALL

Name of Organisation.....

Type of Stall.....

Contact Name.....

Telephone Number..... Email Address.....

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

✂-----✂-----✂-----✂-----✂-----✂-----✂

## Village Clubs and Organisations

### 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?

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

### AUTUMN BONFIR

It pays to plan before a bonfire: 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 enjoying sitting in the sun, washing to be dried, and gardening to be done without having to retreat indoors from bonfire smoke and falling ash.

## **EAST COKER HALL CHARITABLE TRUST NEEDS YOU**

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

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

## **FILMFLIX – Films at East Coker Hall**

Film evenings recommence in September. The programme for the next three months is as follows:

Wednesday 28 September      ***Eddie the Eagle***  
Wednesday 26 October        ***Eye in the Sky***  
Wednesday 30 November      ***Florence Foster Jenkins***

Showings will commence at 7.30pm. Doors open 7.00pm. Entry £6 per person.

For further details, contact 01935 863002 or 01935 862447

## **EAST COKER GARDENING CLUB**

Members enjoyed, yet again, a varied programme of talks and events over the past three months. July was the month for butterflies and other propagators; in August, we enjoyed a talk by Becky Groves on aromatic plants and herbs. The talk in September about the history of Westonbirt Arboretum, accompanied with pictures taken throughout the seasons, by a volunteer, reminded us that autumn, with all its beautiful colours, was on the way. The tea party, held in a member's garden, was a great success, in spite of coolish weather; everyone enjoyed delicious cakes and scones, good company and a lovely garden. August saw 30 of us embarking on a coach for the Taunton Flower Show. The weather was superb, the show excellent – a thoroughly enjoyable day, with no worries about where to park or how to get all the purchases home. August was also the time of the East Coker Flower Show, and several of the Club members were very successful with their entries.

The programme for the next three months

- **13 October**    **'Arts and Crafts' – talk by Marion Dale**
- **10 November**    **AGM**
- **8 December**    **Quiz Night**

Meetings, 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 £12, 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 862447 or Stan Shayler 420291.

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

The coffee mornings raised £387 for Akamba Fund in July and £142.50 for Mind in August.

We cannot use the Forrester's for the November coffee morning, so 'Children in Need' will be held there on Friday 28 October, 10.00am – 12.00pm for this event. There will be no more coffee mornings until January 2017.

We would like to thank the Forrester's for allowing us to use their premises, and to say a huge 'thank you' to all our regulars who support, whatever, the charity, and also to the willing cake-makers!

Cherry Sowerbutts 863313    Penny Marpole 863055

## THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION EAST & WEST COKER

The Branch will be holding their 2016 Poppy Appeal Coffee Morning at West Coker Commemoration Hall on Saturday 22 October, 10.00am – 12noon.

There will be the usual RBL, cake and produce stalls, plus our grand raffle. Also I am putting together a WW1/Battle of the Somme 100 display. Please come along and enjoy a coffee, tea or soft drink, meet old and new friends.

Help us to continue our support to the many traumatised veterans who are still suffering from injuries inflicted in conflicts going back many years. With your help, we in our villages can continue to provide this much needed assistance into the future. Do you know of any veterans or dependants who need our help? A phone call or visit will cheer up those who perhaps are too proud to ask.

Loneliness is not always a choice. There are 370,000 ex-Service men, women and their families who are socially isolated or feeling lonely. This can be for many reasons, such as disability, bereavement, short or long-term ill health or because they live alone. If you feel moved to help, please contact myself or Marilyn Smith or better still become a member of the Branch and help us to bring those lonely people back into the fold of friendship and support. A good starting point is our Coffee Morning, please try and be there.

The 2015 East Coker District Poppy Appeal has now closed our total was £7,901.25. Thank-you to all who gave so generously, also a big thank-you to our collectors, plus the three schools and other businesses who had collecting tins on their premises.

A special Thank-You to Peter and Catherine Denney who donated a total of £492.50 (including gift-aid) given in donations in celebration of their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Many congratulations to them from us all.

The dates for the 2016 appeal are from Saturday 29 October until Saturday 12 November.

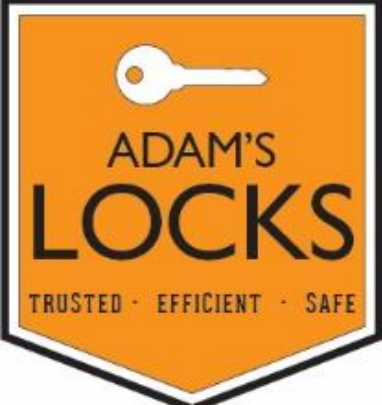
**New collectors are needed, please consider joining the team for about 3 hours a year, that's all it takes knowing you are making someone's life better. "Come on give it go," you'll meet some nice people on the way round.**

Contact myself, Marilyn Smith phone 863944 or Wendy Weston 862472.

Remembrance Sunday is 13 November. Please see The Coker Ridgeway Monthly, plus Church noticeboards and village newsletters, for further details and timings.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Chairman David Holland 862782 [d.holland632@btinternet.com](mailto:d.holland632@btinternet.com) Secretary Marilyn Smith 863944





- 24 hour Emergency Service
- Locks changed, repaired & replaced
- New locks fitted
- UPVC door & window service
- Key cutting on site

For a free non-obligation quotation, please contact me today.

OAP discounts given and no VAT to pay.

Mobile: 07541 697203  
Tel: 01460 75038  
E-mail: [adamslocks@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:adamslocks@hotmail.co.uk)  
[www.adams-locks.co.uk](http://www.adams-locks.co.uk)



## **EAST COKER 400 CLUB**

### **Summer Draw**

£100 Mrs Kay McIver; £50 Mr Martin Wells; £40 Mr A Leng; £30 Mrs J Fellows; £20 Miss Sue Hedges; £15 Brigadier C Robertson; £10 Mrs Jacqueline Clough.

If anyone would like to join the 400 Club, the annual subs are £20. This is paid, if possible, by quarterly payments of £5 by Bankers Order. Please contact Mary Ashley 862263, Arthur Rees 862828 or Mike Weston 862472

Mike Weston

## **BURTON BOOK CLUB**

We are a group of eight people who meet once a month (usually on a Wednesday afternoon) for one hour. We currently meet over coffee/tea at Goose Slade Farm Tea Shop. In addition to the £1 per month fee for books, we also put £2 into a 'kitty' to pay for drinks and, when funds allow, have a 'free' month. We have eclectic tastes, and have found ourselves reading (and enjoying!) books that we would, quite simply, not have chosen as individuals.

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

## **TIME TO SHARE**

Monday 3 October	School in a Bag Charity Presentation - Luke Simons
Monday 17 October	Hamish Pork Presentation with samples!
Monday 31 October	Crafts

Monday 14 November	Quiz
Monday 28 November	Sing-along and watch "The Sound of Music"

Monday 5 December	Carol Service in Dampier Room, East Coker Hall
Monday 12 December	Christmas Lunch with entertainment

First date in the New Year **Monday 16 January 2017**

### **Wi-Fi**

We are continuing our successful Club – but unfortunately no longer at The Courtyard Cafe following its closure in August. But we have two other venues available and will alternate these throughout the rest of the year. We meet every Tuesday morning from 10.00am - 12.00pm. In September at Goose Slade Farm, in October at Hamish Farm Shop, November at Goose Slade and December at Hamish.

Anybody welcome who needs help with their tablet or laptop or just a chat with a cup of coffee.

For more information call Sandra 862162 or Anne 862060

## **SAVING EAST COKER – EAST COKER PRESERVATION TRUST**

East Coker Preservation Trust has now finalised the work we have been doing in trying to save the Village from an enormous extension. Work continues with the master planning side of the revised development and we continue to remain involved with this in an advisory capacity assisting the Parish Council where we can and attending meetings at the SSDC.

The outstanding loans from very generous benefactors have all been paid back.

We are sorry to report the death of our Treasurer for many years, Richard Vanderpump. He was a force to be reckoned with and a man of great character. He and his wife Gail, who died a few weeks before him, will be sadly missed by those who knew them in the village.

Sandra Snelling 01935 862162 m 07717 723448 e [sandra.snelling@googlemail.com](mailto:sandra.snelling@googlemail.com)

## EAST COKER PLAYERS

The Players are busy rehearsing after our summer break. Our next production is 'Snow White', a traditional pantomime. Performance dates, Friday 25 November at 7.30pm, and Saturday 26 November at 2.30pm and 7.30pm at East Coker Hall.

Tickets - Adults £6; Children £4. Available in October from Vicky on 862711 and members. Look out for our pantomime posters for further details.

We would welcome anyone who might like to help us with this production. There are many behind-the-scenes jobs to do. We rehearse on Monday and Wednesday evenings in the Dampier Room, East Coker Hall. Come down and have a chat.

On Friday 2 December, we will be holding our Christmas Bingo Evening. Doors open 7.00pm and 'Eyes Down' at 7.15pm. Seasonal prizes for lines and houses. This is a fun family evening for all ages.

Our AGM will be on Monday 9 January 2017 in the Dampier Room, East Coker Hall 7.00pm. All welcome.

For further details, contact Hazel Giddings - Yeovil 429163.

## EAST COKER POETRY GROUP

Tuesday 25 October **Competition Evening** – 'Recipes in Poetic Form'. This sounds like a Great British Verse Off. But will we have to eat our own words. See the 'Competition Page' of our website for details.

Tuesday 29 November **Annie Fisher**

Annie Fisher won our 2012 poetry competition with three excellent poems on the theme of 'Postcards'. She has gone on writing poetry and has now put together a collection that is being published in November. We are delighted to welcome her back to East Coker for a reading of her work

East Coker Poetry Group meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Helyar Arms (Apple Loft or skittle alley)

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) website [www.eastcokerpoetry.org.uk](http://www.eastcokerpoetry.org.uk)



# ROBERT FRITH OPTOMETRISTS

*Your local independent optician*

Experienced optometrists delivering outstanding eye care in a relaxed and friendly environment.

A wide range of products and services including NHS Somerset-funded ACES emergency appointments.



*Optometrists Ben, Simon and Yuki extend a warm welcome to new patients joining our practice. Each is a very dedicated member of the profession and between them they have expertise in a variety of disciplines including emergency eye care, diabetes, therapeutics, dry eye management, contact lens fitting, binocular vision, dyslexia screening and childrens' eye care.*

**18 Princes Street, Yeovil**

**01935 478463**

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

## ACTION MEDICAL RESEARCH

Update on this year's Cream Teas. This fundraising event has grown again this year with thousands of Cream Teas being delivered by committees locally and by our committee and another in Suffolk sending to companies all over the country, and this year made £55,000 for the Charity.

A wonderful achievement and thanks go to all who supported us by helping us with the packing and by buying a Cream Tea here locally.

Our Diva Lunch is on Friday 14 October. This year, once again, it is at The Tithe Barn at Haselbury Mill – all details are on our website [www.action.org.uk/divalunch](http://www.action.org.uk/divalunch) or contact me on 478409 for further details.

Jane Donnelly, Somerset & Dorset Chairperson, Action Medical Research

Tel 01935 478409 Email: [jane@donnelly81.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:jane@donnelly81.fsnet.co.uk)

## EAST COKER WINE CIRCLE

We have had a busy couple of months over the summer, with the events at the East Coker Hall and the Flower Show and Wine Festival, plus a talk from the NT Gardener at Tintinhull House.

Do join us at any of our meetings – on the first Wednesday of the month at 8.00pm in the East Coker Hall. Bring your own wine and a glass, and nibbles if you want, and share a very social evening.

- Wednesday 5 October      Talk by Somerset Heritage Centre on Wills and Probate.
- Wednesday 2 November      Chilean v Argentina wine tasting – Mark Banham.
- Wednesday 7 December      Wine-tasting, plus bread making competition, and mince pie competition, with bread and cheese supper.
- Wednesday 21 January 2017      Burns Night Social.

Congratulations to everyone who entered the Wine Festival. There were many different classes which were well supported.

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| • <b>The East Coker Wine Circle Cup</b> – for most points in the wine festival | Vince Wolny   |
| • <b>The East Coker Wine Circle Trophy</b> – for Best Wine in the show         | Chris Branson |
| • <b>The Dick Rolph Novice Trophy</b> – for best novice                        | Jordan Bunce  |

Come along and enjoy and a good social evening.

John Hollis, Chairman 863002

## THE EAST COKER BULK OIL PURCHASE SCHEME


In July, 40 of us ordered 36,700 litres of oil at 28.90ppl. The asking price then was 30.90ppl and Darch gave us a good deal. It's now, 12 September, 31.88ppl. We used to say 'Fill up in the summer and top up in the winter', but there no longer seems to be any pattern to the price movements. It normally rises as Christmas approaches and people get itchy about bad weather and family get-togethers. Our next order will be in January/February.

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

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

Paul Edwards





**THE HELYAR ARMS**

Christmas Menu and bookings now available!

**Patrick and Claire** offer a warm welcome to the **Helyar Arms**

Winter menu, roaring log fire and a superb festive atmosphere awaits you.

Come and see us or visit our website

East Coker • Somerset • BA22 9JR **T: 01935 862332**

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

### **EAST COKER FLOWER SHOW AND WINE FESTIVAL**

What a brilliant display of Fruit and Vegetables, stunning arrangements of flowers (very colourful). The Homecraft looked good enough to take home and eat. The skill and dedication that went in to the crafts were well rewarded with some lovely items. In the photography classes there were outstanding pictures by all. Congratulation to the three children who entered – you must be very proud of your entries, they were all of a high standard. Thank you to all who helped on the day to make it special and thank you to all who entered. It made a very good show this year and it was nice to see some new faces, and we must not forget the Wine Festival, what a great display of wine, liquor's and beer. The trophies went to:

- Maudsley Challenge Cup – most points in show - David Pryor
- Archie Neville Memorial Cup – most points in Fruit and Vegetables – John Langdon
- League of Friends Cup – most points in Flower section – Sarah Rashley
- Ralph Eacott Plaque – best vase of Dahlias – Gary Saunders
- Pittard Rose Cup – for 5 roses – Davina Knobbs
- Mrs Newman Cup – best Gladioli – Johanna Witts
- Jane Harvey – Pot Plant Salver – Liz Barnes
- Molly Kettlewell Herb Cup – Jackie Glover
- Miss Keefe Cup – most points in Floral Art – Helen Styles
- Drake Memorial Cup – most points in Homecraft – Jackie Glover
- Eileen Doyle Memorial Cup – Best Jam- Chris Owen
- Christine Mead Cup – best craft – Pamela Chant
- Society Photographic Trophy – David Pryor
- Novice Art Trophy – Barbara Nicol
- John Whittock Memorial Challenge Cup – judges favourite photo – Chris Thornton
- Don White Cup – best fuchsia – not awarded
- East Coker Garden Club Cup – under 5's – not awarded
- Gloria Mead Cup – 6 – 10 year's – Issac Wolny
- Miss E B Drake Challenge Cup – 11 – 15 year's – Freya Milner

Well done to all, and hope to see you next year.

Sarah Rashley, Secretary

### **EAST COKER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

We are pleased to say that, in the past few months, we have gained several new members. We always extend a welcome to anyone wishing to join us for interesting, informative and entertaining talks and companionship. In June, for our birthday outing to RHS Rosemoor gardens in Devon, followed by a visit to

the Dartington glass blowing factory nearby, the weather was perfect. Owl obsession was the subject of our July meeting when members were able to hold two of the four owls brought. August saw the majority of members participating in a Tai Chi class. The Open Evening, (which extends a welcome to any member of the public) on Thursday, 29 September at the East Coker Hall, will welcome Hannah Nobbs who will be speaking about the Fastnet race.

Our next few months feature speakers on Travel Tales, the Magic Circle and Fairground history.

Whist drives recommence on Thursday, 15 September at 7.30pm and will continue on the third Thursday of each month - all are welcome.

Exercises with fun and games, is open to anyone over 50 years, and are held once a month on a Monday. These include seated volley ball, Kurling and Boccia.

### Events

Thursday, 29 September	Open Evening – The Fastnet Race 7.30pm, East Coker Hall
Monday 10 October	Fun and Games 2.00pm, East Coker Hall
Thursday 20 October	Whist drive 7.30pm, East Coker Hall
Thursday 27 October	Travel Tales 7.30pm, East Coker Hall
Monday 7 November	Fun and Games 2.00pm, East Coker Hall
Thursday 17 November	Whist drive 7.30pm, East Coker Hall
Thursday 24 November	Magic Circle 7.30pm, East Coker Hall
Thursday 15 December	Christmas Meal at The Yeovil Golf Club
Thursday 15 December	Whist drive 7.30pm, East Coker Ha



## POT LUCK PLANTS

### SUPPLYING PLANTS IN EAST COKER

Violas, pansies, polyanthus, cyclamen, primroses etc and hardy foliage plants will all be available from Pot Luck Plants for your autumn/winter tubs and baskets.

Colourful winter bedding can be mixed with grasses, herbs and early flowering spring bulbs to make beautiful, long-lasting Christmas presents

Call Kate on 07796991592 for any enquiries

Pot Luck Plants supplies Goose Slade Farm Shop

Halstock Shop & Hamish's Farm Shop

Find Pot Luck Plants on Facebook

## Young People

### EAST COKER SCOUT GROUP

Our summer break has passed very quickly with three unique events:

First, the bees have been removed from inside the wall of the scout hut. Three bee-keepers spent over eight hours one Sunday dismantling the planks from the wall and carefully removing all the bees inside. They estimated there were 50,000 bees in the colony and, despite their equipment, got stung several times. The wall was full of honeycomb. A new hive was placed on the wall with some of the comb inside to attract the bees. Unfortunately, this was not successful, so on the Monday, a new queen bee was introduced to the hive and all the bees followed in. The bees are now happily living in Houndstone. We have been given a small amount of the honey which is dark and delicious.



The second event was Scout Aviation camp. This was held at Henstridge Airfield from Thursday night to Sunday, and is the first time we have attended. We were fortunate to be offered eight Scout places and one Explorer, plus two leaders. On the Friday we all helped with a CLIC Sargent Cancer Day. Over 80 children and their families were provided with a free day including a light aircraft flight. The Scouts marshalled car-parking, handed out sweets and drinks and helped at circus skills. The remainder of the weekend involved learning about weather, air navigation and the parts of an aircraft. The highlight was a one-on-one flight in a small aircraft. Each of the Scouts had planned their route and almost all of them actually flew the plane for most of the time once airborne. This was a fantastic opportunity.

Coker Crusaders Explorers Ben, Alex and Kelsie went to Romania: the following brief is by Kelsie – “At the beginning of the summer holidays fifteen Explorers travelled to Romania with five adults for ten days. We camped on a field located near a town called Sighetu Marmatiei, in the north of Romania. This field has a river running by it which we used for swimming and washing. There was a framework for a kitchen and a dining shelter, which groups from previous years had put together so that we could add the walls and ceiling when we arrived. The main purpose of this trip was to build numerous structures for a care home. Our team was split into two groups, a morning and afternoon shift; this allowed everyone in each of the shifts to continually work as there were always things that they could do. The building site, to start with, was just a plain patch of land at the front of the care home, with no shade and no purpose. To fill this space we built two seat swings, two tyre swings, a shelter with attached table and benches, two raised flower beds and a wooden vine structure that has a flower bed box to go over each post. We finished our time there with a party for the residents so we could see them use all of the structures and equipment that we built. It was an amazing experience to be part of and I am thankful to everyone who supported us.

We will be starting our Scout Hut extension shortly. This will be completed in three stages; the base, the walls/roof and then the inside. We have sufficient money to build the base and outer shell and have a Lottery application submitted for the internal work. This work is even more critical at the moment as our section numbers are so high we need the extra facilities.

We have our highest numbers in years in both Cubs and Scouts, and are working hard to ensure we can accommodate new members. This is a clear reflection of the hard work put in by the leaders to deliver an excellent programme of activities.

The Cubs continue to enjoy the 100 years events. These are leading up to a Promise renewal event that our Cubs will hold underground at Wookey Hole, in December. This has been arranged especially for East Coker Cubs by our leader Grizzly.

The Beavers will be undertaking their World Challenge badge this term and will be off to Gore Farm, near Mudford, for Pond Dipping and mini beasts as well as junk modelling at the Hut.

The Scouts will be visiting the Fire Station, letterboxing on Dartmoor and working through the Skills Challenge badge.

**Autumn Jumble Sale** – Saturday 22 October at 2.00pm at East Coker Hall. Please contact Max Bugler 862186 if you wish anything collected.

### **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 29 October

Saturday 26 November

Saturday 31 December

David Webber, Group Scout Leader.

### **EAST COKER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

We have had a fantastic start to the new academic year! Our Year 6 children have been off to Great Wood on a week-long residential. They have been enjoying a beach visit, duck racing, dam and shelter building, climbing walls, mountain biking and much more. Needless to say they have been a wee bit tired this week! Our Year 4 and Year 5 pupils are off to Osmington Bay for some adventure activities early October and can't wait!

We are very excited to have the space dome visiting on Monday 19 September which will set the whole school off on our 'Explorers' topic this term. We will celebrate the children's work in a special open afternoon for parents and family in late November. Part of this topic will be finding out about William Dampier, who lived in the village not too far away from the school!

We have also had some very special visitors this term – our new Reception children! They have all settled in extremely well and will be starting their first full week of school on 19 September. Welcome to all our new families joining the school.

Jane Hesketh-Williams – Head Teacher

### **Could you be a Governor at East Coker Primary School?**

We are looking for someone with building knowledge or legal skills to support us as we move the school forward. Full governor meetings are once a term with three committee meetings during the year as well as the opportunity to work on mini projects throughout the year. If you are interested, please contact the school office on 01935 862532 or email us at [eastcoker@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:eastcoker@educ.somerset.gov.uk)

  
**UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS  
INTERIORS**  
  
Bespoke Curtains  
Roman and Roller Blinds  
Poles & Tracks  
Loose Covers  
Upholstery  
All Fabrics  
Cushions  
Furniture & Art  
Alterations  
Window Seats etc  
  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
The Old School Rooms  
Long Street Sherborne  
01935 813831    [info@updowninteriors.co.uk](mailto:info@updowninteriors.co.uk)

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

At the end of the summer term the Playgroup wished good luck and waved goodbye to those children going to school in September. Now autumn term has begun and the Playgroup welcomes returning families and families new to the group. The sunflowers the children planted in spring have reached the height of the roof and have fantastic flowers that brighten the days. This year, the garden has yielded radishes, runner beans, chillies, tomatoes and beetroot, all planted by the children. Further additions to the garden include a water butt and compost heap; both will support the children's efforts in the garden. The Playgroup is reliant on fundraising to provide such resources to facilitate the learning and development that occurs daily within the setting.

Our next fundraiser is the Annual Craft Fair to be held (for the first time) on a Saturday, 12 November 2016, 10.30am to 3.30pm, in the East Coker Hall. There will be a variety of stalls and the Playgroup holds a raffle and provides refreshments during the day. Come along and make a start on the Christmas shopping, we look forward to seeing you. Stalls are still available at the Craft Fair. Please contact Judy 07970302146 or Kay 07798812540 or email [ecplaygroup@aol.com](mailto:ecplaygroup@aol.com) to book a stall and/or for Craft Fair information.

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

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

- Monday 9.00-12.00 – 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.

If you are seeking childcare for your 2-year old, East Chinnock under Fives Playgroup accepts children from their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday to starting school. For the past few years the staff at East Coker Playgroup also staff East Chinnock Under Fives Playgroup, both Playgroups feed into East Coker Primary School. 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](http://www.eastchinnockunder5spreschool.co.uk)

Information about both Playgroups can be found on their websites and/or by contacting Kay Strode on 07798 812540.

## The Churches

### ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Our services continue each Sunday, and everyone is most welcome to join us, the usual time is 10.45am. Our 8.00am Holy Communion services are held on the second Sunday of each month.

Ellie's work with the children in the parish continues to grow. She held a very successful summer holiday workshop. The children enjoyed a varied programme of activities. The after-school All Angels Club takes place at East Coker School every Wednesday. Sunday School is held at St Michael's on the first Sunday each month. More children are always welcome.

- **Sunday 9 October** Harvest Festival Service is at 10.45am followed by a Harvest Lunch, 12.00pm for 12.30pm at the East Coker Hall. Tickets for the lunch; Adults £8 and children under 11 years £2, are available from Judith 863218 or Jacqueline 850256.
- **Sunday 30 October**, All Souls' Service. For the time of the service and names to be given, please contact Monica on 862834 or look at The Coker Ridgeway Monthly for more details.

Planning for our Christmas Services has begun, and some dates are already arranged:

- Sunday 18 December at 6.00pm - Carol Service
- Christmas Day, Sunday 25 December at 10.45am – Sung Eucharist

#### Details of contact phone and email below:

- Rev. Colin Simpson email [rector42@icloud.com](mailto:rector42@icloud.com) tel 862429 - Website [www.cokerridge.org.uk](http://www.cokerridge.org.uk)
- Judith Shaw, Church Warden, email [judith.shaw.foxholes@gmail.com](mailto:judith.shaw.foxholes@gmail.com) tel 863218
- Ellie Farr Children's worker email [eleonorfarr@outlook.com](mailto:eleonorfarr@outlook.com) tel 07745216811

Judith Shaw, Churchwarden, St Michael's Church.

### ALL SAINTS' CLOSWORTH

We shall be celebrating Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday 28 September at 6.30pm. All welcome.

The Nativity Service will be held on Saturday 24 December – Christmas Eve

Subject to the weather last year there were deep floods in Netherton Lane, and a few years back snow and ice, we shall be holding our usual Nativity at 4.00pm. I have four possible Baby Jesus, and two are boys! We invite children to come dressed as Kings, Shepherds, Angels or children from many lands and that includes the Yeovil Football strip! The children take part. There are no rehearsals so anything can happen,

but it usually runs smoothly. The young people read the Christmas story, and we always end with the Calypso Carol and the children have musical instruments to play.

The service lasts about 30mins. For further details and to check if the service is on if the weather is bad, please phone me on 862834.

Monica

### **ALL SAINTS' SUTTON BINGHAM**

The Candlelit Carol Service will be held on Tuesday, 20 December at 6.30pm. All welcome.

Heather Snook

### **EAST COKER CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, BURTON LANE**

Although we are currently without a pastor, ECCF is very much alive and well! Come and enjoy Sunday morning worship with us weekly at 11.00am. We meet in the chapel at the end of Burton Lane most weeks, but the first Sunday of the month is held in the East Coker Hall, also at 11.00am.

We have a worship band leading new and old worship songs and hymns, speakers from our own fellowship as well as from Elim, Yeovil Community Church and Martock Christian Fellowship. We have Kids' church, coffee, tea and sometimes cake!

**Little Wheelers** Baby and Toddler group has recommenced after the summer break. This is held at the East Coker Hall on Tuesdays during term time from 10.30am – 12.00pm. £3.00 per family to include refreshments.

**Coffee Stop** The Chapel is open on Wednesday mornings from 11.00am – 1.00pm for coffee, tea, biscuits, socialising and chat.

**Girls' Night** is generally held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7.30pm (not Dec and Jan) at the chapel, it's open to ladies of all ages. We have a light supper followed by talks or demonstrations, and often hear personal experiences of the Christian faith.

We are re-starting our autumn programme on Thursday 22 September, with a talk on 'The Life of a Honey Bee' by Christine Cole.

We have a craft demonstration by Ella Brown on Thursday 27 October, where there will be an opportunity to have a go at making something.

For any further details tel: 863735. Email [ec.cf@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ec.cf@hotmail.co.uk) Web [www.eastcokerchapel.com](http://www.eastcokerchapel.com)

## **Village News**

### **EAST COKER CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

A reminder to you all that the Christmas Lunch will be held on Sunday 11 December 2016 at the East Coker Hall. As always, there are two sittings – 12 noon and 1.30pm.

The price of tickets remains at £10 for adults and £5 for children under 10 years.

What an enjoyable way to be part of our fantastic East Coker community, so do join us if you can!

Tickets are available from Mary Ashley 01935 862263

Di Miskin

## EAST COKER PARISH COUNCIL

### Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations.

The East Coker Parish Council have planted a Queen Elizabeth rose to commemorate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.



Sandra Snelling, Kathryn Sturtridge, Bridget Sugg and Ranger, Darren Sothcott, pictured, from left to right, planted the rose, and the plaque will be installed soon, commemorating the event in the garden at the 'Tree' by East Coker School.

Bridget Sugg, Chairman of the East Coker Parish Council, said "We wanted to mark the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday and what better way than with a rose that is named after her, which will be here for many years to come and for the many visitors who come to East Coker to see the wonderful village it is".

**Signage** in the Parish is nearly complete. Signs have been refurbished and a new signpost has been installed at the triangle. Another finger sign will be installed soon at the T-junction of Mill Lane and Furlong Lane, directing towards the Pavilion and Sports Fields.

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

The Parish Council has become increasingly concerned about **overhanging hedges**, blocking narrow roads and lanes, making them impassable for bus services. Would you please trim hedges to avoid these problems. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated by the Parish Council.

We have a **New Councillor for the Wraxhill Ward**, Philip Chant. Philip has a long association with the Parish and we look forward to working with him.

It is with regret that we announce the resignation of Hazel Clarke. The Parish Council would like to thank her for her service over the last 12 years. We all wish her well.

This now gives us an **East Coker Ward Councillor vacancy**. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor or would like more information, please contact the Clerk.

**Youth Activity Group.** It is with regret that the Parish Council can no longer continue with the fun sessions for 5-11 year olds. Due to low attendance it was costing the Parish Council £17 per child a session! The East Coker Parish Council is looking at other projects, and if you have any ideas, please contact the Clerk.

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



A grant has been given to Time to Share to purchase a projector, which will be stored at the East Coker Hall, for all Parish societies and groups to use at the East Coker Hall, Church or the Pavilion. Contact Sandra Snelling on 01935 862162 or Anne Hartley on 01935 862060.

The **dog bins** with broken lids have been reported and we are waiting for them to be fixed.

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

Maintenance of the **Chapel** is ongoing. Further updates to follow.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

Good News!! The Neighbourhood Plan has now gone for publishing, which is a long process; however, we are hoping this will be ready for consultation soon.

Any queries, please contact Sandra Snelling, ECNP tel 862162

**Website** The new updated website is now live and being updated regularly.

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

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

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

### **GOOSE SLADE FARM SHOP**

With autumn, our minds here turn to Michaelmas, the traditional time for eating goose. The early birds are ready, so why wait until Christmas?

Not only do we rear our own pigs and lambs, but now the first of our beef animals is available in the shop, so beef is an extra special buy at the moment!

As always, the farm shop is well stocked with everything you would expect to find in a good farm shop.

Light lunches and teas are served in the teashop, and hopefully we will have some nice days to come when we can still serve you on the patio.

Opening hours are Tuesday to Saturday 10.00am – 6.00pm. Email [postbox@gooseslodefarm.co.uk](mailto:postbox@gooseslodefarm.co.uk)  
Web [www.thegoosefarm.com](http://www.thegoosefarm.com)

**'PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT'** - Wind Instrument Ensembles in Pendomer Church.

- Sunday 6 November – Nonet: Gounod Petite Symphonie
- Sunday 4 December – Dvorak Serenade in D minor for Twelve Instruments
- Sun 5 February 2017 – Elgar Serenade in E minor arranged for Wind Decet

Performance 5.00pm – 5.30pm followed by Nibbles. But why not POP IN & LISTEN anytime to a bit of the rehearsal (11.30 onwards), then go off for a good walk and return for the performance.

FREE! - Though any donation to Pendomer Church would be appreciated!

Further information from Anthea Lovelock email [info@Pendomer.org.uk](mailto:info@Pendomer.org.uk) or tel 891328

### **WEA – Women Gardeners of the Twentieth Century**

Starting on Thursday 6 October to 17 November, 2.00pm – 4.15pm, there is a six-week course at the Dampier Room, East Coker Hall on the influence that women had on garden design, following the transition from high Victorian planting and the Arts and Craft movement, through to a more naturalistic style and the modern trends of today.

The Tutor, Dr Jane Crozier, will look at the work of Gertrude Jekyll, Vita Sackville West, Margery Fish and Beth Chatto. The cost is £50.

**NB** – no session on 27 October.

To register, telephone the regional office of the WEA 01392 457300 email [southwest@wea.org.uk](mailto:southwest@wea.org.uk)

Local contact - Vivienne Ford 01935 863954

## **YEOVIL DISTRICT SWIMMING CLUB ARE ON THE HUNT FOR NEW TALENT**

Have you been inspired by the Olympics this summer Do you LOVE swimming? Want to learn to swim FAST? Then there is no better time to join Yeovil District Swimming Club!

With the recent appointment of their new head coach, Rebecca Richards, YDSC is the perfect place to take your swimming to the next level. The club trains young athletes from the age of 8 to adulthood at various locations in the Yeovil and Sherborne area. The swimmers enjoy success at all levels, from County to Regional through to National competitions and beyond! New swimmers to the club between 8 and 11 years can enjoy their first month training free!

To find out more and to book your assessment, please contact [ydsc.committee@gmail.com](mailto:ydsc.committee@gmail.com) or go to [ydsc.co.uk](http://ydsc.co.uk) for further information.

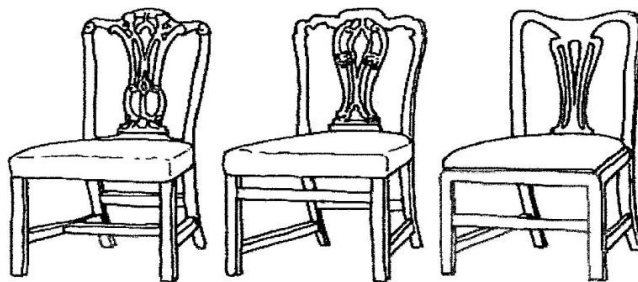
Lisa Bartlett for YDSC

## **NEXT ISSUE**

The next issue of the Newsletter will be in **January 2017**. Copy, please, to Lesley Lindsay, Little Meadow, Coker Marsh, East Coker or email [l.lindsay@eastcoker.com](mailto:l.lindsay@eastcoker.com), by **Wednesday 4 January 2017**

# **KEN MARSH**

## **u p h o l s t e r y**



**ANTIQUE & MODERN FURNITURE  
RE-UPHOLSTERED BY SKILLED CRAFTSMEN**

**REPAIRS & RE-POLISHING**

**ALL KINDS OF SOFT FURNISHINGS MADE**

*Extensive choice of quality fabrics available*

*Free estimates & home appointments*

*Items collected & delivered in our own van*

**Telephone EAST COKER 01935 862907  
or mobile 07790 759162**

Mon 3 Oct	Time To Share – School in a Bag	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Tuesdays	WiFi Club - please see the Newsletter for details of venues	10.00am – 12.00pm	
Wed 5 Oct	Wine Circle – Talk on Wills and Probate	8.00pm	East Coker Hall
Sun 9 Oct	St Michael's - Harvest Lunch	12.00pm – 12.30pm	East Coker Hall
Mon 10 Oct	W.I. – Fun and Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 13 Oct	Gardening Club – Arts & Crafts	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 14 Oct	Action Medical Research – Diva Lunch	11.30am	Haselbury Mill
Mon 17 Oct	Time To Share – Hamish Pork	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 20 Oct	W.I. – Whist Drive	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 22 Oct	Scouts – Autumn Jumble Sale	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 22 Oct	RBL – Poppy Appeal Coffee Morning	10.00am – 12.00pm	West Coker Hall
Tues 25 Oct	Poetry Group – Competition Evening	7.30pm	The Helyar Arms
Wed 26 Oct	Filmflix – Eye in the Sky	7.00pm – 7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 27 Oct	W.I. – Travellers Tales	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 28 Oct	Coffee Morning – Children in Need	10.00am – 12.00pm	The Forester's
Sat 29 Oct	East Coker Society – Winter Fayre	2.00pm – 4.00pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 29 Oct	Scouts – Waste Paper Collection	8.30am – 10.30am	Near the School
Mon 31 Oct	Time To Share – Crafts	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Wed 2 Nov	Wine Circle – Wine Tasting	8.00pm	East Coker Hall
Mon 7 Nov	W.I. – Fun & Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 10 Nov	Gardening Club – AGM	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 12 Nov	The Playgroup – Craft Fair	10.30am – 3.30pm	East Coker Hall
Mon 14 Nov	Time To Share	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 17 Nov	W.I. – Whist Drive	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 24 Nov	W.I. – Magic Circle	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 25 Nov	Pantomime – Snow White	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 26 Nov	Pantomime – Snow White	2.30pm & 7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 26 Nov	Scouts – Waste Paper Collection	8.30am – 10.30am	Near the School
Mon 28 Nov	Time To Share – Sing-along	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Tues 29 Nov	Poetry Group – Annie Fisher	7.30pm	The Helyar Arms
Wed 30 Nov	Filmflix – Florence Foster Jenkins	7.00pm – 7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 2 Dec	The Players – Christmas Bingo	7.00pm – 7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Mon 5 Dec	Time To Share – Carol Service	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Wed 7 Dec	Wine Circle – Tasting & Competitions	8.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 8 Dec	Gardening Club – Quiz	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sun 11 Dec	East Coker Christmas Lunch	Sittings at 12.00pm and 1.30pm	East Coker Hall
Mon 12 Dec	Time To Share – Christmas Lunch	2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 15 Dec	W.I. – Christmas Meal		Yeovil Golf Club
Thurs 15 Dec	W.I. – Whist Drive	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sun 18 Dec	St Michael's Church – Carol Service	6.00pm	East Coker
Tues 20 Dec	All Saints' – Carol Service	6.30pm	Sutton Bingham
Sat 24 Dec	All Saints' – Nativity Service	4.00pm	Closworth
Sat 31 Dec	Scouts – Waste Paper Collection	8.30am – 10.30am	Near the School

2017

<b>Tues 4 Jan</b>	<b>Copy for January Newsletter</b>		
Mon 9 Jan	The Players - AGM	7.00pm	East Coker Hall