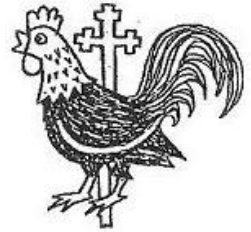


# East Coker Society Newsletter



October 2022

Free Issue No 188

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

## East Coker Society News

Only three months ago, we were celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. How life can change in such a short space of time. Despite her age, few of us would have anticipated the Queen's death so soon. East Coker participated during the period of mourning – ringing bells, half-masting official flags, holding memorial services and providing the opportunity for residents to contribute tributes. You don't have to be a Royalist to appreciate the dedicated service that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II gave to the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth, and the rest of the world. For over 70 years, she was true to her promise and reigned with loyalty, humility and dignity. She was an inspiration to us all.

Sarah Owen  
Secretary, East Coker Society

### Newsletter copies

Printed copies of this Newsletter will be made available at Goose Slade Farm Shop, the Helyar Arms, St Michael and All Angels' Church, the Village Café, and East Coker Hall.

## Village Clubs and Organisations

### EAST COKER PLAYERS

The East Coker Players are pleased to announce their forthcoming pantomime.

**Oh No!**  
**Not Another Panto!**  
**(Oh Yes, it is)**

Written by Jon Margetts and produced by Amie Margetts. At East Coker Hall on Friday 25 November, commencing at 7.30pm. Hall opens at 7.00pm.

Matinee on Saturday 26 November at 2.30pm, East Coker Hall opens from 2.00pm. The Final evening performance is at 7.30pm.

Tickets available in advance from Anne Hartley tel 01935 862060 or on the door.

**Ticket prices:** Adults £7; children & students £5.

There are still vacancies in the chorus for this production if you would like to help. Please contact me if you are interested.

East Coker players are looking for a new Chairperson due to the retirement of Anne Hartley after many years of service. Please contact me if you are interested.

Contact: 01935 420290 or [stanley.shayler@btinternet.com](mailto:stanley.shayler@btinternet.com)

Stan Shayler, Secretary

## EAST COKER WINE CIRCLE

The Wine Circle was founded in 1977, and we will be celebrating our 45th Anniversary with a special dinner. We look forward to new members.

East Coker Wine Circle hold meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 8.00.m at East Coker Hall, unless otherwise advised.

We have a packed program coming up:

- **Wednesday 5 October**, there is a talk on Hennessy Brandy
- **Saturday 8 October**, we are holding our 45th Anniversary Dinner
- **2 November**, QuizNic (bring your own food and wine).
- **7 December**, members' favourite wine - tasting (mince pies and bread competitions, with a bread and cheese supper with port).

Cheers 🍷 Sarah Rashley

## Massage Therapy Studio in East Coker



SARAH NEWDIGATE  
HOLISTIC MASSAGE

*Gift certificates are also available - Massage makes a perfect gift!*

*Please get in touch if you're interested to see if massage can help you*

I am a Holistic Massage therapist working in East Coker. Massage offers relaxing and therapeutic benefits for so many people of all ages.

**Massage Therapy may help with:**

- Insomnia and poor sleep habits
- Autoimmune diseases
- Aches and pains from injury or postural issues
- Stress and anxiety
- Headaches
- Digestive issues like constipation or IBS and many other stress and health related conditions

To book a treatment or for more information contact Sarah:  
**07583 039744**  
**sarahnewdigate@gmail.com**  
**www.sarahnewdigatmassage.com**

Member of  
**nti**  
MESSAGE TRAINING INSTITUTE

## EAST COKER FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

We would like to thank everyone who entered the show and came to visit. We had a great display despite not having a show for a couple of years, also this year we had exceptional weather for gardeners.

The photography classes for next year will be:

- Class 71 - Weathervane
- Class 72 - Window
- Class 73 - Clouds
- Class 74 - Architectural details
- Class 75 - What a Mess
- Class 76 - A group of four photographs of the 4 Seasons.

Thank you all again, and we hope this show has inspired lots of you to enter next year's show.

Sarah Rashley

## EAST COKER GARDENING CLUB

Meetings continue to be very well attended, and we have, again, welcomed several new members.

Our July meeting was enjoyed at a member's garden where we were made extremely welcome, with the hostess conducting a guided tour. Whilst the weather earlier this year hadn't been particularly kind to gardeners, nevertheless several of our members managed to enter some good exhibits into the East Coker Flower and Produce Show, their efforts being well rewarded. The Club petunia competition, judged at our August meeting, showed how skilled some of our members are at growing plants. The Hall was filled with the scent of petunias. Two very worthy winners were rewarded for their efforts with a voucher each to spend at The Gardens Group. Ben Candlin took us to warmer environs (as if it wasn't hot enough here in August!) with his talk on UK subtropical gardens, whilst in September we were encouraged to get ready for winter, when Caroline Pakenham gave an interesting talk on herbs, taking cuttings and making jams and jellies.

The programme for the remainder of this year is set out below – one evening to really look forward to is in November, when David Moon will give one of his excellent picture shows, put to music – one not to be missed.

We are always happy to welcome visitors and new members; whether you are interested in gardening or would just like to join a group of friendly, sociable people, this club could be for you. *The Propagator*, a free newsletter containing Club news, notes of gardening events, tips, etc is distributed via email, with hard copies available at each meeting for those not on email. During the growing season, there is a produce stall, stocked by members with plants and produce.

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 currently £15, with subs of £1 per meeting. Visitors £3. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, commencing at 7.30pm in East Coker Hall, Halves Lane, East Coker. For further information, please contact Helen Styles 01935 862447. There is a page on East Coker Hall website for the Gardening Club; if you have access to the web, please do go to <http://eastcokervillagehall.co.uk/> and look at the Gardening Club page.

In the meantime, if you wish to speak to us, please phone me 01935 862447 or Stan Shayler 01935 420291.

Programme for the remainder of this year:

- 13 October** Off the beaten track – hidden gems - Andrew Tolman
- 10 November** AGM followed by 'The 5 main RHS gardens' set to music – David Moon
- 8 December** Christmas Cracker fun with flowers – Myra Cox

*Helen*

## EAST COKER HALL - FILM NIGHTS AUTUMN 2022



**Belfast** – Kenneth Branagh's award winning film, written and directed by him (2021). Starring Judy Dench, Ciaran Hinds and Jamie Dornan, with Jude Hill as the young lad. The film is about a Protestant family and their life during the Troubles in Northern Ireland.

**Wednesday 26 October at 7.30pm**



**Operation Mincemeat** (2021) - this is a true story based on the successful deception that ultimately enabled the Allies to mount a successful invasion of Sicily. With many British stars – Colin Firth, Jason Issacs, Matthew Macfadyen, Kelly Macdonald, Tom Wilkinson and more.

**Wednesday 30 November at 7.30pm**

**Come along and support your village film nights.**

**We will look forward to seeing you from 7.00pm for a cup of tea or coffee.**

*Gill*

## EAST COKER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The next WI meeting on **Thursday, 27 October at 7.30pm** will be our **Open Evening** when we welcome members and non-members to visit for what we expect to be of interest to many of the public, including accompanied children. The talk will be about the History of Falconry, with live birds on view. The cost will be £5 per head with children free, there will also be a raffle. This will be followed by refreshments, after which visitors may leave before we hold our business meeting.

The following month, Malcolm Welshman gives us an insight into "A Vet's Life". In December, we look forward to visiting a restaurant for a Christmas meal, then starting the New Year with a talk entitled "Care, Tax and Toy Boys" Wow!


We are restarting the monthly 'Fun and Games' afternoon sessions after the Summer break, starting Monday 10 October at 2.00pm and the Whist drives from Thursday 20 October at 7.00pm. Both these activities are open to the public.

Anyone wishing for information about our WI, please contact secretary, Ruby Rollo, tel 01935 475010

### Diary dates

Monday 10 October	Fun and Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thursday 20 October	Whist drive	7.00pm	East Coker Hall
<b>Thursday 27 October</b>	<b>Open Evening - History of Falconry</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>East Coker Hall</b>
Monday 14 November	Fun and Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thursday 17 November	Whist Drive	7.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thursday 24 November	"It's a Vet's Life"	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Monday 12 December	Fun and Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thursday 15 December	Whist Drive	7.00pm	East Coker Hall


Joyce Pryor



## ROBERT FRITH OPTOMETRISTS

(Incorporating Harts Eyecare)

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 and the latest 3D retinal scanning technology.

*All our optometrists 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, complex contact lens fitting, binocular vision, dyslexia screening and childrens' eye care.*

**28 Princes Street, Yeovil** **01935 474333**

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



## THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION EAST & WEST COKER BRANCH

### The Death of Our Patron

It is with deepest sorrow that the Royal British Legion marks the death of our Sovereign and Patron, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Queen had served as Patron of the Royal British Legion since 6 February 1952. We are immensely thankful for her faithful service, and we join the entire Armed Forces community in mourning her loss. Her unwavering commitment to the Armed Forces will be deeply missed, and our sincere condolences are with the Royal Family at this time.

### Poppy Appeal 2022

During the week commencing 17 October, we will be distributing poppy collection tins and trays to our friends, the door-to-door collectors, local businesses, and schools. We will promote the event as usual with the posting of large poppies throughout the village. The 27<sup>th</sup> of October marks the official launch of the appeal taking place with various events in cities throughout the country.

### Coffee Morning

We will be holding our Coffee Morning on Saturday 29 October at 10.00am until 12.00pm in West Coker Commemoration Hall.

Entry is £3, to include coffee and cake. As usual, it's a great social event with great raffle prizes and an opportunity to meet and chat with friends. A cake stall, produce and Legion gifts will be available.

David Giles, Chairman

# ART CLASSES

WITH ARTIST & LECTURER  
ELEANOR FARR MA

***Learn to draw & paint***  
***Beginners and intermediates welcome***

*We'll work through all the fundamentals of drawing and painting together. You'll learn techniques to inspire you and create beautiful artworks, whilst experimenting with new materials. All in fun and friendship*

**WEDNESDAY 13:30 - 15:30**

**OR**

**SATURDAY 10:00 - 12:00**

**£175 FOR A 10 WEEK COURSE**  
**EAST COKER VILLAGE HALL**

Book early to avoid disappointment. Places limited.  
To book your place please contact Ellie Farr 07745216811 or at  
[enquiries@eleanorfarr.gallery](mailto:enquiries@eleanorfarr.gallery)



## EAST COKER POETRY GROUP

Forthcoming meetings at the Village Café, East Coker - 7.30pm start.

### **Tuesday 25 October - Competition Evening 2022**

This year, our Judge is poet Graeme Ryan. Graeme was Head of Drama at Heathfield School in Taunton for twenty years and is the author of several full-length plays for young people. Graeme is an active environmentalist, a member of Fire River Poets and has been a prize-winner in several national poetry competitions. Valley of the Kings is his first full-length poetry collection, and Graeme will also be giving us a short reading of his poetry.

The deadline for competition entries was 1 October. The subject, 'The Calendar', could be interpreted in any way or style entrants wished.

All the entries will be read during the meeting. If you are unable to attend, we will arrange for your entry to be read by one of our 'cover readers'. These evenings are always entertaining.

### **Tuesday 29 November - Annie Fisher with Anthony Watts**

Annie Fisher is a freelance literacy consultant and storyteller, and we welcome her back to give a reading at East Coker. (I still remember her Multiple-Choice Holiday Postcard). She enjoys writing both light and serious verse and has had poems published in several online and in print magazines including Acumen, Angle, Ink Sweat and Tears, Lighten Up Online, Obsessed with Pipework, Other Poetry, South, Snakeskin and The Frogmore Papers.

Her published collections are The Deal, HappenStance 2020 and Infinite In All Perfections: HappenStance, 2016.

Anthony Watts has had poems published in many magazines and anthologies in addition to five published collections: Strange Gold (KQBX Press, 1991), The Talking Horses of Dreams (Iron Press, 1999), Steart Point & Other Poems (John Garland, 2009), The Shell Gatherer (Oversteps, 2011) and Stiles (Paekakariki Press, 2019).

He has won many poetry competitions over the years, including East Coker's in 2008

## **POEM**

Following the death of Queen Elizabeth II, Maya Pieris sent in this poem:

### **Epigram**

MY soul, sit thou a patient looker-on;  
Judge not the play before the play is done:  
Her plot hath many changes; every day  
Speaks a new scene; the last act crowns the play.

(Francis Quarles – 1592-1644)

Best wishes to all in the East Coker Poetry Group.

David Cloke

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

email [info@eastcokerpoetry.org.uk](mailto:info@eastcokerpoetry.org.uk)



- 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)

## Young People

### EAST COKER SCOUT GROUP

The camping season has been and gone. All our sections enjoyed their active weekends away.

The Scouts had their JAWS camp back in July and tried crate stacking for the first time; this is one activity that you know at some point you will end up dangling on a rope. Four scouts have just returned from a backwoods weekend where they slept under tarpaulins instead of tents and learned survival skills; they did get a bit wet from the heavy downpour in the morning!



The Beavers camp was at Huish Woods, and they have already been cooking and out on a walk this term.

The Cubs have worked on their Chef's badge and will be out walking in the village before the clocks change.



Our three scouts, Faye, Charlie and Emily, who have been selected to attend the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea next year, continue with their fund-raising events to raise £4,150 each. A cake stall and sweet tombola at RNAS Yeovilton's Families Day achieved almost £1,000, as well as a new scout leader until January.

The next event will be the Bonus WSJ Village Quiz on Saturday 12 November – teams will be emailed direct.

Faye, Charlie and Emily have now completed four preparation weekends, where they are learning the skills for their trip, and also undertook a beach clean for community service.

Faye and Charlie are also working towards their Young Leader Award. Four modules to go, and then four tasks that apply their learning.

Our Stag Explorer Unit (14 – 18-year-olds) has been restarted (only managed one evening before COVID hit) and will meet on a Wednesday evening.

For those that have been waiting and holding on to their 'stuff', we are planning a Jumble Sale to be held at East Coker Hall in late February/March next year.

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

## Dates for diaries

**Saturday 21 November 2022** – World Scout Jamboree Fundraising Quiz

**Saturday 25 March 2023** – 17<sup>th</sup> Annual East Coker Village Quiz

## **EAST COKER PLAYGROUP (follow us on Facebook: East Coker Preschool)**

We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage to promote learning and development, however it is the children's interests which guide our daily and weekly activities within this. Pirates, unicorns, ninjas, Lego, cars and rainbows are current favourites and appear in paintings, playdoh, in the play kitchen, in small world play and at singing time. Our outside space is a great place to spot unicorns, making ball runs or walking the plank using loose parts (gutters, logs, crates). There are gardening pirates attempting to plant a rainbow of colour (we'll never know until springtime). Ninjas explore movement of water in the water tray and cars make wheel patterns in the sand. As the children settle into the setting after the summer holidays, it is exciting to see where they will inform our planning and what we will be exploring and investigating.

The Playgroup is a charity, and all fundraising is essential in supporting the playgroup. Fundraising will enable the Playgroup to maintain and replace the resources that support the children's learning and development. Our next fundraising event raising money on behalf of the Playgroup will be the:

### **Winter Fair – 11.00am-3.00pm**

**Saturday 19 November 2022 at East Coker Hall**

**Pop along and start that Christmas shopping early!  
Along with a variety of craft stalls, there will be refreshments,  
cake stall and a raffle to enter.**

**Stalls available, for more information and to book a stall – email [office.ecplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:office.ecplaygroup@gmail.com)**

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

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

Monday	8.00-9.00	12.00-1.00	3.00-4.00
Tuesday	8.00-9.00	12.00-1.00	3.00-4.00
Wednesday	8.00-9.00	12.00-1.00	3.00-4.00
Thursday	8.00-9.00	12.00-1.00	3.00-4.00
Friday	8.00-9.00	12.00-1.00	3.00-4.00

Children staying for lunch need to bring a packed lunch.

### **Baby and Toddler Session @ East Coker Playgroup Thursday, 9.30-11.00, £1.50/family.**

We have a playroom full of resources and outdoor space to facilitate playing and learning. Pop along and join us for play and chat.

To find out more information, please visit our **Facebook page East Coker Preschool**.

For more information and to register your child/children for East Coker Playgroup, please contact us tel 07503 751133 or email [office.ecplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:office.ecplaygroup@gmail.com).

## **EAST COKER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

It has been so lovely to welcome back all our families to East Coker Primary after the summer break, as well as welcome many new families who have joined us this term.

There was quite a bit of change for us in the summer term as many staff retired and our Deputy Head has had a recent promotion to Headship. This means changes for us with staffing across the teaching section and in the school office. Despite this, we have all 'hit the ground running' and the children (and staff) have settled in really well.



As usual, we have been exceptionally busy this term and have achieved lots already, considering it is only September. The children have had visitors from Yeovil Town delivering workshops and sports clubs to complement our school clubs. We pride ourselves in offering a well-rounded education, and our wide range of after school clubs help promote this amongst our pupils. This term, we offer coding club, STEM club, books and biscuits club, hockey, badminton, netball, archery, choir and a Lego club.

Our School Council, Year 6 Ambassadors and House Captains have all been elected and are fully embracing their new roles within the school. The School Council will be taking on the role of improving our lunchtime outdoor provision and running a social action project linked to the community. This may be supporting a local cause such as food poverty, homelessness, or mental health, or looking at environmental issues.

Our Year 6 residential is due to take place next week with a week at Great Wood Camp. We are excited to also be spending a day at Kilve. The children will be taking part in grass sledging, rifle shooting, archery, beach studies, climbing, swimming and much more. It will be a fun packed week – regardless of the weather forecast!

Our Year 4s are off to see 'Beauty and The Beast The Musical' in Bristol next week and we have just booked our Year 5 residential which takes place in March. It is so nice for things to be back to normal!

This week, we have hosted some Phonics Workshops for our parents to get an insight as to how we teach phonics at East Coker. We are currently delivering the Read, Write Inc. programme of phonics. We will be offering more workshops over the year for different subject areas.

Over the holidays, our new site manager has been busy making improvements to our school hall, and we are looking forward to the delivery of some very special wall art which will be installed later this week.

We will also be holding our first open morning for prospective parents for Reception in 2023 on Saturday 15 October from 10.00am-12.00pm, so please come along if you are looking for a place in Reception in September 2023. This will be a fantastic opportunity to have a good look around the site to see what we offer. Parents are then welcome to have a tour during the school day to see what it is like in action.

We have also recently updated our school website which is full of information regarding life at East Coker Primary School. Please do visit our website to see what we have been up to [www.eastcokerschool.co.uk](http://www.eastcokerschool.co.uk).

### **School Vacancy**

Please note that we currently have a vacancy for a clerk to the governors. This is a part time role equating to approximately 40 hours per year attending seven meetings over the school year, sending out agendas and typing and distributing minutes. Please email the school office if you are interested at: [office@eastcokerprimary.org](mailto:office@eastcokerprimary.org).

Jane Hesketh-Williams, Head Teacher

## **The Churches**

### **ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH**

Our thoughts and prayers continue for King Charles and the Royal Family as they mourn the death of our beloved Queen Elizabeth. Other events pale into insignificance.

However, we remember with happiness the summer Tea Party which we enjoyed in Church with 35 leavers from East Coker School as they anticipated starting at their new schools. Father Colin presented each pupil with a copy of Scripture Union's Booklet, It's Your Move, full of practical advice and a simple Christian message. In an unforgettable moment he also taught them his favourite song!

Earlier in June, we joined in Village Celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a special service in Church and a Festival of Flowers with a red, white, and blue colour theme. Squalls of rain failed to dampen our joyful picnics on the Recreation Ground.

This year, St Michael's congregation joined other Churches in the Benefice for their Harvest Celebrations.

November brings **All Soul's Day on 6 November** and **Remembrance Sunday 13 November at 10.50 am**.

Full details of Christmas Services around the Benefice will be published nearer the time. The Carol Service is on Sunday 18 December at 6.00 pm at St Michael's. Christmas Day, 25 December, will be celebrated at St Michael's at 11.00am.

Our normal monthly pattern of Services remains unchanged:

First Sunday of month - No Service at St Michael's/ 11.00am, Village Hall, Family Service, East Coker Christian Fellowship.

2nd Sunday 11am Morning Prayer

3rd Sunday 6pm Evensong

4th Sunday 11am Holy Communion

5th Sunday 10 am Holy Communion Benefice Service, rotating round 7 Churches.

For those who would like to know more about the Christian faith, Father Colin organises an afternoon Zoom session and an evening meeting.

For further details and information, contact:

- Rev'd Colin Simpson, email [rectorcokerridge@gmail.com](mailto:rectorcokerridge@gmail.com), tel 01935 862429, The Rectory, 7 Cedar Fields, West Coker, Somerset, BA22 9DB [www.CokerRidge.org.uk](http://www.CokerRidge.org.uk) and The Coker Ridge Benefice Facebook. Office hours, Wednesday and Friday, 10.00am-1.00pm.
- Barbara Hampshire, email [officecokerridge@gmail.com](mailto:officecokerridge@gmail.com). Office hours Wednesday and Friday, 10.00am-1.30pm, tel 01935 864574.
- Monica Whipp, email [m.whipp278@btinternet.com](mailto:m.whipp278@btinternet.com) tel 01935 862834.

To receive the weekly Pew sheet, please email [christine.vince2@btinternet.com](mailto:christine.vince2@btinternet.com) or pick up a copy in the Church.

## **BELLRINGERS WANTED!**

Try a new hobby – learn to ring church bells at St Michael's Church. We meet for practice on Tuesdays, 7.00pm – 8.00pm. If you would like to give it a try, please contact Lesley on 862868.

## **THE CHAPEL AT EAST COKER HALL**

We meet at East Coker Hall, 11.00am on Sunday mornings. We are always happy to welcome anyone to join us, even if just to see what goes on!

Our services are very relaxed and informal and always followed by tea and coffee. We have a variety of speakers, our own worship band and a large number of children of all ages in the 'Kids Church'.

Café Church is held on the first Sunday of each month; fresh coffee, croissants, and bacon rolls are provided, and we have an even more informal time.

On Tuesday mornings in term time, the Toddler Group runs from 10.30 – 12.00. This is aimed at mum, dads, grandparents and child carers and incorporates a café area as well as plenty of play space and equipment.

On Tuesday evenings from 7.30pm, the worship band meet for music practice in the main hall, and prayer takes place in the Dampier Room at the same time. Feel free to join us for either or if you would like prayer.

On Saturday 29 October, we are holding a Glow Party at East Coker Hall, our Church alternative to a Halloween party. It is for children aged 4 - 11 years (accompanied by an adult) from 5pm - 7pm. This is a free event where there will be Food, Fun, Crafts and Disco. If you would like to come, please message us on our Facebook page (East Coker Chapel) or email us at [ec.cf@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ec.cf@hotmail.co.uk).

Our Carol service will be on Sunday 18th December at 11.00am. Christmas Day service 11.00am

Contact us on 863735 or via our website [www.eastcokerchapel.com](http://www.eastcokerchapel.com) where you will find our email address and the mobile numbers of our leadership team.

Joe Dunning

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

# IYENGAR YOGA

At East Coker Village Hall  
With certified teacher Lisa Bartlett



Wednesdays at 10am (For those with some experience of yoga)  
Fridays at 10am (suitable for all, beginners welcome)

Iyengar Yoga, a traditional system of yoga, is named after BKS Iyengar who is noted for bringing yoga to the West in the 1960s. Through his innovation of yoga props, the poses are accessible to all regardless of age, level of fitness or ability and great emphasis is placed on good alignment in the poses.

*Come and join my friendly classes to experience the many benefits of yoga!*



Find me on **Facebook:**

**"Iyengar Yoga with Lisa Bartlett"**

Or Email: [lisabartlett@mac.com](mailto:lisabartlett@mac.com) Phone: 07837 258495

*Classes also held in West Coker (including Gentle Yoga) and Yetminster*

## Village News

### MOBILE LIBRARY

East Coker at the Helyar Arms, 11.50am – 12.10pm, Tuesdays every 4 weeks:

4 October      1 November      29 November

For information about this service, contact Somerset Direct, tel 0300 1232224 or visit [www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries)

### THE TRIANGLE, EAST COKER

Kathryn Sturtridge has been planting, tending, and watering the Triangle at North Coker bus stop beautifully for years, but she has now had to give that up. We are all very grateful for her dedicated hard work, which will be hard to follow.

East Coker Gardening Club were asked if they would take over responsibility for this and we have formed a small group of 5 volunteers, who are working on the Triangle.

We are about to have an autumn bulb planting time, the results of which we will be able to see next spring.

Gill Evans, Chair, East Coker Gardening Club.

# Lawrence Electricals

---



Domestic / Commercial / Security  
(inc. Alarms / CCTV)

From Extra Sockets to Full Rewire

Tel: 01935-891090  
Mobile: 07889 511576

**Lawrence Dolan**  
City & Guilds Accredited

Free Estimates

---

## WEA – COKER BRANCH - AUTUMN PROGRAMME

We are offering a look at the works of Virginia Woolf, particularly 'Mrs Dalloway'. It's a 6-week course starting on Wednesday 9 November 2022 at 2.00pm with Greta De Plage and is at Hardington Mandeville Village Hall (BA22 9DB). The course costs £36 for the 6 weeks.

This course will study two novels by one of the most popular writers of the modernist period. Woolf produced work that was innovative, and which has had an enduring appeal since it was first published. We will consider Woolf's exploration of the psychological background of her characters, look at how she wrote on issues relating to class, the position of women, the role of marriage in society and how she documented a changing, modernising society.

You can book on [www.wea.org.uk](http://www.wea.org.uk) or call 0300303 3464. The course code for booking is C3534006.

Gill Evans

## GOOSE SLADE FARM SHOP

After the wonderful dry summer, our animals are grazing lush grass and growing rapidly. The Christmas meat order book is open and already filling, we are also taking orders for our delicious homemade desserts.

As always, our fresh meat counter is stocked with our own home-grown beef, lamb, pork and goose and a wide variety of game including venison, rabbit, pheasant and partridge all from our own farm and neighbouring fields.

The free-range chicken and duck are from Cracknell's poultry at Langport.

Our butchers are always available and more than happy to help with off counter meat cuts, special orders and cooking advice, please ask if you need assistance.

We have fresh fruit and vegetables locally grown and sourced, fresh bread and cakes delivered daily from local bakeries, homemade cakes, pastries and desserts, a very large selection of jams and preserves, biscuits, snacks and confectionery, an extensive selection of local cheeses and other dairy items and cooked, smoked and cured meats and fish.

We look forward to serving you soon.

Shop opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10.00am – 5.00pm.

Email [www.thegoosefarm.com](http://www.thegoosefarm.com) Tel 01935 863735

Phil & Liz Dunning  
[www.eastcoker.com](http://www.eastcoker.com)



# LACEYS

- Friendly, professional, local staff
- Regulated by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
- Family-run business

But don't just take our word for it...



"Excellent service, very friendly and professional, many thanks"  
Mr H

"Dedicated, patient, consistent and prompt to follow-up, respond and do everything [they] could to help it through"  
Mr D

"If you have any doubts which Local estate agent to use then look no further - great, genuine, honest people"  
Mr & Mrs J

"From start to finish, Lacey's Estate Agents provided 5 star service"  
Mrs P

**Laceys Yeovil Ltd**  
12 - 14 Hendford | Yeovil | BA20 1TE  
**01935 425 115**  
**laceysyeovil.co.uk**

 **RICS** If you have instructed another agent on a Sole Agency or Sole Selling Rights basis, the terms of those instructions must be considered to avoid a possible liability to pay two commissions.



## MUSICAL FESTIVAL

In 2019 myself, Simon Pryor and Elaine Keetch held a small music festival in our back garden. With 4 acts playing to a total number of visitors of 185.

This year, we decided to do the event again. Giving our garden over to such a worthy cause and fun event, Simon Pryor and Elaine Keetch held Pryorfest '22 on 3 September.

This time, however, with six acts playing, a bar and a Hog Roast, we entertained, fed and watered in excess of 200 people between 2.00pm and 9.00pm with music from 1940's jazz, through pop and blues to Rock music.

For those who did not attend and live locally, we hope they enjoyed the music from afar, and I'm pleased to say that after all expenses were deducted the grand sum of £2,700 was raised on the day with donations still coming in.

Our chosen charity is the new Breast Cancer Unit appeal. We are hoping, if possible, to push the total up to £3,000

A heartfelt 'thank you' goes out to all who helped dedicating their time and enthusiasm as well as the bands and singers who played.

But most of all thank you for the immense generosity shown by all those who attended or donated.

Simon Pryor

## BONFIRES

If you cannot for any reason recycle your garden waste, please choose a calm day, or preferably an evening, where it will not affect neighbours with blowing smoke.

## END OF BRITISH SUMMER TIME

BST ends at 2am on Sunday 30 October 2022 – clocks go back one hour.



## **EAST COKER PARISH COUNCIL**

### **The Natter Garden**

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Garden has flourished beautifully all summer, thanks to the diligent watering and deadheading carried out by some of its neighbours! Thank you so much. It still looked lovely for the Tribute to Queen Elizabeth, and thank you to all those of you who visited it and left flowers.

### **Book Swap**

The Bus Shelter Book Swap goes from strength to strength but does get a bit overloaded at times. It would really help if books were not left on the bench together with other items which have been left this summer. It's a nice thought to leave bird cages, mixers and other items that others might like, but it is not what the Book Swap is about! Thank you very much.

### **Coker Corona**

We have discontinued the Coker Corona as we had published 30 of these during the Pandemic and it had really come to the end of its life, especially the name! There will be some new communication coming soon and hopefully some fun things for Christmas.

### **Parish Council**

The Parish Council still have two Councillor vacancies. If you feel that you could spare a few hours each month, please contact the clerk, Jude on [clerk@eastcokerparish.com](mailto:clerk@eastcokerparish.com).

### **Dog Waste Bins**

Can we please remind people that the dog waste bins are for dog waste which has been collected when walking your dog. Not Collected from your garden. The Council bins are emptied regularly and it all goes into the same landfill, so anything collected from your garden can be disposed of in your own dustbin. Thank you.

### **Village Signage**

There has been a long delay in sourcing the stone, but this has now been chosen and we hope to take delivery of the completed signs by Christmas.

### **Speed Limits**

Sadly, people are still speeding through our village. If anyone would like to join a team to do speed watch, we are looking for volunteers, please email your details to [clerk@eastcokerparish.com](mailto:clerk@eastcokerparish.com)

## **ROYAL MEMORIES BY MONICA**

Little did I think when I wrote about the late Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation that her life was so near its end. I am so thankful she was able to celebrate her Platinum Jubilee. I shall always remember the broadcast she made to the nation on her 21st birthday dedicating her life, whether it be long or short, to serve the nation. I was struck by the massive task she had set herself at such a young age and what a faith she had. As many of the people have commented recently, she had always been there, she was the one stable factor in a changing and often troublesome world. She carried out her words of dedication to the utmost possible limit. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Her death has brought back my memories of the death of her grandfather, George V and her father, George VI, and I am struck by how the world has changed. I clearly remember the night George V was dying, Mum came to tuck me up in bed and a cold tear fell on my face. I asked her what the matter was, and she said the King is dying but is sleeping peacefully.

Next day, Dad's first task was to start arranging for a wireless to be available in church so that many of those living in his village could hear the Funeral Service. Many did not have a wireless, and those that did had to take it up to the local garage to get it topped up with sterile water, I believe.

Later, when George VI died, I was working on my University Theses and when I went downstairs to make a coffee, Dad came out to tell me the King had just died suddenly in his sleep. From then, and in the following days, the only sound on the radio was solemn music, apart from the regular News.

I remember the new Queen was proclaimed from the Town Hall next day, and on the Sunday, we had a splendid service in church. Blackout curtains were cut up and everybody wore black armbands and black hats. Hats were a must for church in those days, and I was very proud of mine, contrived out of blackout material. We were still suffering from lack of resources, so nothing was ever thrown away!

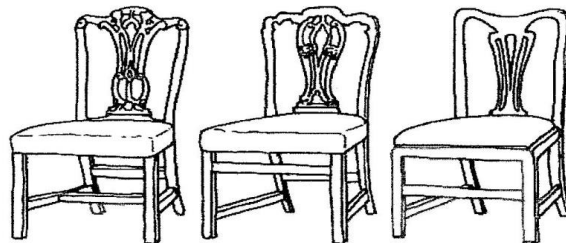
The King's Funeral must have been broadcast, but the University had arranged for our group to visit an Approved School that day. As this had been difficult to arrange, we were told in no uncertain terms we must go or else...! We all trooped off on the local bus. When we got to our destination in the wilds of the country, the conductor said, "You will have to hitch a lift back to Leicester, this is the last bus of the day!"

Our hearts fell, there were over 20 of us but one of the boys took charge and said no girl was to go alone. The first car sailed past, next a farm flatbed lorry pulled up and the driver asked where we wanted to go. Luckily, he was going past the University and offered to take us home. As we climbed up onto the lorry, he said, "I think the straw is clean, I am going to pick up some sheep". It was clean but bitterly cold, however we did not mind, we got home!

What a change with the full coverage of the Funeral of the late Queen. I felt I was almost there, as if I was following the procession on foot. What memories will be passed on to future generations.

Monica, September 2022

# 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**

## **NEXT ISSUE**

The next issue of the Newsletter will be in **January 2023**. Copy, please, to Lesley Lindsay at [l.lindsay@eastcoker.com](mailto:l.lindsay@eastcoker.com) by **5 January 2023 or sooner if possible**.

Tues 4 Oct	Mobile Library	11.50am – 12.10pm	Helyar Arms
Wed 5 Oct	Wine Circle – Talk – Hennessey Brandy	8.00pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 8 Oct	Wine Circle – 45 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner	TBC	TBC
Mon 10 Oct	WI – Fun & Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 13 Oct	Gardening Club – Talk - Andrew Tolman	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 20 Oct	WI – Whist Drive	7.00pm	East Coker Hall
Tues 25 Oct	Poetry Group – Competition 2022	7.30pm	Village Café
Wed 26 Oct	Film Night – Belfast	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 27 Oct	WI – Open Evening	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 29 Oct	RBL – Coffee Morning	10.00am – 12.00pm	West Coker Hall
<b>Sun 30 Oct</b>	<b>BST ends, clocks go back one hour</b>		
Tues 1 Nov	Mobile Library	11.50am – 12.10pm	Helyar Arms
Wed 2 Nov	Wine Circle - QuizNic	8.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 10 Nov	Gardening Club – AGM	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 12 Nov	The Scouts – Village Quiz	7.00pm – 7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sun 13 Nov	Remembrance Sunday	10.50am	St Michael's Church
Mon 14 Nov	WI – Fun & Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 17 Nov	WI - Whist Drive	7.00pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 19 Nov	The Playgroup – Winter Fayre	11.00am – 3.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 24 Nov	WI – It's a Vet's Life	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Fri 25 Nov	Pantomime	7 - 7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 26 Nov	Pantomime – Matinee	2.00pm – 2.30pm	East Coker Hall
Sat 26 Nov	Pantomime – Final Performance	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Tues 29 Nov	Poetry Group – Annie Fisher & Antony Watts	7.30pm	Village Café
Tues 29 Nov	Mobile Library	11.50am – 12.10pm	Helyar Arms
Wed 30 Nov	Film Night – Operation Mince meat	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Wed 7 Dec	Wine Circle – Wine Tasting	8.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 8 Dec	Gardening Club – Xmas Crackers with Flowers	7.30pm	East Coker Hall
Mon 12 Dec	WI – Fun & Games	2.00pm	East Coker Hall
Thurs 15 Dec	WI – Whist Drive	7.00pm	East Coker Hall
Sun 18 Dec	The Chapel - Carol Service	11.00am	East Coker Hall
Sun 25 Dec	The Chapel – Christmas Day	11.00am	East Coker Hall
Sun 18 Dec	Carol Service	6.00pm	St Michael's Church
Sun 25 Dec	Christmas Day	11.00am	St Michael's Church
<b>Thurs 5 Jan</b>	<b>Deadline for Newsletter copy</b>		
Wednesdays & Saturdays	Art Classes – see page 5	1.30pm – 3.30pm, Sat 10.00 – 12.00	East Coker Hall