



Evington Echo

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Keeping you up to date with Evington's news
Issue 278

The newspaper of Friends of Evington Charity No. 1148649
June and July 2019

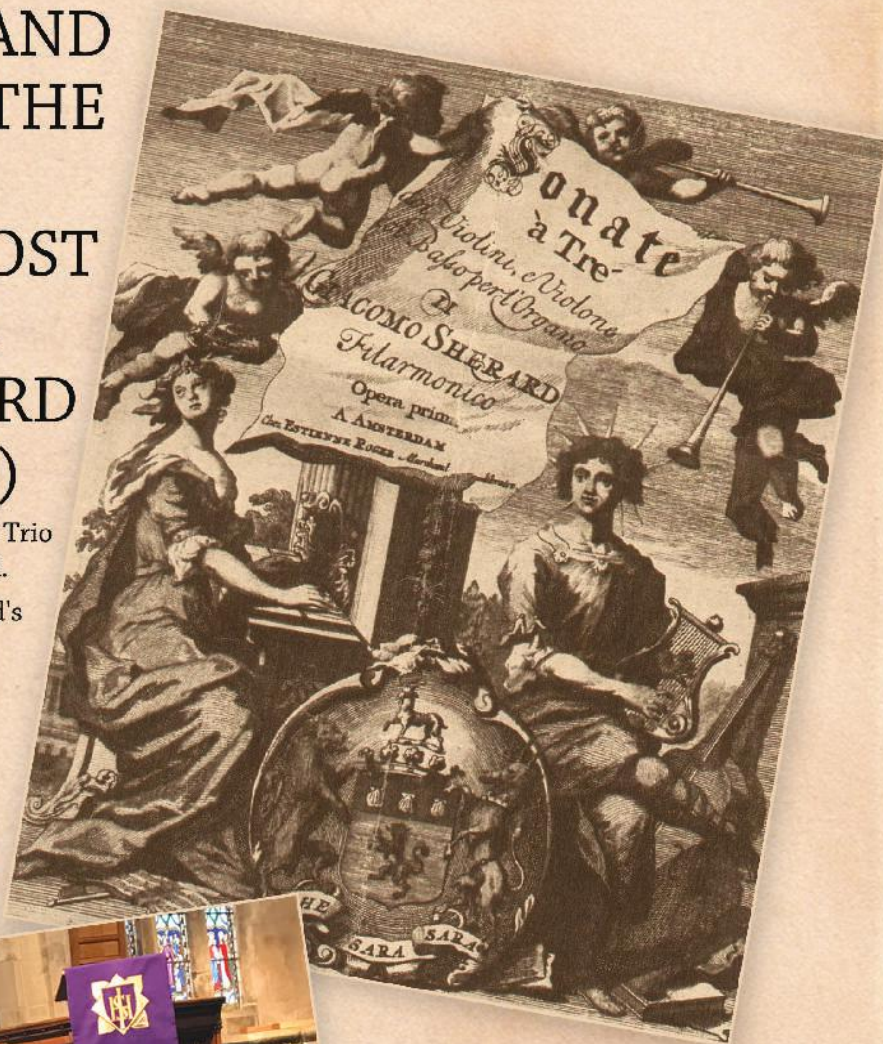
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DISCOVERING AND CELEBRATING THE WORK OF EVINGTON'S LOST COMPOSER JAMES SHERARD (1666 – 1738)

James Sherard dedicated his first set of Trio Sonatas to the 2nd Duke of Bedford.

This was the first time James Sherard's music has been played and heard in 300 years

CONCERT AT
ST. DENYS CHURCH ON
31ST MARCH 2019



Amalia Young and Hannah Teasdale (Violins)
Audrey Riley (Cello), Bryan Evans (Keyboard),
Playing: Op 2 no 6 in D Major,
Op 1 no 11 in B Minor, Op 2 no 12 in A Major,
Op 2 no 9 in G Minor

For more information go to page 2
article called 'Better than Handel'

Designed by Jason Chauhan

The Echo

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EDITORIAL



EVINGTON NEEDS YOU!

Friends of Evington is currently recruiting new Trustees to join its governing board during 2019.

Are you passionate about your community and want to help promote and protect the environment and develop facilities and activities in Evington and surrounding areas?

Are you interested in contributing to a regular newsletter to Evington residents?

We are looking to expand our Board of Trustees and we need residents from Evington to join us. We are particularly looking for skills around Marketing or Event Management, Fund Raising, Editorial or Journalist skills or Governance.

To find out more about joining the Board, please contact Admin. at

Friends@evington1@gmail.com or leave a message on 2204525.

Together we can do great things!
Helen

BETTER THAN HANDEL!

A CONCERT OF MUSIC FROM EVINGTON'S OWN COMPOSER

This was the opinion of many Evington parishioners who attended the Trio Sonatas of Evington's amateur composer, James Sherard (1666 – 1738) on 31st March 2019.

The Chamber music was played by Amalia Young and Hannah Teasdale (Violins) Audrey Riley (Cello) and Bryan Evans (Keyboard). It was the first time in 300 years that some of this music was played and heard. Chris Hossack had, through the Bodleian Library, traced an original manuscript back to an archive in Swindon. It was amazing to be in St. Denys Church hearing this music for the first time and thinking that the composer, who probably did know Handel personally, was probably buried only feet away in the chancel of the church.

This was a well-researched and well executed performance that must surely be one of the most exciting highlights of St. Denys Church's 800 Anniversary Celebration.

JAMES SHERARD – EVINGTON'S COMPOSER

James Sherard was born in Bushby, studied as an apothecary in Chelsea Physic Garden and then started his own business. He must have been writing music at this time because we know he came in contact with the 2nd Duke of Bedford and dedicated his first set of trio sonatas to the Duke. When the Duke died in 1711, Sherard's interest in music also died and he turned to botany. In 1720, on retiring, he had an ample fortune and bought two manors in Leicestershire, Evington being one of them. Reputedly Evington Manor had been lost in a game of cards or dice. James Sherard mostly lived in Eltham Palace and from there he made trips to continental Europe in search of seeds for his garden, which became recognised as one of the finest in England. I like to think that James Sherard also brought plants and trees to Evington and improved the manor there, but there is no evidence. He had no children and left his fortune to his five nieces. He was buried in Evington Parish Church and there is a large marble monument inscribed in Latin to his memory on the South wall of the chancel.

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Friends of Evington



The charity co-ordinates activities and projects that benefit the people in our local area and are good for the environment. Working together is fun and rewarding.

Membership forms are available from Helen Pettman (secretary) at 2204525/07910431044
helenpettman@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF EVINGTON HEALTH FAIR
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50 YEARS OF TWINNING BETWEEN LEICESTER AND KREFELD



On Monday 5th May, a delegation from Leicester's twinning city of Krefeld, Germany travelled via Birmingham Airport to Judgemeadow Community College. They came on this prestigious occasion to celebrate 50 years of this twinning partnership.

The delegation was led by the Mayor of Krefeld (Oberbürgermeister) Frank Meyer, with Eckart Preen, Managing Director of the Business Development Agency, and six other members of staff. At Judgemeadow they were welcomed by the City of Leicester European Twinning Association (CLETA) Executive committee and staff and students at the College.

The Mayor of Krefeld said, "In the past we have had a bad history of conflict between Britain and Germany with two world wars and, following this, it has been a wonder that our generation has been able to live in freedom and peace. But peace doesn't come without working at it. We work at it because we also want the next generation to do the same.

Simply put, 'Friends don't shoot their friends' "

Rita D'Silva Griffiths replied saying how important this friendship was between two cities. She said she was not sure what Brexit holds for us, which might give the wrong impression.

Both cities get a lot out of the relationship and face to face exchanges, sharing business, policing, student exchanges and youth community work. John Townsend from the CLETA Executive committee explained how cultural and academic links are only a short step away from involving the Chamber of Commerce and other business delegations. He also spoke about the police exchanges and described a soap box race that had taken place in Krefeld with police cadets.

The delegation left Judgemeadow after lunch and were going to visit King Power Stadium and the Richard III exhibition. The visit at Judgemeadow ended with an exchange of presents and good wishes.



CALLING ALL KNITTERS -
Keep those knitting needles
clicking for the Big Knit!



The Big Knit campaign continues through 2019 and Age UK Leicester Shire & Rutland is calling on Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland to keep knitting or join in for the first time! For more information on The Big Knit contact Age UK Leicester Shire & Rutland on 0116 2992233 or visit <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/leics/get-involved/fundraising/the-big-knit/>. Please send completed hats to Age UK Leicester Shire & Rutland at Lansdowne House, 113 Princess Road East, Leicester LE1 7LA, or hand them in at any of our 24 shops or Resource Centres.

This year's hat knitting patterns are available to download. To find out more visit: www.ageuk.org.uk/bigknit or pop into any of our addresses to request a leaflet. Innocent smoothie bottles wearing the hats will go on sale in October 2019 - 25p from each bottle donated to Age UK. Our Charity number is: 1146649.

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Letters

Dear Editor, PROTECTING OUR PARK FROM PLASTIC POLLUTION

Many of us watched with horror Sir David Attenborough's TV series, Blue Planet, which raised awareness about the damaging effects of plastics on our oceans. At the local level, we must stop the dumping of plastics around us as it is harmful for the environment and the living creatures that inhabit it. We have a duty to reduce plastic pollution in our neighbourhood. Unfortunately, some of us are not playing our part in protecting the environment. During my recent visit to Evington Park, I noticed that our small pond was littered with several plastic bottles. This is not only unattractive but is also damaging to the wildlife that inhabits the pond. We can all play our part in protecting the environment locally by reducing the use of plastics and responsibly recycling them or reusing them. Let us all work together to reduce the use of plastics in our lives as much as possible and make Evington free from plastic pollution. Think globally, act locally.
Aisha Haris

Dear Readers, LIFE AT ARBOR HOUSE - GIVE US A WAVE

The good weather has come early again, so staff and residents have been out on the patio enjoying the weather and the view.

From our extensive patio we can see St Denys Church, Piggy's Hollow and much of the Arboretum, along with its many visitors.

If you are one of those visitors, be it walking the dog, Nordic walking, or simply out for a walk, please look our way and 'give us a wave'. Why? Because when you wave to us, we will wave back. Then we

will all find ourselves not just waving but smiling as well. A smile goes a long way to brighten the day and has so many other benefits.

Smiling makes you happier - and live longer.
Sue Mahmood
Activity Co ordinator 273 9033

PS Over the coming weeks we will be sprucing up the patio and adding some colour in readiness for the picnic after the Welly Walk on Saturday 8th June. Arbor house will be baking in the morning to contribute to the picnic fare.

Sue Mahmood
Activity Co-ordinator 2739033.

THIS JULY IS SPECIAL TO ME (OSY) MY 70TH BIRTHDAY



And I plan to make it Special, (as I do!).

For my Special 60th I did a charity cycle event. On my actual birthday I cycled from London to

Southend, and, yes - it was actually 60 miles. (See photo of me, on my bike in fancy dress.) It was fun, and indeed, memorable, as, dressed for the occasion, I had over 3,000 people wishing me 'Happy Birthday' along the way.

Osy Waye is one of the local team of people who deliver the Evington Echo every 2 months. Why? He feels it's great to serve the local community, and as a marathon runner, it keeps him fit. (Try it!).

Well, this July, Osy will be celebrating his 70th birthday. ("I only do birthdays every 10 years.") He plans to make this special birthday even more fun and memorable than his cycling birthday ten years ago.

This time, Osy will be doing "THE THREE PEAKS". That's climbing up Ben Nevis, highest peak in Scotland, Scafell Pike highest in England, and Snowdon, highest in Wales. WOW, and all that in 24 hours - and he will be supporting LOROS HOSPICE.

He will be doing it as part of a group of 10 and a guide; fortunately the group will be coached from one place to the next.

Now, you might see Osy strolling around Evington some time, early July, (see the Loros photo) with a LOROS bucket. He would love it if you came over, said 'Hello,' encouraged, and perhaps dropped a few coins for the bucket.



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CHARITY CONCERT IN JULY – CHILDREN NEEDED



Willows Music Group has been in Evington for 45 years. There are about 65 children who learn music and each year they do two concerts.

On 7th July, they will be performing their annual summer concert and the profits will go to help street children in Columbia. These children are in constant danger of ill treatment and death. The charity which helps them has very little money. They feed, provide accommodation and teach the children. They also have a choir which helps the children to gain a skill they can use later to get them work and climb out of their desperate situation. Their choir has toured and also made a couple of CDs.

We are looking for any children aged 7 to 12 years (approx.) who would like to take part in our singing group for this concert. Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to take part. Telephone me on 2215488. Daphne

BHAVIK PARMAR'S PASSIONS



In Feb/March 2015 edition of the Evington Echo, a profile article about Bhavik Parmar, a local resident, explained that his passion for Theatre was a driving force in his career choice, which at the time was difficult under family pressures. Not long after, at the end of his University course, Bhavik was appointed as an Education Officer for Birmingham Repertory Theatre.

Four years on, I met Bhavik again to find that he has moved even closer to his childhood dreams and passions, which were firmly rooted in his desire to facilitate children and adults to express themselves through Drama.



Bhavik is now a Senior Education Officer at Birmingham Repertory as well as running his own small business called 'Panorama Drama'. This business can facilitate children's parties, youth theatre and schools' workshops with a difference. The difference is that they are all bespoke and tailor-made. There are interactive games, immersive storytelling, shadow performing and arts and crafts. No two parties are ever the same because they all develop from active participation based on personally chosen themes. "I wanted a career path and my own avenue that is both unique and bespoke" said Bhavik, "and that's what I have got." Working with Panorama Drama in this way enables others to understand that doing and enjoying the activity is key. Learning inevitably happens, but it is a side process.

Bhavik wants to keep his Panorama Drama business local and special. To contact Bhavik for more information go to: www.panoramadrama.co.uk or email info@panoramadrama.co.uk

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STOUGHTON FARM PARK AND GARTREE ROAD PLANNING APPLICATION

An outline planning application (O&WBC 18/001178/OUT) has been received from Oadby and Wigston Borough Council for the demolition of two semi-detached houses located at Stoughton Grange (near the Cow and Plough) and land opposite Stoughton Grange, which is to the South of Gartree Road. The proposal is to build 20 dwellings on 4.72 acres of land at Stoughton Grange and 290 dwellings on 34.14 acres of land on the South side of Gartree Road, which is the main site. The Cow and Plough pub will be left as it is. The development on the main site will include affordable homes with areas of landscaping and public open space, new access from Stoughton Road and Gartree Road and pedestrian and cycle links.

The 90-year old plan for an Eastern District Distributor Road (EDDR) linking the A6 at Oadby to Gartree Road and then up through Evington to the A47, were first drawn up in the 1930s. This issue has been thrown back into focus with the Co-op outlined plans for some 310 homes. If the EDDR was built it would form the last 'missing link' of Leicester's outer ring road. On the framework plan for these 310 dwellings, land is safeguarded for a future Link Road.

While more homes are needed, this plan is criticised by Highway Officers of Leicestershire County Council because of the traffic implications for Shady Lane, which exceeds its capacity now and Shady Lane is not a classified road. Therefore discussions still need to be held to mitigate the impact of the proposals on the local highway network and particularly the Shady Lane junction.

STOUGHTON GRANGE AND LAND FORMERLY OWNED BY THE POWYS KECK FAMILY



Stoughton Grange, formerly the home of the Powys-Keck family. It started as an Elizabethan Mansion, was extended over the years, and fell into disrepair and was pulled down in 1926

Until it was put up for sale in 1913, most of Evington Village belonged to the Powys-Keck family who lived in the big house called Stoughton Grange, which was on land Evington people called Stoughton Farm Park or 'The Farm Park'.

Stoughton Grange remained unsold and was eventually pulled down in 1926.

Besides the 466 acres which included Evington, the Powys-Keck family owned an area of land of more than ten square miles, and mostly all grassland. This land was offered for sale separately from the House in 1913 and the only prospective buyer for the land was the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Manchester, who wanted it for dairy farming, but since this was a sporting estate, the owners withdrew it from the sale.

In 1919, the Co-op made another offer and this time it was accepted. The Co-op land started

from the left-hand side of Shady Lane and was divided into 12 farms of about 500 acres each. About half of it was used for dairy farming – the milk being sent to a depot in Uttoxeter – and the other half for arable farming consisting mostly of winter wheat, winter barley and oilseed rape. The whole estate used to be managed from an office in Stoughton village and was Leicestershire's largest farming enterprise. A separate Stoughton office also housed the headquarters of all the Co-operative Wholesale Society's farms throughout England and Scotland. It was then the biggest farming concern in Great Britain!

The farm at Stoughton was developed as a Farm Park, but sadly closed down in 2001 after a dreadful outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease across the UK.

In 2006-7, The Co-operative Society published hugely unpopular plans for a 15,000-home eco-town scheme called Pennbury on land in the Stoughton area. This plan was dropped in 2009 after a two-and-a-half year local campaign against the development.

In 2014, 4,700 acres of land were purchased by the Wellcome Trust (the second highest spending charity in the UK) and this included Oadby Lodge Farm Estate of 3,860 acres. The land was bought as an investment and is used for arable, fruit and veg. crops. The Co-op retained 300 acres, including Stoughton Farm Park.

The dairy farming has now stopped and there are empty farm buildings. Recently many horses have grazed land on the corner of Shady Lane. There is now a planning application for 310 dwellings, including affordable houses. (See article on left.)



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THE HOMELESS ONE'S POEM

Many local people were saddened about the recent death of Alan, who used to sit outside Ethel Road Tesco. We had all got used to him, with his friendly, polite outlook; I, amongst others, would spend quite a while having a chat with him.

Soon afterwards, this poem appeared on the bollard outside the shop doorway, along with a bunch of yellow roses. It transpires that, a week or so before he died, he became very upset when someone threw coins at him, as did the lady who was talking with him at the time. This poem was the result. It read:

Thanks ever so much for your helpful donation,
It shows we're still part of the same creation.
Do me a favour, if you'd be so kind,
Don't throw it at me; it upsets my friend's mind.

You see, she understands that you and me,
Have a lot in common; would you care to see?
Right now, times are hard and I ain't got much money,
Can't get a job either – it's not really funny.

Years ago, I was young and life wasn't so strained,
But now I am older, my energy's drained.
Won't bother you now; most have been through the same,
Marriage, kids and a mortgage;
Life sure is no game.

Let's say, my life fell completely to bits,
Getting back together, I've been through the pits.
I'm getting there slowly and with your kind smile,

You'll make my life better and things seem worthwhile.

So next time you pass me and bring me some cheer,
Come closer, near by me; there's no need to fear.
I'll pray that He keeps you far from my fate,
Can you pray for me too that He opens a gate.

Thank you and keep smiling – it's a CHARITY, you know
Your Scottish 'Sister' Lisa.

Thank you, Lisa; it made me cry reading it – and, others too, I hear. I hope I have transcribed it as you intended. Apparently, Lisa is simply another customer, who like myself, had built up a rapport with Alan, and treated him with dignity, as we all should, and all deserve to be treated ourselves: as human beings. He was also somebody's father and somebody's son. I hear someone managed to locate his mum; no matter what circumstances led him to be on the streets, it must have been heartbreaking for the family.

Loneliness and isolation are terrible to deal with, but so easy to come by. Not just regarding the homeless, but elderly neighbours and single people, mothers with young babies trying to cope, people who just don't seem to 'fit in'. Or just lacking in confidence. Add in mental health issues – so many people are struggling. And sometimes it's not obvious from the outside. We are all so busy, with our frantic lives, but it's amazing how much just a smile, a cheerful hello or a simple conversation can help; the recognition that you're not invisible and that you do 'count'. You don't have to work miracles and take on or sort out their problems – though it would be lovely if you could! Just that glimmer of positivity or friendship could be the catalyst to getting someone back on track. Be a good friend- look out for someone!

Addy Tyler

DOROTHY 'TRIXIE' PYRAH



'Trixie' Pyrah, a retired Civil Servant, died on the 6th March this year at the age of 91. Dorothy was, for a number of years, a distributor of the 'Evington Echo' in the Croyde Close area, where she had lived for getting on for fifty years, being one of the earliest residents of the Close. A keen walker, she used to love getting out and about, making regular visits to Evington Park and the Arboretum to enjoy the fresh air, trees and flowers. Her funeral service was held at Great Glen crematorium in early April. Christopher David Pyrah

WHITEHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL – DOING THEIR BIT FOR THE PLANET!

Pupils at Whitehall are working hard to look after the environment. As well as working with a major supermarket to reduce plastic pollution (which Year 6 will tell you about later), they have pledged to eliminate single-use plastic water bottles from school, formed global links with a school in Nepal and are also recycling crisp packets! As part of a national scheme, hard-to-recycle, foil-lined crisp and snack packets (any brands – and their outer wrappers) are being collected in special boxes upcycled by the school's EcoWarriors.

If you would like to join in with our collection, which is raising cash for charity, please save a bagful and send them in with one of our pupils or pop in and drop them off! Thank you.
Addy Tyler

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Following a wonderful start to the year with the Thanksgiving for Marriage celebration in February and the James Sherard Concert in March (see front cover), the pace is picking up as we move ever closer to our birthday on 9th October...



On Saturday 8th June at 2.00pm families with young children are welcome to join us for a very special Welly Walk birthday party and picnic. Planet Leicester Bakers who have been working with Arbor House residents in Evington will be helping us bake a very special birthday loaf to share, while Forest School leader, Jodie, will be running fun outdoor activities for everyone to enjoy.

On Friday 14th June at 7.30pm we will be hosting a special concert by 8ctave, Leicestershire's unique and highly-regarded choir of singing priests (including Evington's own vicar!). Completely free of charge with a collection for church funds.



On Saturday 6th July from 2.00pm to 5.00pm the Vicarage garden will be open for a 1940s Garden Party to commemorate the wartime period of the church's life. The US 82nd Airborne 504 PIR Living History group will be joining us, along with vehicles from the period, Hamilton air cadets and musicians from Judgemeadow College, plenty of stalls, games, and of course teas. The church will be open to visitors throughout. Everyone welcome whether you have a 1940s outfit to wear or not!

On Sundays through the summer at 3.00pm (from Sunday 14th July) we



will be holding a series of Sunday afternoon Teas and Talks. Come at 3.00pm to hear a short talk about an aspect of the church's history from a range of experts and follow it up with afternoon tea in the parish centre.

Contact us for more information on any of our events via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, our website www.stdenys.org.uk or the more traditional way of dropping in to see us in person – if you live in Evington, whatever your beliefs, St Denys is your parish church and you are always welcome!

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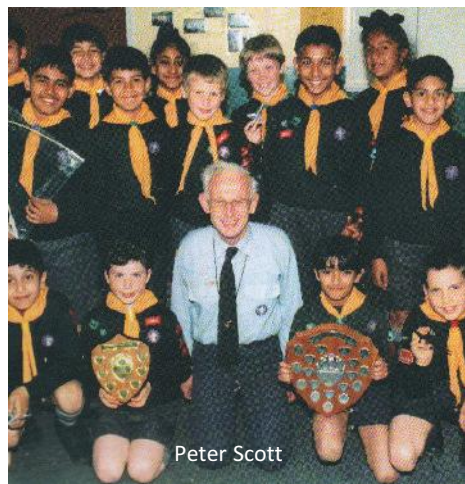
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24TH LEICESTER (ST. PHILIP'S AIR SCOUT GROUP) PREPARE TO MOVE



Peter Scott

The 24th Leicester Air Scouts will be moving from their present venue to St. Philip's Church on Evington Road. They will move after their present lease expires on 9th September.

The scout group have been meeting at their base on Evington Drive for 53 years. All the scouts would like to thank Peter Scott, the Group Scout Leader, for finding the land and raising the funds for the base. They would especially like to thank him for his total commitment to the group over this very long time and right up to the present day.

Any former members who would like to join the Air Scouts for the closing down ceremony/event on Tuesday 9th July from 6.30pm to 8.00pm will be most welcome. We will have camp fires, barbecues, activities and games and finish with lowering the flag at 8.00pm.

The new venue will be different and a new challenge; St. Philip's Church have been very welcoming and accommodating.

EVINGTON RAILWAY CIRCLE

The long established railway interest group in Evington have just completed their 46th season of meetings at Judgemeadow; "a remarkable achievement," says Rita D' Silva Griffiths, Marketing Manager at Judgemeadow Community College.

The Evington Railway Circle, led by rail historian and film archivist, Rob Foxon, started as a springtime evening class at Judgemeadow in 1974, meeting for 10 weeks from January to March at a time when community education was an important part of local education policy.

As priorities have changed in the passage of time, the group has remained intact and evolved into the Evington Railway Circle, an independent group which still meets at Judgemeadow.

The railway interest meetings programme is very informal consisting of a mixture of archive film screenings and guest speakers on specialist subjects with provision for members' participation during a couple of free weeks which have proved very popular over a long period of time. Membership costs £30.00 for the season (January - March), so at just £3.00 per meeting represents excellent value for money.

Anyone interested in railways is welcome to join. Give Rob a call on (0116) 289 0531 to be added to the mailing list and register an interest for next season commencing Thursday 9th January 2020.

Having completed 46 years, Rob says there is every reason to carry on to 50 at Judgemeadow Community College, where we have always been made most welcome!

Rob Foxon
289 0531

ARTHOUSE – EXTRAORDINARY ART IN ORDINARY HOUSES

ArtHouse is back for 2019; a fantastic exhibition of varied artworks, shown in the artists' own houses.

Just 'over the border' in Stoneygate and Clarendon Park, from 6.00 - 8.00pm on Friday June 7th and 11.00am - 6.00pm on Saturday and Sunday June 8th & 9th, many houses on Holmfield Rd and other roads in the area will be exhibiting fine art, sculpture, ceramics, textiles and other media, for sale at reasonable prices. You can meet the artists too.

There is a fantastic cake stall raising money for charity and this year, gelato too. A free shuttle bus is on hand to whisk you between the venues. Pick up a map from any of the houses - look out for the distinctive ArtHouse banners. It's one of my favourite summer days out; I always come back inspired and raring to create!

Addy Tyler




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PEOPLE VS GOVERNMENT – CLIMATE CHANGE PROTESTS



Evington residents were amongst thousands of climate change protesters who recently brought London to a standstill.

Thousands of supporters of the international, apolitical network 'Extinction Rebellion' swamped the capital's streets, campaigning against the lack of government action on climate change, forcing the Government to pay attention to the environmental crisis and finally act to stem the threat of mass extinctions and rising sea levels due to 'global warming'.

An Evington environmental activist, who was among many protesters from Leicester, told me:

"People have had enough of being ignored. So many people, from all walks of life, have come to show that they are determined to do something to stop mankind from destroying the Earth, and it's about time that the Government faced up to the fact that it actually needs to do something about it! All sorts of people were there – not just your stereotypical activists. There were pensioners and whole families with young children there – all concerned with the legacy and state of the world that the next generation will inherit."

Extinction Rebellion and the protesters had three specific demands for the Government:

1 - 'Tell The Truth' – to declare that there IS a climate emergency.

2 - 'Act Now' – to halt biodiversity loss and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to achieve a 'carbon neutral' status by 2025.

3 - 'Beyond Politics' – to set up and be led by the decisions of a 'Citizens' Assembly' – made up of ordinary people - to discuss carbon neutral solutions and ecological and climate justice.

"It was a well-coordinated, polite and peaceful protest, despite the sheer number of people involved. Extinction Rebellion have strict rules. To take direct action, but with no violence, no alcohol and no swearing; it was that peaceful that some people blocking the road were playing chess! They kept people informed about how they could protest without the risk of being arrested – sitting in the middle of the road, blocking the traffic was illegal, camping out on the grass outside Parliament for a week with banners was not. Some people chose to help out other protesters with their wellbeing; others were handing out sunscreen on that unusually hot day."

But, illegal or not, people did sit in the middle of the road. Supporters from the East Midlands joined others blocking Parliament Square and Westminster Bridge focusing on the 'People's Assemblies' theme – on the first day at least there were very few arrests – there were simply far too many people camped out in the road for the police to do anything!

Oxford Circus was blocked by thousands of people addressing 'telling the truth' about climate change – the centrepiece of the protest being a pink boat in the middle of the road – if global warming is not tackled, rising water levels will submerge many major cities by 2050 and Central London would be underwater.

There were many high-profile speakers including the actress Emma Thompson and Greta Thunberg – an inspirational 16-year-old girl from

Sweden who started the climate strike rebellion in schools. She stated, "We are standing at a crossroads – you are all here today because you have decided which way to go."

More people were eventually arrested after blocking London's major arteries for a whole week, as well as those who allegedly took more radical measures of supergluing themselves to a train and the headquarters of Shell UK – which shows the strength of feeling about these issues.

'People power' on this scale seems to have had an effect – on May 1st Parliament declared a state of 'Climate Emergency' - let's hope something is actually done to tackle this problem. Our local protester said, "We have approximately 11 years to make a difference - before it's too late to undo the massive damage that mankind has done to the planet in just 100 years. Ways we can achieve this are to stop burning fossil fuels and make the change to sustainable, clean energy: wind, wave, solar and hydroelectric. Walk or cycle more and drive less. We also need to make changes to our diet; meat and dairy production use so much more energy and land than (healthier) plant-based alternatives."

We need to work together to make that change before it's too late. If enough 'little people' are committed to work together, they can have a big voice and make a big difference. We need to make sure that the world we pass on to our children and grandchildren is one worth living in. Addy Tyler





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MORE ABOUT PIGGY'S HOLLOW

(Piggy's Hollow is the name of the moated site in Evington's Arboretum)



Jo Instone-Brewer

Jo's talk was titled, "What might exist below the platform of Piggy's Hollow?" Jo gave some historical facts and speculated on the different possibilities for the site.

Piggy's Hollow hasn't been investigated except for a small trench in the 1970s that found lots of slate, which may indicate a manor house, a keeper's lodge, a hunting lodge or even something else. Jo explained that Piggy's Hollow was built before the fashion for fortified houses where moats were a status symbol.

The site in the 13th and 14th Century was a deer park with fishponds and moats inside. Why were they there? She compared Piggy's Hollow with Bradgate Park where a gatekeeper's lodge had been excavated. Jo said it was bizarre that somewhere so obvious as Piggy's Hollow had not been excavated before.

The planned geophysical survey in May had the following three probes: 1) Resistivity 2) Magnetometry and 3) Ground Penetrating Radar.

Resistivity is where an electric current measures the time to receivers. If the object is dry and solid there's lots of resistance. If it is wet and not solid there is little resistance.

Magnetometry is where a magnet senses the polarity in the ground and compares it with the polarity of the Earth.

Ground Penetrating Radar (GRR) is where the radar in the ground sends back a picture.

Jo made a promise to Historic England that there will be no intrusive work done on the main site. Watch this space, because we hope the next issue will bring you interpretations of this survey. Helen Pettman

ARTBEAT- THE COMMUNITY ARTS FESTIVAL IN CLARENDON PARK, THIS JUNE

In June - Spring turns to Summer, birds start to sing, flowers bud - and Artbeat, Clarendon Park's Community Arts Festival returns!

This year, running from Saturday 15th to Sunday 23rd June, and once more including the Artbeat Stage at Queen's Road Summer Fair on Sunday 16th June, Artbeat showcases the very best of community arts in Clarendon Park.

We offer opportunities for local people to showcase their talents, share their interests and enjoy entertainment, workshops, talks, and discussions.

Clarendon Park is lively, vibrant and has something for everyone - just like its festival: Artbeat. In the cafes, shops and bars that line Queen's Road, and the surrounding side streets and gardens, you'll find musicians, poets, artists, dancers, someone giving a talk or leading a demonstration. We have something for everyone; grown-ups and children alike. There is comedy, some stories for the little ones, even science! Take part in crafts, have a go at yoga, meditate - and celebrate the Summer Solstice around the Maypole in our Community Gardens. And you can

enjoy it all for free!

The organisers and participants of Artbeat give their services at no charge. Everyone does it for free, to advertise their wares or their prowess. We receive a grant from Leicester City Council and from that we generate publicity and hire the larger venues. And yes, all our events are free to attend. Our Artbeat Brochure is delivered to 3000 households, and can be found in shops, cafes, bars, places of worship, the library and public spaces in the area.

This year, on the Sunday of the Fair, we have the Sambando drummers waking you up, Yvonne Bloor and classical guitar, bands, singers, St John's Church, and the children of Starz Performing Arts all performing on the main Stage. Then enjoy music and spoken word at the Queen's Road Tap, finishing the evening with more music at Dos Hermanos.

Monday comes around as it always does...but then you can take the little ones to Coffee Ethic for some stories - and a rest! Head to the Donkey for some comedy on Tuesday and on Wednesday share your time between singer Chris Conway at Fingerprints Café and Band Night at the Donkey. Thursday, do a spot of dancing with Leicester Circle Dancing Group at Friends' Meeting House. By Friday you'll have taken a bit of the sun, so celebrate the Summer Solstice at our beautiful Community Gardens, and, relaxed, fit and ready to go, charge into Saturday at Dos Hermanos with Nukes Ukulele Band and the smooth sounds of Taptonic - to name but two. And all through the week, learn how to recycle your old jewellery into new, turn your junk mail into flowers or read some poetry. New events are still being added.

All at Artbeat in Clarendon Park, 15th- 23rd June. Enjoy yourself! Come on in - we'd love to see you!

Neil Taylor and all at Artbeat.

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HELPING THE PLANET THROUGH GARDENING!

In Evington, local schools Mayflower Primary and Whitehall Primary have joined the free Royal Horticultural Society programme for developing gardening in schools. (schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk). They also link up with Friends of Evington – Evington in Bloom.

This year, judges from the RHS will visit Mayflower Primary School and assess its projects separately. Last year they were awarded 'Gold' and were in the top five schools in the East Midlands.



This year, judges assessing Evington in Bloom will visit J u d g e m e a d o w Community College as part of their 2-hour tour of Evington. This will happen sometime in the first two weeks of July. They will see the newly created raised beds and the bird boxes and other useful objects made by the students by recycling old pallets.

The judges will also visit gardens in the park. They will visit last year's best front garden on Spencefield Lane and they will finish the visit at St. Denys Church Parish Centre for refreshments and a big get-together. If you have been involved with this campaign or would now like to get involved please get in touch because we would love to invite you to the social event at the end of the judges' tour. We are still waiting for a confirmation date.

Also, a reminder that the Best Front garden/Best hanging basket/Best community garden competition is advertised on page 10 in the Fete and Show brochure, which is available in local shops. We will be judging the competition on Wednesday 24th July. Please contact Helen on 2204525.

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MY WORD POETRY GROUP



I met with the Poetry Group in April and was pleased to discover that they are a group of friends who got together through the WEA programme of courses for people of senior ages funded by the National Lottery. When the lottery sponsorship ended, the newly-found friends decided to continue and were willing to become a self-funding Group.

They are all people who felt that they were not poets, but found that with encouragement, they could express themselves in a poetic way.

Confidence gradually came and they were willing to write and share their thoughts with each other and they accepted one another's approach to a given subject.

To rhyme, or not to rhyme? That is a current issue that the Group is working through. Some find it more natural to write rhyming words, but they are also trying to write against their natural trend.

The nine or so members take turns in leading a session, and each Tuesday, from 4.00pm until 5.30pm they meet over a cuppa and a cake at Blends Community Cafe on Downing Drive. Other people who are also being served as

customers in the Cafe often listen to what is being done and even join in.

Such is the confidence within the group, that it was decided that many of their writings were worthy of being shared more widely. It was decided then, that they could produce a 'Fold' for Christmas 2018 - several poems on the general theme of Christmas, which were duly photo-copied and given away to folk. An Easter Fold has followed.

The WEA Tutor, Kevin Brown, was so pleased with the group's progress and ability, that he dared to suggest that they should publish an anthology of their work!

Thus it was that a volume of poems of all kinds was published with various submissions from each member. The cover was designed by Nina, the wife of the group's facilitating tutor.

It was assembled and printed, thanks to funding being made available from Thurncourt and Evington Wards Community Funding, and 100 copies were sold for £4 per copy raising £418.50 for LOROS - The Leicester Organisation for the Relief of Suffering.

The anthology sold out within 3 weeks and many very positive feedbacks have been received from readers.

Members of the group presented the Cheque to LOROS, the results of the selling of 'My Word', the title of their anthology.

There are presently some 8 to 10 group members but more people who probably feel that they cannot write poetry would be welcomed. Most of them will discover likewise that, in fact, they CAN!!

Tuesday afternoons from 4.00pm to 5.30 at Blends Cafe, Downing Drive, Evington.

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MY MAGNIFICENT ADVENTURE IN EVINGTON PARK



I am a small dog but I like things to be right. I hate injustice in any form and I have made it my mission to seek out evil, bad behaviour and general wrong doings and put a stop to them.

No mission is too big and no challenge too great for me and good will prevail and justice will be done in all circumstances, no matter what the cost or implications.

Wrong doers should be afraid if I am on the case. You have no place to hide because I will seek you out. You will be found and brought to justice. No stone will be left unturned in my quest to create a perfect world and you will be hunted down.

Be afraid, very afraid...

I was having my usual afternoon stroll in the park when suddenly I saw something that was not right and very out of place. A great pile of litter lay before me, a veritable mountain of the stuff and this greatly upset me. How could this happen? It shattered me and disturbed my sense of peace on what was a glorious day. Something needed doing, questions needed answering, Who had performed this act of vandalism? It was mayhem and in my park.

I had a stretch, a quick scratch and started to give the matter my full consideration.

My first thought were school children, the little monsters. Then in a flash it came to me that it was the dastardly Dirt Fairies. - Who else would be so mean and disruptive and cause such mayhem? I stood tall, hard to do when I am so small, and faced the challenge.

I was incandescent with rage and let out the most ferocious of roars ever. The noise even worried me, so I added a couple of yaps for good measure.

The Dirt Fairies were quaking in their boots, never having heard a sound like that before.

"Clean it up", I growled in a menacing manner and, 'lo and behold', in a flash the mountain no longer existed and order was restored to my park and life. The fairies even offered an apology and promised it would never ever happen again. They vowed on the great fairy's life that they would not transgress again and they would leave the park for ever.

I continued my afternoon stroll, at peace with the world again, and with a feeling of pride in my good work.

Dad followed with a puzzled look on his face but with pride in his heart for his one and only 'Milo the Magnificent' - ruler of the park, not quite the universe yet but who knows what the future has in store for me. Watch this space.

Milo, ruler of Evington Park, with a little bit of help from Uncle Howard.

THE GLOVE COMPARTMENT BY BOBBY

When Onkar takes me in the car I have to travel in the footwell. It is boring, to say the very least. I should qualify for a seat like all the other passengers. It's not fair that I am always dumped in the footwell like a piece of rag. I deserve more respect than this. Sometimes Onkar makes me travel in the boot of the car if Kally isn't around. I do not like this one bit.

I get my revenge by leaving some little puddles. Kally knows there is a funny smell when she opens the boot to put her shopping in, but she would never think I had done anything wrong.

Some days when Kally is in a really good mood, not that often, she will put me on the seat next to hers. I feel so proud on those days and like to be treated in a more respectful manner.

One day I was on the seat and Kally had to do an emergency stop. That day I felt the glove compartment hit me on the head. It brought tears to my eyes. Kally was so concerned and pulled the car over to check I was alright. I didn't like having my head banged, so I gave Kally a quick nip while she was inspecting my head.

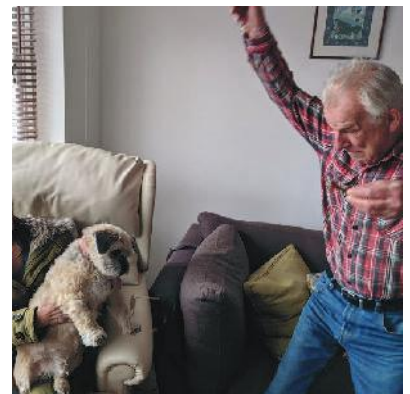
Kally had not noticed the rather large crack in the glove compartment's door because she had been so concerned about me. The crack had happened when my head had rather

violently struck it. When Onkar, (who sees all), next got in the car he noticed the crack in the glove compartment's door straight away. He also noticed that there were my hairs all over the seat. Kally had forgotten to brush them off due to her concern about me. Onkar wondered how it could have happened and asked Kally. Kally looked a little confused; she did this quite often. Both Kally and Onkar went out to the car, Kally to see the crack for the first time. Well 'lo and beold' there was the crack staring at them in its full glory. Onkar was still mystified. Onkar also pointed out my hairs all over the seat. It suddenly dawned on Kally just how the crack had got there, it must have been my head incident, "oh dear", she thought. Stalling for time and not wanting to confess that I had travelled on the seat, Kally told Onkar that she did not feel too well and needed to go inside and sit down. Kally's brain was working in overdrive to come up with a reasonable explanation.

Now what to tell Onkar she thought; it looked like a confession might be the only answer - what trouble Kally and me would be in then. Then it came to Kally in a flash, tell Onkar half the truth - tell him the sudden stop had made the glove compartment door drop down. Then Onkar mentioned my hairs on the seat, there was no way out of this one for Kally. Kally looked at Onkar with a pleading look and said that she thought there was something wrong with me and if I was on the seat she could keep a closer eye on me. Onkar just said that there was an awful lot wrong with me. He suggested that it would be a lot easier to just get rid of me. Kally decided it was wiser to say nothing.

With that Kally went off to Hoover the car and Onkar stayed to work on his horrible plan for getting rid of me. I decided that discretion was the best part of valour, and just lay there trying to ignore my throbbing head.

By Bobby with a little help from Uncle Howard.



Uncle Howard helps Bobby to put on his reading glasses.

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EVINGTON GARDEN CLUB

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18th June An evening visit to a Garden or Nursery.

July - no meeting

20th August "They Think It's All Over
Autumn in the Garden- Stuart Dixon.

LEICESTERSHIRE CALLIGRAPHERS

We meet monthly, usually on the third Saturday afternoon, 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

BABY SENSORY

Wednesdays 9.30am - 2.30pm. Contact Anna Chaggar on 07813203048.

SILVER SWANS BALLET FOR OVER 50S

Thursdays 10.00am - 12.00noon. Contact Vanessa Burzynski on 07765407323.

MONDAY YOGA 11.00am - 12.00 noon. Steph Yelts. 07525000511.

TUESDAY BHANGRA BLAZE. 6.00pm - 7.00pm. Preet Patel. 07525153284.

SELF DEFENCE GROUP

Wednesdays 8.00pm - 9.00pm.

INDIAN MUSIC GROUP Tuesdays 3.45pm to 4.45pm. Tel: 07541888528.

RECOVERY ASSISTANCE DOGS Fridays 1.30pm - 2.30pm. Tel: 07932433148 or 2623946.

RECORDERS Meet twice a month on a Saturday afternoon 2.30pm - 5.00pm.

AT EVINGTON PARK HOUSE LE5 6DE AND/OR IN EVINGTON PARK

(If you are new to an activity at Evington House and you find the front door is closed, just ring the door bell.

ANYTHING GOES SOCIAL GROUP

Weds. 10.30am - 12.30pm.

BILAL YOGA For happiness and good health with Kausar Bux. Calming exercises and controlled breathing for people of all ages. Work at your own pace. Beginners welcome. Wednesday 2.00pm - 3.00pm. £1 a session.

THURSDAY YOGA GROUP

Thursdays 10.30am - 11.30am. £1 a session. This is a led session.

CROCHET FOR ALL

Tuesdays 10.00am to 11.30am. Learn to crochet with Abdul Bux. £1.50 a session. Just come along.

LISTENING BENCH

For more information about this developing project contact Debbie Harris (Community Connector on 07517 450726.

ART IN THE PARK

Tuesdays 1.30pm - 3.30pm. Tel:

GARDENING FOR HEALTH IN EVINGTON PARK

Thursdays 11.30am - 12.30pm. All tools provided. Enjoy being outside with company and helping improve the park. Come and join us. Ring the bell on Evington House's door at 11.30am! Tel. 2204525/07910431044.

LIGHT LUNCH AFTER GARDENING ACTIVITY IN EVINGTON PARK HOUSE

1.00 - 2.00pm - Free for gardeners. Contact Helen on 2204525/07910431044 . Booking lunch essential.

HEALTH FAIR

Saturday 21st Sept. 12.00noon - 4.00pm in Evington Park. See advert on page 2.

EVINGTON BICYCLE CLUB

Sundays 3.00pm - 5.00pm. Free. No need to book. Learn to ride a bike.

TENNIS FOR FREE

Sundays 3.30 - 4.30pm.
* Parent and Child session
* Beginners and Improvers
Open Play session 4.30pm - 5.00pm
Booking: evington.courtline.net

EVINGTON BOWLING CLUB

Monday evenings and Wednesday afternoons. Coaching opportunities in a relaxed atmosphere. E-mail: epbowlsc@gmail.com evingtonbowls.org.uk

CRICKET ON EVINGTON PARK

Two synthetic wickets for all year use. Can be used free of charge on a turn up and play basis. You must book matches, tournaments or league games. Email: sportonparks@leicester.gov.uk. A three hour booking costs £15.

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.

READING BUDDIES

Every Saturday 11.00am - 1.00pm. A fun, free activity to help children aged 5-11 years with their reading. Operated on a first come first served basis.

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

ASIAN LUNCH CLUB

Wednesdays 11.00am - 2.00pm. Contact Suresh on 07801101308. Lifts may be available.

PLACE OF WELCOME

Every Tuesday 9.30am - 11.30am.

AT ST. DENYS CHURCH / PARISH CENTRE (CHURCH ROAD)

EVINGTON LOCAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE GROUP MEETINGS

Meetings held from 7.00pm - 9.00pm on the second Thursday in the month at St. Denys Parish Centre except for summer months. Contact Chris Hossack on 241 5153, chris_hossack@yahoo.co.uk

June 13th. Outing to Leicester Botanic Garden for a guided tour with Peter Easton of the exterior of the three houses and to hear about their original owners. Meet at Glebe Road entrance by 7.00pm. If you need a lift let Chris know.

HERITAGE OPEN DAY - 21ST SEPTEMBER

Two guided walks through Evington with Chris Hossack starting at St. Denys Church at 11.00am and then again at 2.00pm and finishing at Evington Park House where refreshments are served as part of the Health Fair Event (see advert on page 2).

MONDAY MEETS

1st and 3rd Mondays every month. 2.00pm - 4.00pm in the Parish Centre.
Monday 17th June
Monday 1st July
Monday 15th July
Monday 5th August

WELLY WALK

Saturday 8th June from the Parish Centre next to St. Denys Church at 2.00pm. A birthday party and picnic as well as outdoor activities for all.

LION, WITCH AND WARDROBE REHEARSALS

Every Monday at 6.30pm at the Parish Centre.

VICARAGE GARDEN PARTY

Saturday 6th July. 1940s theme.

ST DENYS CONCERT BY 8CTAVE CHOIR
14th June at 7.30pm

SUNDAY TEA AND TALK AT 3.00PM
14th July, 28th July, 4th August, 11th August
and 25th August.

*For more details of St. Denys Church services,
and group activities that are open to all, see
article on page 8 or contact 2713812.
www.stdenys.org.uk*

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

ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE
10.30am - 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 -
12.00 noon every Friday morning at The
Church of God Annexe on Downing Drive.
Come and relax with friends and neighbours
and support good causes.

**NHS DOWNING DRIVE SURGERY COFFEE
MORNINGS**
Meets Monday mornings 10.15am - 12.00
noon. Church of God, Downing Drive.

**AT GOODWOOD EVANGELICAL CHURCH,
GAMER ROAD
MESSY CHURCH**
First Sunday of the month at 4.00pm. For
further details contact Stephen on 079 0294
6004.

THE ARK TODDLER GROUP
Evangelical Church, Gamer Road. Wednesday
in term time. 9.30am - 11.30am. £1.50 per
family per session. Tel: Stephen on 079 0294
6004.

COFFEE MORNING Thursdays 10.30am.

KIDS ZONE 5 - 11 yrs. Tuesdays 4.45pm -
6.00pm.

YOUTH ACTIVITY Fridays from 7.30pm.

**AT CAFE BLENDS ON DOWNING DRIVE
MY WORD POETRY GROUP**
Tuesdays 4.00pm - 5.30pm. See article on
page 12.

**AT PLACES OF WELCOME:
(A) ST. CHAD'S PARISH ROOMS**
Coleman Road. Every Tuesday from 9.30am -
11.30am.

**(B) WYCLIFFE UNITED REFORMED
CHURCH**
The Common, Evington Village. Every
Tuesday 12.30pm - 2.30pm.

**AT JUDGEMEADOW COMMUNITY
COLLEGE**
Monday. Yoga. 10.00am - 11.30am.
Gentle Yoga and relaxation - get your week off
to a positive start with a friendly group and
experienced tutor. Brenda Kirby. 07841 880
800.

**AT MAYFLOWER CHURCH COMMUNITY
ROOMS
YOGA**

Mondays 6.00pm - 7.00pm (Ladies only).
Wednesdays 6.00pm - 7.00pm (Ladies only).
Saturdays 10.00am - 11.00am (Yoga for all).
£2.50 per session. For Ladies only contact
Manjula on 07448 732696. For Saturdays
contact Suresh on 07974 306016.

**DOWNING DRIVE FRIENDS AND
NEIGHBOURS**

Join us for litter picking sessions on the last
Thursday of the month. Picking sticks
provided. Meet outside Cafe Blends at
10.00am. ddfandn@gmail.com

AT LEICESTER GENERAL HOSPITAL
Thursday 4th July at Devonshire Place, 78
London Road LE2 0RA.
2.00pm - 4.00pm. Health and Information
Fair.
4.30pm - 6.30pm. Annual Public Meeting with
a chance to put your questions to a senior
management team.

**YOUTH GROUPS
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 7.00pm -
9.30pm.
Tel: 07968 159844
Email: JoinUs@2502SqnATC.com
Website: www.2502atc.com

NEPTUNE SWIMMING CLUB
Evington Pool. Tel: Evington Leisure Centre
299 5575.

LET'S RIDE, LEICESTER.
Free Cycling Festival for everyone. Sunday
25th August. Music, Local street food and live
stunt show. Cycle as much or as little as you
want. No cars on the road. letsride.co.uk

STOP PRESS
The closed down Co-op shop on the corner of
Main Street and St. Denys Road has been
purchased by Carers Direct Homecare to
provide services.
E-mail leicester@carersdirect.org.uk

SMALL ADS

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CONTACTING POLITICIANS

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

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