



# Evington Echo

[www.EvingtonEcho.co.uk](http://www.EvingtonEcho.co.uk)

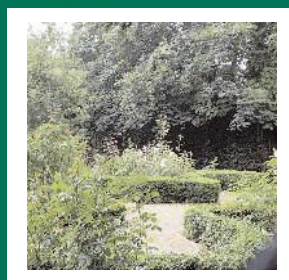
Keeping you up to date with Evington's news

The newspaper of Friends of Evington Charity No. 1148649

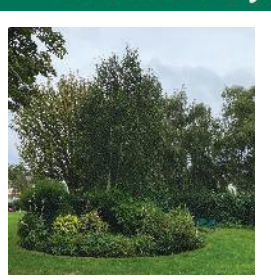
Issue 293

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Burnaby Gardens



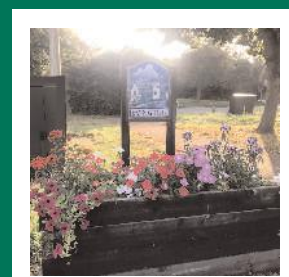
Village Green & Hall IYN



F&N Downing Drive IYN



Garden of Hope



Marydene Drive IYN



Piggy's Hollow IYN



The Co-op Garden



Nurturing Roots IYN



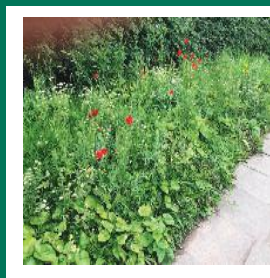
The War Memorial



Hilltop Allotments IYN



The Horston Hill Project IYN



Evington Embankment



Village Containers



Graceworks IYN



Evington Park IYN



Evington Nature Reserve

## EVINGTON'S ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS WORKING WITH EAST MIDLANDS IN BLOOM

IYN groups are independent but are evaluated each year by East Midlands in Bloom. Evington in Bloom is represented on the East Midlands in Bloom committee and is the project of Friends of Evington. This charity liaises with many other organisations and groups, including Leicester City Council's park staff, in order to deliver community and environmental aims.



## The Friends of Evington Elected Trustees

Paul Archdeacon (Chair), Helen Pettman (Secretary), Niles Chauhan (Treasurer), Jason Chauhan (Vice Chair) Jeff Henry and Suzanne Henry.

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## CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS

I was delighted to meet with other Bloom groups at the East Midlands in Bloom Group Conference in Grimsby on 22nd September to talk about how despite the pandemic we were all able to continue with our efforts to bring a bit of joy and colour to our neighbourhoods.

It was fantastic to receive a Silver Gilt Award overall for our Evington in Bloom entry as well as winner for the whole of the East Midlands for the Spring bulb display at the War Memorial garden.



Members and guests at Friends of Evington's AGM at Carers Direct

This was followed on 14th October by a joint celebration with 'Pride of the Borough' to recognise the achievements of Bloom and 'It's Your Neighbourhood' groups from both Evington and Oadby and Wigston. Both events demonstrated a continuing interest and enthusiasm for projects which encourage community participation in horticultural and environmental activities aimed at improving our local surroundings.

It has been a pleasure to be involved in such activities over the year and I am delighted to have been reappointed as Friends of Evington Chair of Trustees for another 12 months at our recent Annual General Meeting on 7th November.

This was held at the Carers Direct offices (previously the Co-op) and hosted by the manager Dr. Baljeet Singh who shared with us his ambitious plans for the use of

the building to support the local community.

I am looking forward to the coming year as we return to some kind of normality which will allow us to explore more opportunities to improve the environment and involve local people of all backgrounds, ages and abilities.

All our members are volunteers who give up what time they can afford to help make Evington a better place to live.

If you are interested in joining us contact our Secretary, Helen Pettman on 0116 2204525 or by email at friendsofevington1@gmail.com – membership is free.

Paul Archdeacon Chair of Trustees, Friends of Evington.

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## THE GREEN TEAM AT MOAT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Students from all year groups work as a team to support how College students and the College itself can make a difference and take increasingly better actions on climate change.

The Moat Green Team's hard work these past three years allowed Moat to earn the Eco-schools' Green Flag, an international accreditation, that recognises and rewards young people's environmental actions.



"We secured funding from the Woodland Trust to have raised beds installed in front of our school. We use them to plant vegetables like radishes, flowers, and herbs. We also plant daffodils around the school."



"We entered a RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) garden competition where we had to plan for a community garden on school grounds and achieved the Students Choice place."



and lights and encouraged the school community to turn off lights and devices while not in use.



"After lockdown, we found that our raised beds plants were overtaken by weeds. Even though we know that weeds have their purpose in the ecosystem, we had to pull them out to make space for our flowers. We were impressed by the size of some of the weeds' roots! It took a team effort and hard work to pull them out."

size of some of the weeds' roots! It took a team effort and hard work to pull them out."



"In September, we took part in the Leicester "Great Big Green Week". We wanted to raise awareness on plastic waste in our school. We put temporary recycling bins in our eating areas and encouraged students and staff to recycle their cutlery and food trays. We plan on having real, permanent recycling bins in our school."

"The Eco team helped facilitate a Roadshow." See pages 8 and 9.

We organised sending 217 unused textbooks to Africa through Books2Africa. To raise enough money, we decorated

tomato tins from the College kitchen to make plant cachepots and sold them through local businesses on Maidstone Road. We used the money raised to ship the books.



"We do research on plants to find out the best ones to help reduce CO2 and use less water."

"We took part in the Big Switch Off campaign organized by EDF energy for a fortnight. The goal of the campaign was to reduce energy waste in our school. We monitored the use of computers, screens

### New Opportunities Starting Soon at:



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(11-15 years) 11am—12am

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## LETTERS CAT CARE

Dear Readers,

Please be vigilant as there are 'apparent cat lovers' who are feeding a cat outside the owner's front door in Evington. They claim to think that the cat is a stray, even though it spends almost all of its time in local front gardens. This cat loves to hop through the gate or go under the hedge to miaow at passers by for a cuddle/ stroke. The cat is very happy living where he is. Can I remind people that you should never feed someone else's cat without the owner's permission. If the cat is injured or obviously ill, it is important to try to find the owner before taking any action.  
K Burns

## COMPLETELY BLOCKING PEDESTRIAN ACCESS

Dear Editor,

I think that if people park on the pavements in such a way that pedestrian access is completely blocked and pedestrians have to walk onto the road to get around cars, then there should be a system for police/wardens to immediately give fines. I think the problem is that many cars half park on pavements. It is a sliding scale to becoming really dangerous..  
Name and address supplied.

## THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS

Dear Readers,

It's hard to believe that we are here again. Once Diwali and Bonfire Night have come and gone, one's focus shifts towards Christmas. For some folk it may be firmly fixed there already. Whatever your focus, this year is galloping along with its end in sight. We have continued to walk on a daily basis from 24th March 2020 to the time of writing for 597 days.

Covid-19 walking and talking has made us think so much about other people. We were very clear at the beginning that we would actively engage with other walkers and, if possible, we would try to persuade them to talk too, even if it was just the act of a greeting. During what for many has been an isolating period, we endeavoured to reach out to individuals, knowing that we could be providing the only human communication they had.

We now look out for all of them, comment when we don't see them for a few days or weeks, worry about whether they are alright and have relaxed and shown our delight when we see them again. Unfortunately, we are still waiting for some to return to their walking habits and remain hopeful that they are well, wherever they may be. Our walking family, which is what they have become, mean a lot to us and we miss them when they are not there.

Those of you who have read these columns before will know that we are keen to find out people's names. We did this, probably not consciously, because names are important. It gives the person an identity, encapsulates their personality, not that we necessarily know what that is, it was also as though it made them more real. It certainly made them more memorable. On reflection I do think that it created the sense of a stronger connection between us.

An observation. If there was a little person, it was interesting that we often got to know their names first, long before that of their responsible adult. Similarly, if there was a dog, and neither of us would label ourselves as animal lovers, not that we would ever consider doing them any harm, we would find out the name of the dog way ahead of that of their owner. Ridiculously, there were occasions on which we became aware that we only

realised that we had met a person before because we recognised their dog, and often knew the name of the dog, but, would have sworn that we had never met the mistress/master prior to that day.

Being on the receiving end of kindness has been wonderful. That distant wave, nod of the head, the smile, the "oh my goodness it's lovely to see you" or "I haven't seen you for days". All similar comments have been gratefully received, have made us smile, feel warm, cosy and humble and part of a community, a walking community. Given time and a gentle deepening of these relationships, we have become friends and created our 'walking family'. It has been an enriching experience and one for which we are both grateful.

Just recently, we met a man, someone who we definitely had not encountered before. We greeted him with a cheerful "good morning" and he stopped us. To our surprise he told us that he saw us every morning; we knew that we had never seen him. He had observed us from his home as he looked through a window. What he said next really surprised us! "I've watched you every morning and thought if they can do it so can I. You have inspired me to walk and this is my first day." We beamed at him, encouraged him and departed. We had both been touched by his kindness towards us. He will become part of our 'walking family' too.

By the time that we write again it will be 2022. We hope that your reflections on 2021 are balanced with, hopefully, many good memories.

Our best wishes to you all.

Val Fisher  
Suzanne Overton-Edwards



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(Baptist)

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# EVINGTON EYECARE - 30 YEARS IN EVINGTON

Many of the residents may remember affectionately the greengrocers which was V&R Pinkney that previously occupied the premises of 45 Downing Drive. Roy and Violet, now sadly departed, were from the start very happy that Evington's first optical practice was being set up and kindly 'donated' part of the flat which was their lounge downstairs.

They continued to reside upstairs as landlords until they passed on. From inception to completion, the practice took many, many hours of painstaking planning, fitting and completion as we were working on a blank canvas with concrete walls and floors only.

Initially after set up, it was a huge struggle to get everything on a sound financial footing, with Riyaz's mother even being our first unpaid receptionist (thanks mum). The practice has developed from its early days since opening in January 1992 to be a firm part of the local community. With the rollout of progressive technology and adapting to trends, Evington Eyecare has pushed the boundaries and now utilises a networked IT system of practice management software (a far cry from the days of a pencil and an A4 appointment diary!) allowing patients to book their appointments online via an ultra-modern website:

[www.evingtoneyecare.co.uk](http://www.evingtoneyecare.co.uk)

which also provides a wealth of information and advice on the eyes.

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Riyaz - Optometrist



Toni - Practice Manager



Daljit - Admin. Asst.



Dawn - Dispensing Manager

if needed, has also reduced the burden on our local GPs. Furthermore, a substantial investment was taken some 15 years ago in offering a widefield retinal Optomap scan for our patients. As well as a full contact lens fitting service and colorimetry assessment for visual dyslexia, we are assigned to offer fast track cataract treatment service with our NHS hospitals.

The practice had an ultra-smart mahogany based red themed bespoke fitting of units when first opened. Since then, this was upgraded and a complete refit took place a few years back with a softer grey theme incorporating a cleaner interior with a new signage.

As a local resident and recognised throughout Evington and beyond, Riyaz has developed the premises into a warm family based optical practice providing a high-quality service with a smile (and the odd joke!). This has been ably assisted with a very loyal and dedicated team composed of two full time staff (Toni and Dawn) as well as Daljit who works part time and holiday cover.

We did once calculate that between us we have over 75 years' experience in working in optometry so you are in safe hands.

Riyaz has seen the practice grow successfully as well as his family which now comprises 4 children and 5 grandchildren....where have the years gone? Evington Eyecare would like to thank all our past patients for their wonderful support and loyalty over the 30 years and look forward to welcoming them back in 2022 as well as seeing new patients.

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**BERYL STARKEY**  
1ST DEC. 1935 – 20TH JULY 2020



Beryl moved to Evington in the 1960s with her late husband, Arthur and her two young sons Adrian and Paul. She led a full and active life and has been remembered by her friends and family for the strength of her character, principles, work ethic and fierce loyalty. Throughout

her life she lived by the mottos: "If a job's worth doing, it's worth doing well" and "There's no such word as can't."

Her sons Adrian and Paul remember her working tirelessly in the office at the back of the family house on Marydene Drive. "Her determination and drive were astounding – be it making a fitted kitchen from scratch; planting and tending to ever more decorative flower beds; or in more recent years, making amazing works of art in cross-stitch. She put in thousands of hours of love and attention to detail. Her stamp collection was equally outstanding".

Beryl was a secretary to Mike Howitt. Mike remembers that in October 1966, a neighbour recommended Beryl, whom she thought would be interested in some typing work. "Beryl typed at an amazing speed with excellent layout skills, together with 100% proof-reading. She always arrived at the office, never a second early or late. Her input helped the business flourish."

Beryl worked as a volunteer typist on the Evington Echo for many years and also coordinated the events page. Her dedication and skills were much appreciated.

Lorraine Crane remembers Beryl as a dear friend, very interested in other people rather than herself. "Her lovely cards at Easter and Christmas, with a carefully wrapped present, were such a treasure. She always joked about me being a 'domestic executive' and was such good fun. Every room was lit up by her presence. We spent hours on the telephone when she would thank me for the regular cleaning activities. I really do miss her, and life won't be the same."

Her friend Enid King knew Beryl for over 50 years since they first met outside the Whitehall School gates when collecting their children. "Over the years we enjoyed the Little Theatre. More recently, we visited many restaurants throughout the Leicestershire countryside. Beryl always did a well written evaluation with an appropriate score! She was a true and loyal friend, remembered with great affection."

Given the Devon heritage of her father, Beryl was always keen to visit Aunt Daisy and Uncle Walter in Malborough near Salcombe, when on holiday in the UK.

Beryl had a spirit of adventure, and in 1991 had no hesitation in flying solo to Hong Kong to join her youngest son and involved herself enthusiastically in life on the island. For her 65th birthday she willingly went up in a hot air balloon and photographic evidence also exists of her parascending off the coast during one of her Mediterranean adventures!

In recent years Beryl was a committed and supportive grandmother to Ella, Roisin, Joe, Mollie, and Siobhan. Whenever possible she would visit her family in Surbiton and Marlow and was still able to drive herself down, even up to the Christmas before her passing.

Beryl died peacefully at home with both

of her sons by her side. Many who attended the celebration of her life on 31st July said that "it had been a privilege to be her friend". Beryl was determined to the last and she leaves behind a family who are indebted to a life so well lived.

Adrian and Paul Starkey supported by Mike Howitt

**CORRECTION**

The Echo regret that the picture of a kite in our last issue was a 'stock' photo rather than the picture sent in, as this was too low resolution. Unfortunately the original photo is no longer available and so the attribution of this bird cannot be definite.



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## PUMPKINS ARE US



Aaryan, Reuben and Skye were looking forward to a pumpkin carving competition, organised by Howard.

Kally, their mother was to supervise. She felt sorry for the pumpkins.

All three of them were sitting quietly and unobtrusively on the table. Even though they didn't deserve it (but then again who does) they quickly had their heads chopped off in one single swipe. Then they had their insides gutted out until there was nothing but the outer shell remaining. As if it couldn't get any worse, the three pumpkins were then set upon with big black bold felt tip pens. The eyes were crossed and the mouths and noses were drawn. The three pumpkins now looked completely different and somewhat terrifying and yet it wasn't over. A very sharp long knife pierced the skin of the pumpkins. The knife was so sharp that it carried on and on going over every trace of black ink like it almost had a mind of its own. The pumpkins were relieved when the ordeal, which seemed to last a lot longer than it should, was finally over. Whilst the pumpkins were taking a moment to recover, even they couldn't imagine what was to come next.

It was like a warm glow inside of them. Shining bright and lighting up the darkest of October days. The void inside them was now replaced by joy. The pumpkins had come to life. They had transformed into a beautiful butterfly so to speak and the pumpkins finally realised that all the pain they went through was worth it, especially seeing how much happiness they brought to people's lives during the time of Halloween. Happy Halloween all.

Howard rewarded all the children with chocolate. All were winners.

Kally and Howard – (sorry about the mess hehe).

(Read the full, unabridged article on the Evington Echo website.)

## SAACHI SINGH DRESSES UP FOR HER PUMPKIN



## NUPUR ARTS DANCERS FEATURE AS BOLLYWOOD DANCERS



Nupur Arts, Leicester's dance academy (that featured in the Oct. /Nov. 2021 edition), are proud to announce that four of their staff members and alumni member are featured as Bollywood dancers in the latest Marvel Studio's Eternals movie. This movie was shot in November 2019 and is out now in theatres across the world.

## OADBY AND WIGSTON GOLD AWARD 2021

Pride of the Borough Oadby & Wigston, is just that – the pride and enthusiasm of this voluntary group to tackle all obstacles and improve their local environment. Largely self-funded, they have achieved so much over the last two years despite being virtually under continuous lockdown due to the pandemic. In 'safety bubbles', litter picking, bulb planting, watering, fund raising and much more continued. The whistle stop judging tour included the Memorial Peace Park, Framework Knitters, South Wigston Community Garden, Aylestone allotments, Brocks Hill Country Park and Wickham Road Green, ending with a guided walk of Leicester Botanic Garden.

## THE HORSE AND GROOM PUB



On 18th June, 1938, Frederick Hanson, the last landlord of the Horse and Groom closed this pub after lunch and opened the Cedars at 6.00pm the same day. The Horse and Groom was situated where the shopping parade is now that includes Bennett's hardware store. (See photo above.) So all Frederick Hanson had to do was lock up his old pub and walk across the road to his new pub. The Horse and Groom was then demolished.

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The Climate Action team organised this 'Standing for Climate' event on 6th November 2021. It coincided with the COP26 talks. As you see, there was a great turnout which made an impressive visual impact in the city. The message was loud and clear. "We demand climate justice to be at the forefront of the COP26 international climate talks."

There was a silent vigil at the Clock Tower and a rally at Jubilee Square. Afterwards participants were invited to the City Retreat on Churchgate for a preloved clothes swap and sharing food.

"COP26 did make some progress. Climate justice did get talked about and climate change is at least now on the public and political agenda. It also laid the groundwork for next year's COP27 to be more productive. This was largely thanks to massive pressure from people around the world."

### SCHOOL DAILY MORNING CONFIDENCE



For this edition of the Evington Echo I am going to look at ways children can enrich school days with a daily morning confidence practice. I will share selected techniques and exercises that support children to feel good in the morning. Start with sitting comfortably on a chair or on the floor cross legged. Place hands on your tummy either side of the belly button keeping your shoulders relaxed. We are going to see how it feels filling this area with deep breaths. Slow deep breaths in and out.

Whilst continuing to focus on breathing slowly and deeply, gently close your eyes and begin to imagine how you would like the day ahead to be. Imagine casually strolling through the school gate with a big smile on your face. On the way imagine seeing and greeting teachers and friends. You can say silently or out aloud "I learn and grow everyday". Imagine listening and learning well in class as well as enjoying the company of your class companions. New, fun and interesting learning will happen today. All lessons and subjects are pleasant. Think of yourself being joyful with your friends and teachers. Gradually wrap your arms around yourself and gently give yourself a soothing hug. You can say out loud or silently to yourself repeating a few times "I am going to have a great day at school today" take a deep breath and slowly open your eyes, stretching your hands up to the ceiling. You are now ready for a magnificent day ahead.

I hope this exercise will be incorporated into a daily routine. Do contact me through my social media links Indy Essence. I always look forward to hearing from you. Indy

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## ECO SCHOOLS AND COP26 ROADSHOW AT MOAT COMMUNITY COLLEGE 9TH NOVEMBER 2021 LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE LIBRARIES WORKSHOP

Lee Jowett, (Environmental Education Coordinator for Leicester City Council) welcomed groups of children and staff from six primary schools to this roadshow facilitated by Moat's team. The purpose of the day was to promote greater understanding of COP26 and some of the Eco-Schools' topics. Shows like this encourage the dissemination of the issues, so that as many people as possible are thinking about how they can practically make a difference.



The six students work as a team with the guidance of Moat's staff. They explained some of their schools' eco activities: (page 3).

### SUSTRANS WORKSHOP. (SUSTRANS IS SHORT FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT.)

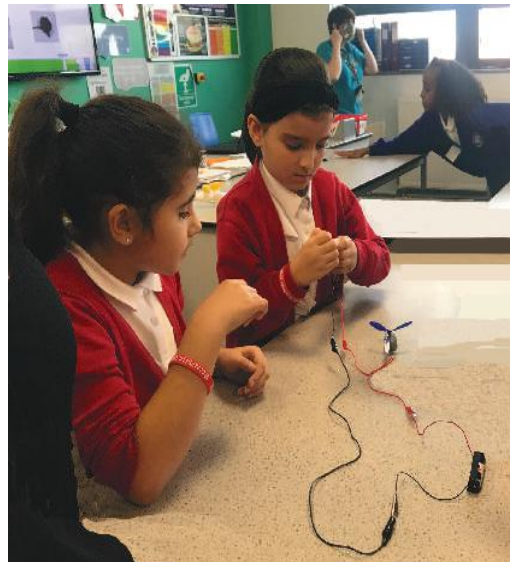
Students were invited to play a Better/Worse game, ordering themselves holding placards saying 'walking', 'cycling', 'scooting', 'petrol car'. They also rated the various barriers to change.

Sustrans is both a national and local organisation that works in partnership with Leicester City Council to help develop the city's green vision. In this workshop, students may not be in a position to change adult behaviour, but their raised awareness helps develop green conversations about transport. From COP26, we hope our leaders will make it easier for environmental changes to happen both from top down and bottom up.



This workshop asked students to find their answers to questions using books. Questions included things like: "What three things can you do to halt climate change?" or "How do you deal with Eco muggles?" or "Would you rather be a wiggly worm or a dung beetle?" This lively, fun session from the Libraries development team used an excellent stock of eco books. The team are continuing to build up their networks and library activities to get the reading message out there.

### DESTINATION SPACE - FROM LEICESTER SPACE CENTRE



Students were practically and easily taught how to make an electric circuit, how to use symbols and how solar panels can replace batteries in the circuit.

The Space Centre have a large, green teaching agenda. Sometimes there are four schools a day at the Centre as well as outreach work. Their Community programme running after school is called STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths).

Above: Students make a circuit with first a buzzer and then a propeller, powered with a battery.

Adjacent: Students use a mini solar panel to power their circuit and need sunlight for the solar panel.



The plenary session gave students certificates of participation and every student gave feedback using a voting gadget.

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**GUY NEWMOUNTAIN, AN  
EVINGTON RESIDENT,  
PREMIERS HIS ANIMATION  
FILM WHICH HAS BEEN 27  
YEARS IN THE MAKING**

On 23rd October, Guy invited his friends, relatives and all the people he had worked with, to his premiere showing of his animation film. A superb afternoon and evening of games, food and the viewing took place at the Retro Computer Museum, Humberstone Lane, off Troon Way.



On entering the Museum, a life-sized model standing next to Guy himself was there to greet people. The model and film was called 'The Man with an eye at the end of his finger' and this was the main character in a fairy story told in animation, which followed the theme of someone who didn't fit in eventually finding his friends and a place in life.

In the gaming room at the museum there was an array of old machines with some of the games I remembered from the 80s, but there were loads more from the 60s to 90s. It was a fascinating hour of fun, followed by delicious food with the anticipation of waiting for the best to come. We weren't disappointed!

Guy was the gracious host who thanked everyone and some had travelled from great distances to see this animation. No one, not even his mother, had ever seen it. Guy explained how, as a teacher, he spent his evenings and weekends drawing pictures pixel by pixel. He explained how, working alone, it was frustratingly slow. Usually there are masses of people involved in any animation, but in this case it was just one person working alone. Once started, Guy doggedly continued. He got to a major decision time. Should he continue on his old Amiga 1200, or upgrade to a modern-day vector programme? The advice was to continue as he was. So on and on, but with teaching as well he needed more time for this project. Teaching had to go, nothing would stop his drive to complete the film.

The animation film is narrated by Guy's grandfather, sadly no longer here, who at the age of 19 had escaped from Nazi Germany and organised his parents' escape as well. The people watching the film might have caught images of themselves on a bus or in other places, but blink and it was gone. I thought the animation was brilliant and I marvelled at the number of pictures Guy had drawn to give the illusion of movement.

There is more to this story, because near to the end of 27 years of making, Guy found he could no longer access his old Amiga. Had he lost it all? Had he devoted his time to a dead duck? Guy tried all his computer contacts from far flung places, but to no avail. Then amazingly, just three miles outside Evington, he found this Retro Computer Museum. "Just three miles away" Guy emphasised. At first the Retro Computer Museum volunteers couldn't help. Guy had carefully carried his computer there and home again with all his data trapped inside like a genie in a bottle. Then came the 'Eureka' moment and Guy went back again to the Museum and it worked. It was January 2021, so then all the finishing off and preparations could go ahead for this premiere event.

So what next Guy?  
"Anything but computers!" Guy replied with feeling.

The Retro Computer Museum is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 10.00am until 3.30pm. A full hands on experience for everybody, young or old. Systems ranging from the original 'Pong' to Playstation 2 etc.

[www.retrocomputermuseum.co.uk](http://www.retrocomputermuseum.co.uk)



**FABIO HAIRDRESSERS TO  
CLOSE**

After 37 years in Evington Village, Fabio hairdressers will close at the end of November.

Steph, Fabio's stylist, would like to say a massive thank you for all the support clients at Fabio's and the Evington community have showed us over the last 37 years. Unfortunately, with the rising cost of all our overheads and the hardships of the last 18 months with Covid, we cannot afford to renew our lease. We are all very upset in the salon but we'll all move forward with a smile and positive vibes as always.

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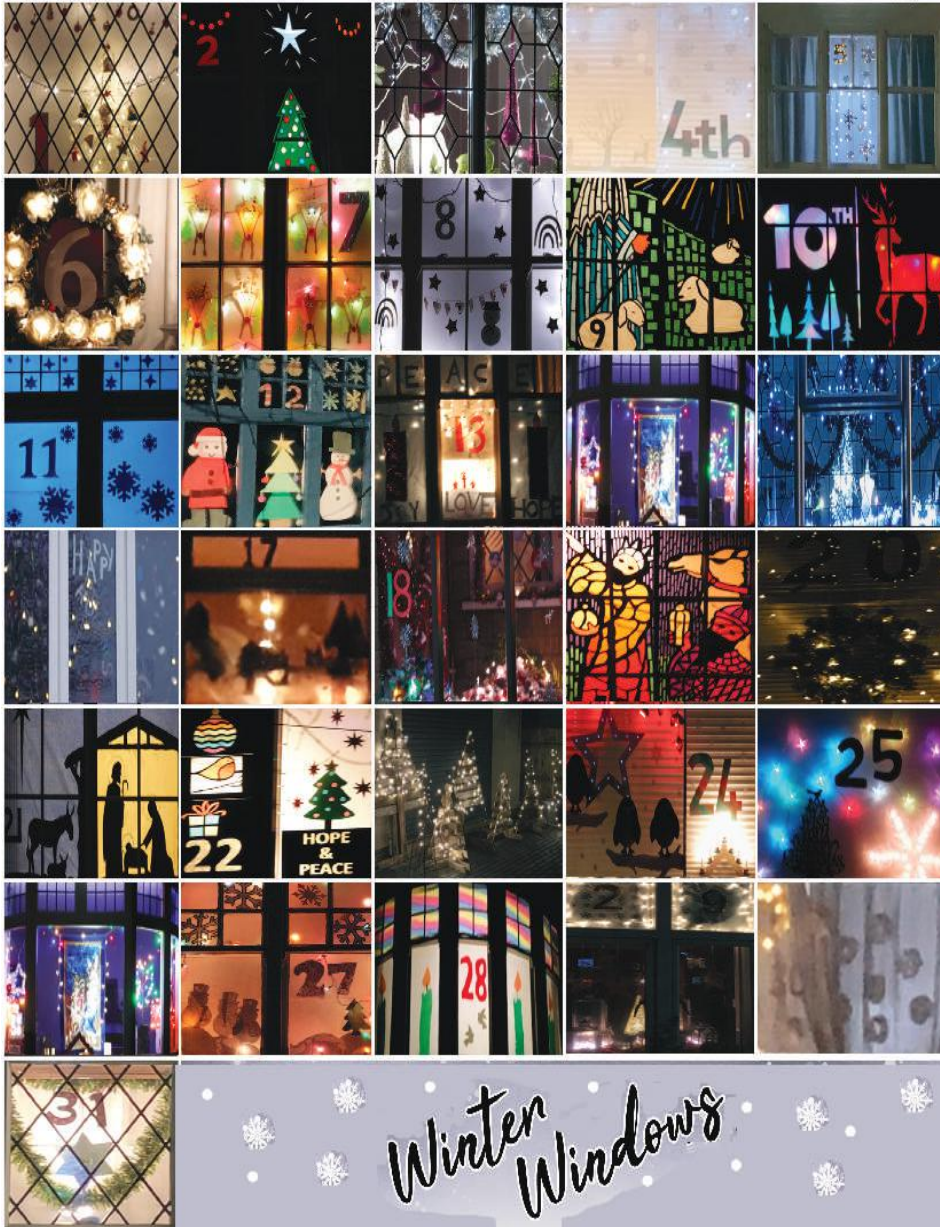


## LIGHTING UP THE DARK

Take a walk down Hawthorne Drive and Linden Drive during December and you will see the lights coming on one by one. They are again organising a 'Winter Windows' to light up the dark nights. Each household taking part will be decorating and lighting up one of their windows, with a new one being added each day. By the end of the month all 31 windows should be brightening up the dark. Each window will also include the date, so see if you can spot all the windows! More volunteer households are still needed, especially for the second half of December, so if you live in either of these roads, and would like to join in, please contact Margaret Fleming or Julia Hughes as soon as possible. Help light up the dark!

margaret.fleming@ntlworld.com or juliafhughes@ntlworld.com

### Last Year's Winter Windows



This unknown soldier was knitted by an unknown person for Syston's War Memorial.



This photograph of a Blue Tit was taken by Aidan Oliver.

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Kate Evans



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Krishna

There were 127 entries from 34 entrants.  
There were 363 viewings on the flickr photo sharing website.  
A small selection is shown above. More to follow next issue.  
Thanks to all who contributed.  
John Pelmore

My name is Sadaf. I am a local mental wellbeing specialist with several years of experience. I set up Resonate Success to channel my innovative, holistic, and alternative approach to mental wellbeing. So, if you are intrigued, curious and want to be confident and move forward in life, I can provide you with the space to invest in your wellbeing without pain, medication, and trauma.

Anxiety and stress have increased during & post lockdown. Resonate Success provides a space to move forward again in life. Investing in your wellbeing will create a positive effect in your life and you will find that things begin to fall into place naturally. Leading you to a more fulfilled happier life based on YOUR terms.

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Perhaps you are an individual who needs a safe, positive space to get things back on track? If so, why not inquire about clinical hypnotherapy or mindset coaching, to create new positive neural pathways and leave those old habits and negative behaviours behind.

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## 222 FOR 2022 Can You Help Us Hit Our Tree-Planting Target?



As part of Evington Community Nature Reserve we are hoping to provide at least 222 small trees for gardens and green spaces in Evington in early 2022. By investing some of Friends of Evington's funding under the 'People and Pollinators' grant, these trees will be free to those residents who would like one for their garden.

Not every garden has a lot of space and so we will provide trees that can be kept to almost any height and spread their owners prefer.

Trees are brilliant at lots of things that improve our local environment, like producing blossom, fruit and nuts, as well as shade. They also provide a home and food for a whole range of beneficial creatures such as moths, birds, bees, hoverflies and butterflies. Above all they form a terrific shield from pollution and absorb carbon dioxide from the air as they grow. If you plant one of these trees in your garden, you will be taking a small step to reducing your carbon footprint and helping fight the climate crisis! Obviously, if we achieve our target of planting 222 trees, that's a much greater

step for our community.

So, what can you expect if you volunteer to plant a free tree in your garden?

The trees we are going to supply will be crab apple, hazelnut and bird cherry. We will deliver them in January or February 2022.

You will receive a tree in the very early stages of its growth – it will be about half a metre tall. In addition, the tree will be supplied as a 'bare root' – in other words, not in a pot of soil. This means your new tree will look rather like a stick with roots.

To plant your tree, all you will need to do is make a slit in the ground, pop the tree into the slit, root-first, and close the soil around the roots – easy.

As spring comes round, you will see your 'stick' burst into life and send out its first leaves and shoots. My wife and I put similar trees into our garden in 2019 and they are now almost two metres tall; yours might be a similar height in 2024.

The trees will be extremely easy to care for as they are native plants and very happy in our climate. They should only need to be cut back each winter – this will help make them nice and bushy and keep them to the size you want. We will provide guidance on what to do.

As very young trees, they will not produce blossom or fruit for the first two to three years but, after that, you will be rewarded with a lovely display every spring.

For people who have enough space, we may be able to get you more than one tree – just let us know how many you would like and we'll let you know how many we are able to give you. For the moment, we only need to know the number and type of tree you would like.

To reserve your free tree(s) just email us on [contact@littlegreenshoots.uk](mailto:contact@littlegreenshoots.uk)  
Jeff Henry (Trustee, Friends of Evington)

## CENTENARY OF THE PASSING OF ABDU'L-BAHA

On Saturday 27th November Evington Baha'is along with their fellow Baha'is and friends in Leicester and the county along with Baha'is around the world commemorated the centenary of the passing of Abdu'l-Baha, He was the son of the founder of the Baha'i Faith, Baha'u'llah.

When Baha'u'llah passed away in 1892 He had appointed Abdu'l-Baha, which means Servant of Glory, as the centre of His covenant, leaving the affairs and responsibilities of the faith to him. Abdu'l-Baha was a remarkable and sacred person having, with his father and family, experienced exile, imprisonment and house arrest over a 40 year period.

There is a Leicester connection with Abdu'l-Baha in that the first western pilgrimage in the Holy Land in 1898 was arranged through Thomas Cook. Abdu'l-Baha was free to travel in his late sixties and decided he would take the Baha'i message of peace and unity to the west and between 1911 and 1913 he made epic journeys starting in London and taking him across Europe, meeting the early Baha'is and speaking to crowded meetings in churches, synagogues and meeting places.

In 1912 he made a gruelling journey across America coast to coast and on his return stopped off in England again and made a special trip to Edinburgh. Throughout the First World War he organised the storage of grain and its distribution and after the war, in 1920, he was knighted by the British government for his efforts to avert famine in what is now northern Israel. During his life he wrote copiously and gave talks explaining his father's teachings and Baha'is still frequently refer to his talks and writings. Scott Macdonald

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George has lived in the local area all of his life and is well known throughout South Leicestershire and covers Evington, Hamilton, Wigston, Enderby, Narborough and Leicester Forest East.

At HomeMove we aim to offer a personalised but professional service everytime, we understand our customers' needs and always provide a 5\* experience. George would love the opportunity to assist with your next HomeMove - so if you are selling, in need of some expert property advice or want to find out how he can help get you moving then please feel free to get in touch.

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## SCHOOL & CHURCH COLLABORATE FOR FESTIVE GOODWILL



In these challenging times it is heartening to find that charitable giving continues. Altruism was transformed into a community event at Moat Community College with the collaboration of a local footwear retailer, school teaching and support staff, students, parents, governors and Free Churches in Knighton and North Evington. The school community transformed shoeboxes into gift boxes filled with essentials for struggling families in Bicz, a town in North East Romania.



The lovingly decorated boxes contained life essentials such as toiletries, stationery, hats, gloves, scarves and toys. A special mention

is due to Leicester's long established shoe retailer Blunts which donated a mighty wall of shoeboxes.

College Principal, Mr Brian Killeen,

spoke about the importance of a humanitarian ethos which is a part of Moat Community College's values.

Steve Bawden from North Evington Free Church expressed his gratitude:

"We warmly thank the school community at Moat for its energy and generosity. The families in Bicz are always so grateful for the gifts. It means so much to them especially the little children. Thank you for bringing happiness to those less fortunate at Christmas this year. Knighton Free Church is the main hub for the shoeboxes and we sorted 300 boxes to send to Bicz in Romania including 73 from Moat. We would really struggle to meet our target without the support of Moat staff and students."



Coordinator and staff member, Mr Farma, enthused "It is said that charity begins at home, but let's extend the definition of home to our global home. Moat Community College is itself a microcosm of multiple cultures and languages with staff, students and governors with heritage links from every continent. It is therefore fitting and proper to consider those who are less fortunate than ourselves wherever they may live."

H. Farma (An Evington resident and working at Moat Community College)

## SURVEY TO GET BETTER SERVICES



Leicester City Council is keen to hear from residents living in Leicester to understand their views, needs and wants. The information local people provide will help the council to deliver better services, make decisions based on evidence about local students and gain a better understanding of the needs of residents.

The survey will aim to collect answers from a 4,000-strong sample of Leicester's population, in order to provide statistically significant results. It is hoped respondents will reflect a wide variety of backgrounds and communities, and be widespread in relation to age, sex, race and geographic location.

All responses will be anonymised and no individual data will be shared.

The Council is committed to helping the most vulnerable people in the city including how we communicate, so this survey is also about finding out how our residents are coping financially and people who are able to use our online services.

Online link:  
<https://consultations.leicester.gov.uk/citywide/household-survey/>

<https://news.leicester.gov.uk/news-articles/2021/october/residents-can-take-part-in-important-new-survey/>



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## 19TH LEICESTER (EVINGTON) SCOUT GROUP

The group originally formed in 1914, at the outset of the First World War. Initially meeting at St. Denys Church, the group's first HQ was on The Common, roughly where the library is now. In the early 1960s, we moved to our present HQ on Davenport Road.

As you can see, we have a long history in the area, with many generations of Evington children passing through the group. Whilst our programme has evolved and modernised over the years, we remain true to our original aims of learning skills for life through fun, friendship and adventure.

We have three sections according to age: Beavers for ages 6 to 8, Cubs for ages 8 to 10, and Scouts for ages 10 to 14, all meeting at our HQ on Davenport Road.

If your child is interested in joining you can contact us in any of the following ways:

Phone - 2209017

Email - info@evingtonscouts.org.uk

Facebook - search for Evington Scouts and send us a private message.

## NORDIC WALKING

Walking using these long poles is a great way to improve your mental and physical wellbeing. There are organised walks in Evington and surrounding areas. Nordic Walking is an inclusive activity and welcomes everyone.

To join as a member you need to contact ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com or phone Penny on 07502 576764.

## BHANGRA CLASSES

Mondays: Childrens Class 5.00 – 5.45pm

Adults Class 6.00 – 6.45pm

At Judgemeadow Community College LE5 6HP

Saturdays: Adult Class 9.00 – 9.45pm

At Hamilton Community College LE5 1BL

Tel: Preet 07525153284.

## LEICESTER U3A LEARN LAUGH LIVE

Leicester U3A have a programme of monthly general meetings which are open to the public with an admission charge of £2.00.

U3A is for people retired from full time employment, creating a community of third-agers committed to life-long, self-help learning in a congenial informal setting.

Nationally the U3A was founded in 1982 and has grown steadily since that time. There are now over 1050 U3As in the UK, with more than 450,000 members.

Locally Leicester U3A was founded in 1936. The website is <http://u3asites.org.uk/leicester>

For more information about Leicester U3a contact [publicity@leicesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:publicity@leicesteru3a.org.uk)

## LEICESTER HOME EDUCATION KICKABOUT

This group was set up in 2021 as a weekly fun football session for home educated children aged 6-11 years. Costs are kept low to support families on a low income. It takes place in Braunstone. Details are on Facebook.

## RUMMIKUB CLUB

If you would like to join this club and enjoy this game of luck and skill, please contact Lesley Biro on 2419096.

## ST DENYS CHURCH CHRISTMAS DATES

3rd/4th Dec. Christmas Tree Festival (see below)

Sunday 12th December 4pm : Carols in the church car park

Sunday 19th December 6pm : Candlelit Carol Service

All welcome. No booking required.

Christmas Eve : 4pm Crib Service and

11.15pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day : 10am Family Communion

## EVINGTON GARDEN CLUB

The Club continues its Tuesday afternoon meetings in the Village Hall, enabling travel mostly during daylight hours, as detailed below.

Please note that this December's meeting will be held on the second Tuesday, and not on our usual third Tuesday, of the month.

Details of the December 2021 meeting, and those for the early months of 2022, are as follows:-

14th December 2021 'Who wants to be by the Seaside!' by Felicity Austin. This will also be our Christmas event.

18th January 2022 'Plant Portraits' by John Gibson.

15th February 'Colour in the Winter Garden' by Jeff Bates.

15th March 'Roses' by Ann Bird.

Our indoor meetings are usually held commencing 2.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall. (Unless otherwise given.) Doors open 2.00pm.

Visitors to meetings are asked to pay £2.00.

Why not join the club and pay £12.00 p.a. membership fee?

For any queries please phone Peter Jackson on (0116) 2735487

## LEICESTER MARVELLOUS MEDICINE TALKS

These are now on-line talks for the rest of 2021. They take place at:

<https://www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk/members/marvellous-medicine/>

To enrol as a member contact

patientengagement@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

December (Date to be announced). Skin

Conditions. Speaker: Dr Manisha Panchal,

Consultant Dermatologist.

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4th December 2021 10.00 – 16.00

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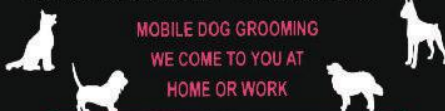
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