



Evington Echo

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Keeping you up to date with Evington's news

The newspaper of Friends of Evington Charity No. 148649

Issue 271

April and May 2018

Circulation 5,900

MAY DAY FAIR

EVINGTON VILLAGE HALL

CHURCH ROAD, EVINGTON, LE5 6FA

FEATURING

MAYPOLE DANCING
ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

BRIC & BRAC

DISPLAY OF LOCAL CRAFTS

SALE OF BOOKS, CARDS & PLANTS



See page 2
for more
information



MONDAY 7TH MAY 2018
10.30^{AM} - 3.30^{PM}

For queries

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Designed by Jason Chauhan



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EDITORIAL

The Echo is run by, written by, edited by and distributed by volunteers. The Echo Team want to take this opportunity to thank you all and of course our advertisers who provide the income that allows the Echo to be printed.

We need to ask for more volunteers who could help with the Echo's distribution. We need more Distributors - who are prepared to deliver the Echoes to homes near them, usually about 60 to 80 copies.

We need Area Distributors who have access to a car as they will deliver the Echo to a number - six to eight- places.

Also we need volunteers who could step in as Relief Distributors when holidays or illness mean we have a temporary need for an extra distributor.

If you can help then please contact Chris Hossack on 2415153.

Do you have your own computer and are able to e-mail? Are you good at getting jobs done methodically to meet a deadline? Do you have a few hours to spare at odd times over the Echo's two month publication period. Then please contact Helen to find out more about the volunteer Advertisement manager's work for the Echo. Helen

BENEFIT CHANGES

If circumstances change after 13th June with universal credit replacing six benefits (JSA, ESA IS WTC, CTC and Housing Allowances) then seek advice from a Welfare advice agency.

CAMPAIGN FOR ADEQUATE MINIMUM INCOME.

The EMIN campaign bus will stop in Leicester - the only stop in the UK - on Wednesday 23rd May from 10.30am to 3.30pm. The bus will be parked in Humberstone Gate. There will be public speakers from 12.30pm to 1.30pm. The theme is adequate income for a life in dignity. There is a follow up discussion on 23rd May 9.45 - 11.45am at St. Martin's House, Peacock Lane with speakers.

MAYDAY IN EVINGTON

7th May 10.30am - 3.30pm - ENJOY!

Instead of going away on the May Day Bank Holiday (7th May), why not stay in Evington and enjoy a visit to the Village Hall (Church Road) and the Village Green (opposite Bennett's).



Abdul Bux

You can enjoy browsing for bargains, knowing you are supporting a fundraising event for Evington in Bloom. Enjoy tea and home-made cakes and of course there will be plenty of plants for sale. Look, gents! Crochet and other handicrafts aren't just for the ladies! Abdul Bux will demonstrate and talk about his hobby.

Traditional Maypole Dancing on the Village Green will be led by Christine Rivers accompanied by accordion player, Peter Brine. Sessions start at 10am, 11am, 12noon and 1pm and last for approximately 20 minutes each. It's fun to join in, but you may also sit and watch. There will also be a meditative labyrinth on the Village Green.



Left Peter Brine playing the accordion
Above: Dancing together.

STEWART OLIVER SMITH (1925 - 2018)



Stewart Smith, the elderly gentleman whom many of you have probably seen riding around Evington in his little blue 1971 Morris Minor, passed away on 10 February 2018 at the ripe age of 92.

Stewart was born in 1925 and attended Leicester City Boy's School, excelling in athletics and breaking the high jump record at that time. In April 1943 he joined the Air Training Corp, and then volunteered for military service. He became a member of Flight 41 F Squadron 36 Wing in July 1944, and trained as an Air Navigator but the War ended before he was deployed. He was discharged from the RAF in December 1947.

Stewart then attended Leicester College of Art & Technology and became a Surveyor and Building Clerk. He was employed as a roofing contractor at Weston & Bolton. Eventually, in July 1967, he started his own business - 'Building Technical Services'.

In 1947 Stewart had married nurse Bertha Winifred Wykes and they raised three children - Lesley, Beverley, and Christopher. After Burtha died In August 1994, Stewart closed his business and retired. He then lived alone at 2 Kingsway Road and was a member of many local clubs and associations, enjoying a multitude of hobbies and interests which included Dancing, Dinner Parties and Public Speaking, Photography, Heraldry, Calligraphy, Stamp Collecting, Woodworking, Gardening, Martial Arts and Motoring.

Stewart took great pride in all his children's individual accomplishments, large and small, and loved his grand children showing interest at every stage in their lives.

Our father reminded us of the old oak tree After 92 years, the tree became tired and the leaves fell. It became time to sleep.

The tree had stood strong and tall till the end, and is now at rest.

This was our father.



A-Z OF SOCIAL PRSCRIBING CELEBRATES THE LIVES OF ELDBERS IN EVINGTON

F is for...

Fashion, fundraising, Fliss and fascinators!



Over the years I've supported many charities by making hand crafted items to sell and raise much need funds, often just from 'stuff' that people have given me.

It's amazing what people throw away- I don't like seeing anything go to waste and believe we can all do more to reduce, reuse and recycle. So I suppose in my own way I'm also doing my bit for the environment.

Preloved clothes, old jewellery findings, wool, ribbons, buttons and such have been transformed into dream catchers, greetings cards, tea cosies, soft toys to name but a few of my creations.

Most of all I love the challenge of shaping 'nothing' into 'something' plus it helps me to keep my mind and hands busy.

More recently I couldn't find a hat to match an outfit that I wanted to wear for a family wedding. So I started to experiment and ended up making a fascinator for myself and my daughter. 'Necessity is the mother of invention' as they say!

I'm really looking forward to the Fashion Show fundraiser organised by the Downing Drive Patient group (see page 15) for more information) where I hope to be inspired and entertained all in one go!

OPEN DAY AT THE SHAMA WOMEN'S CENTRE

39 - 45 Sparkenhoe Street, Leicester LE2 OTD



On 22nd February, an Open Day at the Centre welcomed all women to come and find out more about the activities and to look around the stalls.

The centre is deceptively large.

It is run by the charity to offer educational, social and wellbeing services. Users become members at a small cost and can attend many workshops and free courses, including ESOL, Health and Social Care, Holistic Therapy, IT, Multicultural cooking, Yoga, Hairstyling, Jewellery making and other creative activities. There are professional courses in First Aid, Health and Safety and Food and Hygiene. If you are looking for a job as a machinist, you can learn overlocking and lock stitching.

The Shama Women's Centre is Lottery funded and, supported by Leicester City Council and many other organisations including WEA, Leicester College, Matrix and City and Guilds.

For more information:

General enquiries 2514747

Shama_Womens_Centre@hotmail.com

www.shamawomenscentre.co.uk

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Edition	Deadline	Published
2018	(Friday)	(Thursday)
June/July/Aug	17th May	8th June
September	2nd Aug.	24th Aug.
Oct./Nov.	13th Sept.	5th Oct.
Dec./Jan.2019	15th Nov.	7th Dec

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Quiz & Bingo Night - Last Tuesday of every month from 7pm
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Letters

BURNING RUBBISH

Dear Editor,
Many years ago Evington was declared a Smoke Free Zone which meant that domestic bonfires was only allowed if irregular and not unreasonable and people respected this. Now it seems new people are moving in and people seem to think that they can burn any rubbish they like instead of taking it to the local tip like most people would or bin it.

Today, Mothers' Day, March 11th in the houses next to the Dove Public House which have been renovated - one of them was burning rubbish for over 3 hours. At some points the smoke was thick and acrid. This carried up and down the road on Downing Drive. Visibility was very poor and car drivers were having difficulty seeing.

It can be carried into houses via window vents and people who have breathing difficulties could suffer.

It was light, (approx. 4.30pm,) when it started and went on long after it got dark.

Have some consideration for the environment, the wildlife and people and stop being so selfish!!!!

Name and address supplied

P.S. I am not the only one who noticed this as many people came out as they thought something was on fire and someone (not me) called the fire brigade who spent over 30 minutes at the house!

IN PRAISE OF A LOCAL SHOP

Dear Editor
I would like to write in praise of the staff at J&A Pharmacy located in Main Street, Evington. At the end of last year my father was diagnosed with terminal cancer, and it soon became evident that he needed daily support from myself and other professional services. Not living in the area myself, I began using J&A as the closest pharmacy to my fathers GP surgery - right from the beginning it was apparent that they would go above and beyond. As dad's health deteriorated over the next few weeks I became an almost daily visitor, and on every occasion the support given to me was

fantastic, although looking back I don't think I was always in the most rational state of mind. Sadly dad passed away in the middle of January, but this has not ended the support that I have received from them - from disposing of unused medicines to using their Post Office counter, I can't thank them enough for their caring words whenever I go in.

One thing that this has made me realise: we cannot allow the big supermarkets to destroy our local shopping facilities, as the service and support provided to the community is invaluable.

Contact details supplied.

LEICESTER'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINE

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25th April

Bowel Cancer Screening – Dr. Richard Robinson.

If bowel cancer is detected at an early stage, before symptoms appear, it is easier to treat and there is a much better chance of survival. A simple screening test offers both reassurance and can identify the disease early, before it becomes more advanced.

15th May

Endometriosis.

Endometriosis is a common condition where cells of the lining of the womb are found elsewhere in the body. It leads to pain and scar tissue formation called 'adhesions'. An estimated two million women in the UK have this condition, which can range from minimal to severe. In 2014, Leicester's Hospitals set up a specialist service for women with Endometriosis.

28th June

70 Years of the NHS: A Special Celebration!

11th July

Children's Allergies.

For more information, please contact the Patient and Public Involvement team on 258 8592 or email membershipdesk@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

HOMELESSNESS AND THE ROYAL WEDDING

Dear Editor,
I read with interest all your articles in previous editions of the Evington Echo about homelessness. Are you aware that ahead of the Royal Wedding in Windsor, there has been a crack-down on begging and rough sleeping?

A council leader has called for urgent action by the Berkshire police and crime commissioner to tackle 'aggressive begging' in Windsor, ahead of the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. He said there was an epidemic of rough sleeping and vagrancy in the town that caused a hostile atmosphere for both residents and tourists.

Windsor Homeless Project described the comments as 'abhorrent'. They said it was 'sickening' that a council leader had cited the royal wedding as a reason for his concerns.

"If somebody is sleeping out on the street they are not there by choice; they are there because something has gone wrong.

On Christmas Day there were 12 people laid out on Windsor High Street."

Prince Harry and Miss Markle will marry at St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle on 19 May. Contact details supplied.

EVINGTON PARK BOWLING CLUB

THE OUTDOOR BOWLING SEASON STARTS ON MONDAY 16TH APRIL

The bowling club is unified, with both men and ladies together sharing the management duties, organising club activities and social events, playing in mixed, and individual, men's and ladies' club competitions, and 'Home' and 'Away' matches against other bowling clubs in the County.

Club membership is free for the first year, but a Parks Season Ticket will be required for use of the greens and club bowling activities. Casual play is also available, subject to City Council green fees.

Free taster sessions are available for newcomers to the sport, on Monday evenings and Wednesday afternoons, with free use of bowls, tuition and coaching.

For further information tel. Membership Secretary, Harry, on 2204525

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

I was proud to raise the flag over Parliament to mark International Women's Day today. A century from some women gaining the vote, the fight for equality continues.

Today we send a message to women everywhere that we can belong in the Houses of Parliament, we can be equal and we can be phenomenal.

Dawn Butler

EVINGTON SCRIBBLERS CELEBRATE THEIR NEW BOOK

On 8th February Evington Scribblers celebrated their new book, sponsored by Leicester City Council's 'Everybody's Reading' project.



Evington Scribblers began in Evington Library in March 2012 led, in its first year, by Nicky Bannison, funded by Everybody's Reading. Nicky also set up and ran a creative writing group at Beaumont Leys Library before moving on to work as a shared reading practitioner. Members continue to meet fortnightly in the library and welcome new members whose

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interests lie in writing, whether fiction or fact, prose or poetry.

Nicky Bannison was able to attend the launch and received a copy of the book. The group celebrated with a cake that had a copy of the cover on the icing and each contributor read something from the book as well as hearing from our newest and youngest member.

Evington Scribblers would like to thank the staff at Evington Library for their continued help and support. If you are interested to join



the Scribblers, and new members are very welcome, contact the library about dates of meetings which are held fortnightly on Thursday from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Kevin Beint

THE ANNUAL SPRING TIME WALK 2018

Saturday 12th May

This annual event is a chance to enjoy springtime in the countryside, walking with old and new friends and with the great purpose of raising monies for charity.

The charity will be the Air Ambulance Service. This amazing institution carries out vital, dangerous and emergency flights, day and night, in all weathers. This marvellous service is financed only from donations and other charities. The monies collected will be shared between Air Ambulance and St Denys Church.

We meet at St Denys car park to walk out into the countryside to Thurnby village. From there we continue along footpaths to the old medieval deserted village of Old Ingarsby. The route then takes us to Houghton on the Hill and back to Evington for lunch.

The longer walk of 10 miles starts at 8.30 am.

The Strollers route of 4 miles starts at 10.00 am.

Lunch consists of jacket potatoes with all the trimmings followed by a dessert and a top-up of tea or coffee, all for a nominal charge.

For further information please contact Roy Hammond at 2881256 or royhammond36@gmail.com



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THANK YOU TO JOHN AND PAULINE



John and Pauline Sloan (left and right) with Radio Leicester presenter, Dave Andrews

A long time ago in the deep mid-winter in a quiet street in Evington there was a meeting. The founding members of the Fete were moving far away and needed to find new people to run the Fete and Show. They had heard of a rather special couple called John and Pauline Sloan who might help. They knew it would be a challenge but hoped they could be persuaded and asked them to come to the meeting.

That was in 2005, and John and Pauline have been Chairman and Secretary for the last 13 years. We don't know how they found the time, but are so glad they did. When all is said and done they only meant to stop for 20 minutes. They have done a brilliant job.

Sadly, it is time to say thank you and reluctantly let them retire from the Fete and ease up a little. Having said that, John is still heavily involved with Scouting and many other charities, and the Leicester Tigers and his garden and Pauline is still teaching the white art of sugar craft and involved in her card group, whilst still being our champion raffle ticket seller, and both of them help with their growing tribe of grandchildren.

They have weathered the storms, sometimes literally, over the years and brought together a great team of volunteers who have built the Fete and Show into what it is today.

The marquee has grown to 5,000 square feet of space filled with most interesting displays of home produce, jams, vegetables, artwork, pictures, sewing and flowers; in fact, there are 109 classes to go for!

Pauline and John have encouraged, wheedled, bribed and strong-armed and threatened and even remunerated a whole host of people who have provided entertainment, played instruments, Punched & Judyed, turned wood, spun wool, made honey, provided first aid, put up bunting, made and served epic amounts of tea and cake, marshalled, managed the site, danced and sung, and written beautifully, staged exhibitions and run raffles and tombola, lucky dipped and kept us healthy and safe.

The Sloans will be a hard act to follow, and we shall miss their cheerful, diplomatic and thoughtful input. But the Fete will go on and we know they will be there. And we hope to see you too – it's on the 11th August – it will be fun.

Richard Webb

PRUNING APPLE TREES



A group of LEV (Leicester Environmental Volunteers) met with ParkRangers /Horticultural advisers, Neil Harris and Mick Eaton to winter prune apple trees in the arboretum. This session helped the volunteers refresh their skills. Learning to prune comes in handy when gardening at home, but it also makes better apple trees for the arboretum!

LEV have many projects in the city that volunteers can get involved with. All you need to do to sign up is search for 'Leicester Environmental Volunteers' and follow the links. Once registered, you will receive a monthly list of activities that are happening all over the city. You have the choice about which activities you want to support, but there is no obligation to join in any of them. Some projects limit the number of volunteers they can take.

Helen Pettman.



ROSHNI-2

This photograph shows Sabina Ahhanji, a Research assistant from the University of Leicester supporting the charity Roshni-2 at the Open day at the Shama Centre.

Roshni- 2 is a new research study by Lancashire Care NHS. They wish to speak to British South Asian Mothers with a child between 0 – 12 months. They say "Becoming a new mum can be stressful and it is important to know that you are not alone. If you've been feeling down lately or you are having trouble eating and sleeping then please get in touch by phoning 01254 612508 or 07507844725."

CO-OP SHOP CLOSED IN EVINGTON VILLAGE

The Co-op shop closed very suddenly in Evington Village in February and the rumour was that they had found asbestos when some building work needed to be done.

After many weeks residents noticed that nothing was happening.

Central England Co-operative Ltd. say:

"Following a full review of the trading performance of the store that indicated a decline in sales with increasing losses projected in future years, the decision has regrettably been made to close the store. Like other retailers, we are constantly adapting to retail challenges at a local level and the decision to close the store was not taken lightly.

We do understand the disappointment that this announcement will cause our customers, many of which have been loyal to the store for many years and we are sorry for this.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me."

Denise Wilson Retail Support Assistant

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Judgemeadow Community College News



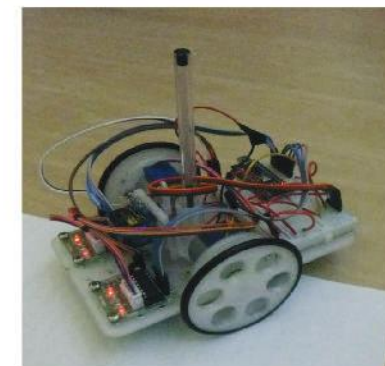
Please join us!

We have had a lot happening at Judgemeadow over the last term - here is a small selection of different events our staff and students have been involved in!

Every Monday from 9-9.45am we host a parents/carers Coffee Morning at the school. This is an opportunity for parents to meet with a member of the Senior Leadership Team and discuss key issues in an open and informal setting.

Focus on: Design and Technology

Year 8 students had the opportunity to test and try out the robotic inventions by Steve Gale during their Design Technology lesson on 20th February. A group of students from all year groups also stayed behind after school to meet Steve and his robots. Steve has many years experience working with robotics and technology in industry and was able to inform students on the career options available to them in this ever-changing field.



World Book Day 2018

Professor McGonagall, the Grim Reaper and Lady Macbeth walked the corridors here at Judgemeadow on World Book Day.

Enthusiastic staff had a lot of fun dressing up as their favourite fictional characters.

Other characters rubbing shoulders during Judgemeadow's celebration of all things literary, included everyone from Fantastic Mr Fox to Gangsta Granny and Mary Poppins.

Student leaders from the Learning Resource Centre chose Assistant Principal James Rolfe, dressed as Terry Pratchett's Grim Reaper, as the winner.

Other activities held as part of World Book Day festivities included a visit by popular author Polly Ho-Yen, who ran workshops, gave readings and ran a 'Meet the Author' session where she answered students' questions about her life as a writer.

Students also took part in a Design a Book Cover competition, in which they were asked to design an alternative cover for either of Polly Ho-Yen's books 'Boy in the Tower' or 'Where Monsters Lie'.

An invitation

We will be hosting a charity coffee morning at Judgemeadow Community College on Saturday 21st April 2018 from 10am—12 noon. We would like to invite you to come along to the school for a cake and a cup of tea or coffee and join in some of the fun! Some of the highlights include a cake stall, a second hand book stall, face painting and gingerbread man decorating. It would be lovely to see you there!



Please mention the Echo when replying to advertisements.

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Leicester Ageing Together

Supported by the Big Lottery Fund, using National Lottery funding.



Leicester Ageing Together offers a range of activities and services, social and learning opportunities, practical support in the home, one-to-one mentoring & befriending, volunteer opportunities for people aged over 50. Here's what's on in **Evington in April & May, 2018**.

Anything Goes is a friendly group meeting in Evington Park House every Wednesday from 10.30 to 12.30. In April there will be two sessions with flower arranging on the 4th and 11th. On 16th May there'll be a talk about Food Waste and Re-cycling, with a speaker from the Council's Waste Management department. The group is open to new members – people over 50 who live in Evington and would like to try new activities, meet people and go on day trips. Contact **Nikky Miles** of Age UK for more information on **0116 2992270**.

the CENTRE LESBIAN GAY BI & TRANS

A warm welcome awaits at the **LGBT Centre** 15 Wellington Street, LE1 6HH.
TEL: 0116 254 7412

Silver Sippers is a group for LGBT people over 50. You are welcome to meetings on **Wed 4th and Thurs 19th April, 11am to 1pm**. The Centre will provide tea, coffee, biscuits and entertainment, all you need to bring is yourself! Staff will be around if you need information, advice or support.

If you're attending the centre for the first time you might like to come along to **'Tea with Dorothy'** on **Fridays 6th and 27th April**, from **12 to 2pm**, for tea, coffee, biscuits in a safe space. You'll be welcome to our 'Untold Stories' exhibition to learn about the heritage of the LGBT+ community, the personal journeys of key people from the city, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Singing for the Brain

A friendly group using singing to bring people together, specially facilitated by the **Alzheimer's Society** for people with a diagnosis of dementia, their family & carers. No need to book, just come along. At Evington Village Hall, Church Road, LE5 6FA, every **1st Tuesday of the month, 10.30 to 12 noon**. For more information, or to talk to Kyle on 0116 231 6921.

Or email:
leicestershireandrutland@alzheimers.org.uk



The **West Indian Senior Citizens Project (WISCP)** offers a **Carers Club** every Thursday from 11am to 4pm. It is run by volunteers and offers support, respite and socialising. On Wednesday & Thursday the **Silver Strand Luncheon Club** offers a meal, drink and dessert for £3.50. Also on Thursday a **Keep Fit Session**. Contact **WISCP** at Caribbean Court, Lincoln Street. Call **0116 251 2224**.

Take Care of your Wellbeing The WEA, with Leicester Ageing Together, are offering activities over the next year that will help you explore

- What mental wellbeing means to you
- Building skills, knowledge and social connections to promote a sense of wellbeing
- Feeling more in control of your life

First Workshop Friday 20th April 10.30-12.30

Accentuate the Positive (but don't ignore the Negative!) In Evington (venue tbc) Support with transport available. For more info call Sally or Jan on **0116 366 0925/0926** or email olderandwiser@wea.org.uk

Support to run your own group? You may be in a Leicester Ageing Together group for which funding is finishing soon and you'd like the group to continue. Or you may be running a group, or thinking of running a group and would appreciate support. Join with others for **6 workshops from Wed 30 May, 10-12 at St Denys Parish Centre** Find out more about what's involved in running a group and where you can get help. Call Jan at the WEA to book your place

Courses and activities Delivered through **WEA**. Please **book in advance**. Call Jan on **0116 366 0926** or email olderandwiser@wea.org.uk Courses to come: Cookery and Holistic Therapies.



Thurs – 7 wks From 15 th March	Come and Cook	10.00 – 1.00	Evington Village hall
Tues - 6 wks From 17 th April	Come Craft With Us	10.00 – 1.00	St Chad's Parish Hall, 145 Coleman Rd, LE5 4LG
Tues – 6 wks from 10 th April	My word! Poetry for everyone	4.00 – 6.00	Café Blends, 43 Downing Drive, Evington LE5 6LL
Weds – 6 wks from 11 th April	Family History intermediate level	10.00 – 12.00	St Denys Parish Centre, Church Rd LE5 6FA
Weds – 6 wks from 18 th April	Tablets and Smartphones beginners	4.00 – 6.00	Café Blends, 43 Downing Drive, Evington LE5 6LL
Thurs - 6 wks from 19 th April	Tablets and Smartphones workshop	1.00 – 3.00	Evington Leisure Centre, Downing Drive, LE5 6LP
Thurs – 6 wks from 19 th April	Tablets and Smartphones -	4.00 – 6.00	Café Blends, 43 Downing Drive, Evington LE5 6LL
Weds – 6 wks From 30 May	Run Your Own Group – Support to set up a social or activity group	10.00 - 12.00	St Denys Parish Centre, Church Rd LE5 6FA

Our LAT partner **Papworth Trust** offers two services: **Neighbourhood Guardians** We visit and assess how best to provide support and undertake a Home Safety check. Volunteer Guardians then provide ongoing support as required. **Neighbourhood Task Force** carry out one-off clearing, repairs, gardening, decorating in older people's homes; bringing living spaces back up to standard and reinstating a sense of security & wellbeing. Contact **Papworth** 0116 401 6423 E: LAT.leicester@papworthtrust.org.uk

Learn more about Leicester Ageing Together, our vision, people we have supported, achievements so far, from our website www.leicesteraeingtogether.org.uk.

Contact us **0116 249 8850** E: hello@leicesteraeingtogether.org.uk



Charity no. 1158208
This charity is now working in the Leicester area and looking for volunteers. The charity has a new scheme called 'Give and Take Care' – a volunteering and befriending service. The cost is a £5 admin. fee and then £1 fee for every 1 to 1 care received. If you are interested please contact 07846516017 or Leicester.locality@giveandtakecare.co.uk

MAYFLOWER METHODIST CHURCH

Mayflower was built after the war to replace the previous Saxby church ('Saxe'), and recently we have been reminded of this association after the passing of three of our most loyal members, June Bull, Eileen Gumley and Dennis Neal, who were all members of 'Saxe'. Our present church, at the corner of Ethel Road and Evington Drive, is open and welcoming on Sunday mornings at 10.30am, and other communities use the building for their worship services on Sunday afternoons and on Saturdays.

The large Hall (with a stage) is often used for group activities such as Line dancing, Children's dancing as well as many private parties and celebrations. An orchestra also rehearses in the Hall. In January we celebrated the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity by having Rev Bill Myers from St Margaret's Roman Catholic Church to conduct our worship, while one of our preachers Geoff Warrener went in exchange to their church.

Also at Christmas we had the pleasure of the company of the UMCZ (United Methodist Church of Zimbabwe) to join us; they usually meet every Sunday afternoon in our building, and we were invited to join them at the end of January. We join with the churches in the Evington area, and during Lent we have been able to attend the united Lent groups held on

Sunday evenings at St Denys Church. On Mothering Sunday we joined with our friends at Wesley Hall for a special service conducted by our minister Rev Saidu Kanu, followed by refreshments and chat. Rev Kanu has the charge of Wesley Hall and Uppingham Road churches as well as Mayflower.

We wish the readers of the Evington Echo a Happy Easter; this year Easter Sunday falls on April 1st so April Fools' Day will have passed before the Echo is distributed.

Rosalind Thompson



ST. DENYS PREPARES TO CELEBRATE 800 YEARS

Plans are beginning to fall into place for St Denys Church's big anniversary year in 2019. A whole programme of events is being put together and we would love to hear from anyone who would like to get involved from the wider parish or anyone with a story of St Denys or an idea to share.

Just to whet your appetites, plans already include a renewal of wedding vows for anyone married at St Denys, a 1940s garden party, a series of teas and talks, an Ecofair, a trip to Paris(!), work with local schools, an art exhibition, concert, and a community-wide production of C.S. Lewis' 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. We hope to launch the final programme at this year's Fete and Show in August so do come and visit us then.

As the Parish Church for Evington, St Denys is here to love, pray for and serve everyone who lives in Evington, of all faiths and none, so please do join in and celebrate with us. For more information and updates, find us on Facebook and Twitter or go to our website www.stdenys.org.uk and get in touch.

SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE AT WHITEHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL



These pictures are a small selection from the stalls and activities at the Science Fair held at Whitehall Primary School on 13th March, during British Science Week 2018.

The main school hall was buzzing



with children, parents and guests, all keen to enjoy the hands-on activities and displays. The event was coordinated by Mrs. Seema Foster who earlier had held a special assembly all about science and set up children as science ambassadors. Mehvish, a current science ambassador said, "we want to encourage you to get thinking and asking questions. We want you to love science as much as we do."



The range of displays and activities was fantastic. You could make a smoothie using a bike-powered blender, make icecream in a freezer bag using ice and salt, or even make a lava lamp! Well done Whitehall staff, children and guest presenters, including activities from the National Space Centre and the University of Leicester.

SECOND URBAN BUZZ WALK – 17TH MARCH 2018

Last summer, Evington residents were invited to join an urban buzz walk around Evington to suggest areas that could become wildflower meadows. These suggestions were put forward and after further discussions between Leicester City Council (Parks) and Nick Packham (Urban Buzz) a second walk was planned with the residents who were willing to be contacted about this. The second walk with ten residents, Mike Eaton (LCC Parks) and Nick Packham has homed in on the following sites for development in 2018/19 as urban buzz sites:



An area in Evington Park, where in 2004, 18 residents funded a small spinney of trees and were able to choose the variety of tree they wished to sponsor.



A new border in Evington Park



An area of land by the new bridge and picnic bench in the Arboretum.



Under planting where there are apple trees in the Arboretum.



Land opposite the shops on Downing Drive.



Land by Tavistock Drive.

If you wish to join the Evington in Bloom, urban buzz interest group for further updates please send an e-mail to EvingtoninBloom@gmail.com. If you wish to join the work in Evington Park or the Arboretum, please register as a LEV volunteer. Tel: 4541003.

www.leicester.gov.uk/parks-volunteering

THANK YOU

To Leicester City Council (Evington Ward) for funding given to Evington in Bloom to develop disabled access at their allotment plot at Rowlatts Hill, to purchase new planters for Downing Drive and to buy more plants and tools for Burnaby Gardens' 'It's Your Neighbourhood' group.

Downing Drive

Friends & Neighbours

LITTER PICKING

Meet 10am Café Blends

April 26th and May 31st

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EVINGTON CHAPEL

(Baptist)

Welcome to our meetings

Sunday : 11am and 6pm

Wednesday : 7.30pm

Other meetings as announced

www.evingtonchapel.org.uk

For further information contact: 0116 2412087

"We preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord"



STORM EMMA COMBINES WITH THE BEAST FROM THE EAST TAKING OVER EVINGTON

The first day of spring was postponed by the snowy weather across the UK from low temperatures starting at -10c. The weather was extremely unpredictable leading to chaos such as disruptions and even death in the UK. This affected many in the UK and over 18,000 people were without power for varying periods. Many schools in Evington closed due to the severe weather conditions. In such weather we should consider people around us, especially the elderly, as the cold weather is challenging and can lead to health issues.

With the end of winter and beginning of spring, flowers started to blossom in Evington Park but struggled due to snow storm from Siberia. Photographs top left and right are of Evington House at the end of winter (left) and beginning of spring (right).

Aisha Haris, Evington March 2018

VACATIONS MAROC PLAN YOUR PERFECT FAMILY HOLIDAY



Would you like to take your family abroad in the School Holidays?

As a family of six, we regularly get away in the school holidays for under £200 per person. Who doesn't love the idea of travelling abroad?

I love travelling. By the age of 15, my parents had taken us on tours around the USA, Far East, Europe & India, staying on camp sites, in motels & lodging with distant relatives. They had given me a Gift, the value of which I would not truly appreciate until I became a mother myself.

What was this Gift? It was the understanding that we live on a vast planet, populated by people of different faiths & traditions, enriched by the history of nations that came before us. I came to understand, at very early age, that as much as I am British, I am also part of a wider Global Community. But the Gift didn't stop there, because they gave me a life-long love of travel & the skills to travel on a tight budget. By the age of 30, I had visited 25 countries.

When our twins came along, life changed in so many ways. I had to adapt. We had to adapt. Travelling abroad became more challenging, costly and stressful. But I remembered the Gift and I learned to book family holidays by finding good deals, keeping costs down and planning ahead. It is these skills and experience I want

to share with other families, so they too can gift their children.

So do visit the website www.vacationsmaroc.co.uk I hope you will find the content useful.

Here are 5 tips on getting Cheaper Flights, for your next family holiday:

Book your flights now: Get a better price with more dates and seats available.

Seek some October Sunshine: It is still warm in Morocco at that time of year. If your child is in a Leicestershire County school, your half term is a week earlier, which is good news on prices.

Consider a Shorter Break: It can often be cheaper to book 5 nights rather than the standard 7 nights, depending on the budget airline.

Try a Twin Destination Break: There are 3 reasons to consider this. Firstly, it can be cheaper. Secondly, it is more exciting. Thirdly, it can help you avoid crazy 6.00am departures with kids in tow

Delete your Cookies: Each time you go online, there are tiny virtual breadcrumbs you leave. It is thought (although not proved) that companies may use these to increase the cost of flights, when you return to their website. It takes seconds to delete your cookies, so it is worth a shot.

Using these few tricks, you can really bring the cost of your flights down. When you have a family of 6, a £100 price difference per person equates to a £600 saving. The next question you need to consider is whether to book independently or with an ATOL protected travel agent. Find the information you need to answer this question and much more on our website.

TRAVEL SMART E-BOOK

Please share the website www.vacationsmaroc.co.uk with friends and family, through Whatsapp or a good old fashioned chat. The Travel Smart e-book is free when visitors to the website sign up to the monthly newsletter. Also do visit our Facebook page and share it with your online friends.

Bon Voyage!

Sharmeen Suleman, Founder, Vacations Maroc

THE NEW NISA STORE , MAIN STREET, EVINGTON VILLAGE



In January 2018, the former store known as 'Jacksons' changed to become a Nisa local store.

Richard and Lynn Kent and family from Nuneaton are now in charge and are employing six local people to help.

Richard is a Christian and an assistant Church warden for his local

Church. He is also very keen on getting involved with community fund raising. His career spans from retail/wholesale working with corporates such as Aldi, Iceland, Farmfoods and Tesco. He owned One Stop as a Launch Support Manager as well as having a 13-year stretch running a family Fish Monger business.

The former Jacksons site will evolve into a fully operational Nisa Local store in the coming months. Nisa is a 2,500 store wholesale supply business. It was founded 40 years ago and taken over by the Co-Op Food Group last November in a £140 million deal. The Co-Op Food Group is the original Co-operative business that was founded over 100 years ago and it is not linked with the East Midlands Society. The buyout will enable all Nisa Local shop keepers to access the 23,500 Co-Op Food Group product range as well as Nisa's 13,500 products, including its trusted Heritage own label range. Nisa donates 2p to a nominated local charity for every own brand item purchased.

Coming soon will be:

- * Freshly made tea and coffee to go
- * Hot cobs to go
- * Full online ordering and delivery service to your door 7 days a week via www.owlgetit.co.uk
- * In store bakery service and fresh fish display.
- * Newspaper/magazines deliveries 7 days a week at only £1.50 a week.

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Bookings at the Village Hall. Tel: 273 7364.

SINGING FOR THE BRAIN

LAT group Tuesdays 10.30am - 12.00noon. (See page 8.)

COME AND COOK

LAT/WEA Come and Cook. Thurs. 10.00am - 1.00pm.

EVINGTON GARDEN CLUB

Indoor meetings are held from 7.15pm until 9.00pm on the third Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall. Visitors £2. Tel: 2735487.

17th April The Ten Top Gardens Don Witton.
15th April Alpines in the Wild and Cultivation Diane Clement.

LEICESTERSHIRE CALLIGRAPHERS

We meet monthly, usually on the third Saturday, to practise the art of beautiful writing Non-members are welcome for a fee of £3.50 per meeting. Tel: 285 6436 or email: leicscalligraphers@gmail.com

AT EVINGTON PARK HOUSE LE5 6DE

ANYTHING GOES SOCIAL GROUP

LAT group Weds. 10.30am - 12.30pm. (See page 8.)

EVINGTON LOCAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE GROUP MEETINGS

Meetings held from 7.00 - 9.00pm on the third Thursday in the month in Evington Park House. Contact Chris Hossack on 241 5153, chris_hossack@yahoo.co.uk
19th April North Evington Boot Co and the growth of the Leicester shoe Industry. Roger Beeby.

17th May Evington and Place names of Leicestershire. Dr. Jill Bourne.

YOGA CLASSES FOR WOMEN

Mondays from 6.00 - 7.00pm. Women’s Yoga. £2.50. Wednesdays from 6.00 -7.00pm. Women’s Yoga. Tutor: Manjula. £2.50 Tel: Manjula on 07448732696 manjula.odedra.yoga@gmail.com

SATURDAY YOGA CLASSES FOR ALL

From 10.00-11.00am. £2.50 per session. Tutor: Suresh Mistry. You can contact Suresh on 07974306016.

WEDNESDAY YOGA WITH KAUSER BUX

Wednesday 2.00 - 3.00pm and refreshments 3.00 - 3.30pm. £1 a session. A waiting list may apply. Tel: 2204525.

THURSDAY SELF HELP YOGA GROUP

Thursdays 10.30am - 11.30am. £1 a session. This is a led session but demonstrations are given by class members, not the facilitator.

KEEP FIT WITH MAX

8.45am - 9.45am Saturdays at Evington Park House with experienced exercise teacher Max Kidia. Tel 07789570086. See article on page 5..

ART IN THE PARK

Tuesday afternoons 1.30-3.30pm in Evington Park House for a space to paint together. Some tuition is given. Members pay £8 a month. Visitors are welcome. Come and see if this club is for you.

EVINGTON BICYCLE CLUB

Monday 9th April AGM from 6.00pm to 7.30pm in Evington Park House. The Bicycle Club will start after the meeting. Tel. 22044525 for more information.

FIRST AID AND DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

13th April at Abbey Park Education Centre at 10.00am - 12.00noon. Free. Booking essential Tel: 2733574 or email parks@leicester.gov.uk

15th May Evington Park House. 10.00am - 12noon. Booking essential. Tel. 2733574 or email parks@leicester.gov.uk

AT EVINGTON LIBRARY EVINGTON SCRIBBLERS

Evington Scribblers meet fortnightly in Evington library on Thursdays from 10.30am to write poems, stories and articles. New members are welcome and friendly feedback given. Enquire at library for dates of meetings.

EVINGTON PHILOSOPHY CLUB

Meet fortnightly at the same time as the Scribblers Club. Enquire at library for dates of meetings.

EVINGTON TODDLERS GROUP Tuesdays from 10.00am - 12.00noon.

AT ST CHAD’S CHURCH AND PARISH HALL, COLEMAN ROAD

MESSY CHURCH 1st Sunday of the month 3.00-4.00pm.

COME CRAFT WITH US St. Chad’s. Tuesdays 10.00am - 12.30pm. (See page 9). Tel: 07707842949.)

AT CAFE BLENDS (DOWNING DRIVE) TABLET TRAINING AND SMARTPHONES

LAT/WEA Weds. 4.00 - 6.00pm. (See page 9.)

TABLET TRAINING AND SMARTPHONES

LAT/WEA Thurs. 4.00 - 6.00pm (See page 9.)

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS DOWNING DRIVE IYN

Litter Picking Sessions. Meet at 10.00am at Cafe Blends, Downing Drive on last Thursday of the month. Next sessions 26th April and 31st May.

AT EVINGTON LEISURE CENTRE TABLETS AND SMARTPHONES WORKSHOP

LAT/WEA 1.00 - 3.00pm. (See page 9.)

NEPTUNE SWIMMING CLUB

Evington Pool. Tel: Evington Leisure Centre 299 5575.

AT COLEMAN NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

(Balderstone Close, Leicester LE5 4ES)

COLEMAN TENANTS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Drop-in sessions are on the last Wednesday of the month at 6.00pm. For other activities at the Centre, please telephone 221 1421 or visit leicester.gov.uk/community centres.

FREE FOOTBALL - P.L.KICKS At Coleman Neighbourhood Centre Ballcourt . Tuesday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. For more information email james.lowbridge@lcfc.co.uk or call 07548948455.

BACK TO TH3 FUTUR3

Youth groups - Ongoing at Coleman Neighbourhood Centre. Fridays 3.30 - 5.00pm for 5 - 9 age groups and 5.30 - 7.30pm for 10 - 13 age group at Coleman Neighbourhood Centre.

AT EVINGTON YOUTH CLUB

The Common (the road by the Library).

YOUTH CLUB

Fridays for 8-14 yrs, 6.30 - 8.30pm. Wednesdays Girls’ night 5.30 - 7.30pm Tel: 273 5542 or 235 1572.

WHY NOT COME ALONG TO BINGO AT EVINGTON YOUTH CLUB? for a game of Bingo, a cuppa and a chat. Everyone welcome. Eyes down. Monday evening 7.45 - 9.15pm Maureen and Bill. Tel: 273 5542.

AT ST DENYS CHURCH AND PARISH CENTRE

EVINGTON MOTHERS’ UNION meets in the Parish Centre on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2.30 - 4.30pm. All welcome. Next meetings 17th April and 15th May.

MEN’S FORUM COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

10.30am - 12.00noon All welcome. Next meetings 17th April and 15th May at the Parish Centre.

MONDAY MEETS

1st and 3rd Mondays every month. 2.00 - 4.00pm in the Parish Centre. For anyone who would like some company, is feeling lonely or going through bereavement. Enjoy some time in which to relax. 16th April, 7th May, 21st May, 4th June.

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS Sunday 22nd April 11.00am. This is open to all who are on the Government Electoral Roll for Evington, and is to elect the Churchwardens at St Denys.

Saturday 12th May - Sponsored Walk for the Air Ambulance. See article on page 5.

Saturday 19th May 7.30pm 'Sing into Summer' a Concert by The Harmonics Choir at St Denys. Tickets £7.50 (inc light refreshments) from admin@stdenys.org.uk

FAMILY HISTORY INTERMEDIATE LAT/WEA Weds. from 10.00am - 12.00noon. (See page 9).

RUN YOUR OWN GROUP

LAT/WEA Weds. 10.00am - 12.00noon. (See page 9 starting 30th May.)

AT ST JOSEPH’S CHURCH stjoseph-leicester.btck.co.uk
ST. JOSEPH’S TABLE

10.30am to 3.30pm every Tuesday and Wednesday. Hot and cold food available in the Parish Centre, light bites and home bakes, jacket potatoes, salads, cream teas and more.

AT CHURCH OF GOD, DOWNING DRIVE CHARITY COFFEE & CHAT Meets 10.30am till 12.00 noon every Friday morning at The Church of God on Downing Drive. Come and relax with friends and neighbours and support good causes.

Please mention the Echo when replying to advertisements

NHS DOWNING DRIVE SURGERY COFFEE MORNINGS

Meets Monday mornings 10.15am - 12 noon. Church of God, Downing Drive.

AT GOODWOOD EVANGELICAL CHURCH, GAMEL ROAD MESSY CHURCH

1st Sunday of the month 4.00 - 5.30pm. Fun, crafts, celebration time and food. Entrance free. Donations welcome.

THE ARK TODDLER GROUP for 0 – 4 years and carers. Goodwood Evangelical Church, Gamel Road. Wednesday in term time. 9.30 – 11.30am. £1 family per session. Tel: 212 6004.

AT GRACEWORKS (WYCLIFFE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, THE COMMON)

(Between the Library and Linden Primary School.) A Place of Welcome. Every Tuesday 12.30 - 2.30pm. Open for everyone. Come along for friendship and hospitality, a free lunch of soup and bread, someone who will listen and chat, children’s area/breast feeding friendly, local knowledge about the neighbourhood.

YOUTH GROUPS AT OTHER LOCATIONS

SCOUT GROUPS

19TH LEICESTER, DAVENPORT ROAD
E-mail: enquiries@evingtonscouts.org.uk
Website: www.evingtonscouts.org.uk Tel: Howard Sloan on 220 9017.

9TH LEICESTER, STOUGHTON ROAD
Tel: Pauline Burton on 273 6411.

24TH LEICESTER (ST. PHILIP’S AIR SCOUTS)
Evington Drive. Tel: Peter Hardy on 276 0457.

HAMILTON AIR CADETS Hamilton Community College, Keyham Lane, LE5 1RT. For 13 - 17 yrs. Monday/Thursdays 7.00 - 9.30pm. Tel: 07968 159844 -Email JoinUs@2502SqnATC.com Website: www.2502atc.com

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

BREAD-MAKING WORKSHOP

Wednesday 30th April - St Denys Church.

This is a lovely introduction to learn how to make the perfect bake. Led by Planet Leicester Bakers and supported by L4A'S Social Prescribing project. Cost £20. Places are limited so early booking is advised. Contact Anita on 07964 091693.

FASHION SHOW AND SALE
Friday 18th May Evington Village Hall

Join us at this fabulous fundraising event organised by the Downing Drive Patient Group. Featuring top high street brands for sale after the catwalk show and bag yourself a bargain! Tickets £2. Sshow starts at 10.30am) Contact Anita on 07964 091693.

HEARING AID SUPPORT - DROP IN CLINIC
Age UK Building, Catherine House, 2b Stoughton Drive North. 1st and 3rd Mondays in the month. 9.30am - 12.00pm. NHS Audiologist in attendance. Hearing screenings available. Call 241 9263.

MAYDAY FAIR

Monday 7th May from 10.30 to 3.30pm. Evington Village Hall. (See pages 1 and 2.)

PILGRM GARDENS SPRING FAIR

Sat. 19th May from 10.00am to 1.00pm. (See p. 6)

EVINGTON VILLAGE FETE AND SHOW

Sat. 11th August on Evington Village Green
Brochure out in May.

SMALL ADS

Trade and professional rate £2.50 for up to 25 words. All other ads. 50p for maximum of 25 words including telephone number. Please write clearly and leave your ad., with payment, in an envelope marked Small Ads at Bennett’s Home and Garden Supplies, 30 Main Street.

DON’T MOAN ABOUT MOWING
Contact:- J.B. GARDEN SERVICES
Large & Small Lawns & Other Gardening Jobs. TEL: 259 3336 MOBILE 0780 125 9687

FOR SALE - Charcoal Rectangle BBQ Trolley with wheels. Very good condition. £25. Mobile 07920048425.

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Time served tradesman. Reasonable rates. Interior and Exterior rooms. Hall, Stairs, Landing, etc. No job too small. All work guaranteed. R. B. Decorators. Tel: 07983658364.

IRONING SERVICES. 24-48 hour turnaround. Collect and delivery available locally for a small charge. Minimum 10lb, weight. £1.50 per lb. Call Julie 241 3436 or Mobile 07584577460.

FOR SALE -Wooden Fire surround. Dark Oak. Very ornate. £100.00 ono. Tel 241 3436. Mobile 07584577460.

FOR SALE - Lus Trolley, unused. £15.00. Tel. 241 3436. Mobile 07584577460.

FOR SALE - Hanging Baskets. Assorted. Spring/Summer flowers. Large £15 each or 2 for £25. Small £12.50 or 2 per £20. Tel. Julie 241 3436 or 07584577460.

FOR SALE - Table Top Fridge V.G.C. £25. Tel. Julie 241 3436 or 07584577460.

FOR SALE - Rowing Machine. Used once, cost £90 new. V.G.C. £50.00. Tel Julie 241 3436. Mobile 07584577460.

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CONTACTING POLITICIANS
For information about meeting the politicians in Evington ward, North Evington ward and Stoneygate ward tel: 454 6360.
For MP Keith Vaz tel: 266 8008. For MP Jon Ashworth tel: 262 7297.



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served every Sunday 12 noon - 5pm

Thursday

(from 8.30pm)

Quiz night & Cash Prizes

Lunch special from 1 course £6.30 and 2 courses £8.50.

Wednesday - Pie nights
£9.95 with pint of beer/drink
Homemade shortcrust pastry and pies with 5 different fillings and a choice of vegetables and potatoes.

Garden Party

7th April

12 noon - 9pm

Bouncy castles, Children's games,

Hog roast & Live bands

from 3pm - 9pm

Friday - Fish nights

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