



# Evington Echo

**EvingtonEcho.uk**

Keeping you up to date with Evington's news  
Issue 301

The newspaper of Friends of Evington Charity No. 1148649  
April and May 2023

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## A LANDMARK TO BE CELEBRATED



Many wellwishers dropped into the Documentary Media Centre in Northampton Street, Leicester, to view the 300th issue exhibition that was set up and hosted by John Coster from the Evington Echo archives.

There was a slide show of all the 300 front covers, a display of old pictures and a very big welcome for two special guests, Angela Stevenson (nee Plowman) who was the first editor and Helen Pettman who has been Editor for the last 17 years.



## The Friends of Evington Elected Trustees

Helen Pettman (Chair), Harkesh Farma (Secretary), Nilesh Chauhan (Treasurer), Jason Chauhan, Val Fisher and Rob Watson (co-opted)  
www.evingtonecho.co.uk

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Dec./Jan 24	10th Nov. 23	30th Nov. 23

## Echo Delivery

Could you help deliver Evington Echoes in the Romway Road area? This would be 6 times a year, at a time to suit you. For more information contact Chris Hossack on 2415153.



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# Editorial

Dear Readers,

I hope most of you have picked up on the fact that our website at [evingtonecho.co.uk](http://evingtonecho.co.uk) now complements this bimonthly magazine and can give you any news that misses the magazine and a list of forthcoming events from local clubs and groups that scrolls up on the homepage. If your group is missing, please let me know. Also I am grateful to you for letting me know of any errors.

## Elections

On May 4<sup>th</sup> you are invited to vote in two local elections. (1) An election for the local councillors in your area and (2) for a

### ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS FOR EVINGTON WARD

You are invited to a meeting with prospective councillors for Evington ward.

#### FIRST MEETING:

**When: Wednesday 12th April**

**Where: Evington Village Hall  
LE5 6FA**

**Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm**

#### SECOND MEETING

**When: Sunday 30th April**

**Where: Evington Village Hall  
Time: 10.00am to 12.00 noon**

Tel: 2204525/07910431044

City Mayor. At the time of writing this we are unable to tell readers the names of any of the candidates that are standing for election. Therefore we will be holding a hustings for Evington ward, giving you the opportunity to see the people who wish to stand.

## A French journalist visits

For this issue, Alexandra Portlock was sponsored by her newspaper in Nimes, France to spend 10 days in Evington working for the Evington Echo. Thanks to Harkesh Farma for arranging this. We all enjoyed meeting Alex and seeing how she collected information and wrote it up. Alex's final musings were about the status of Evington. Is Evington a village or a suburb? "It has a feeling of both." she said.

## The first editor of the Evington Echo

As you see from the front cover, Angela Stephenson, the first Editor of the Evington Echo, returned to Evington and visited the exhibition.

She explained how the Evington Echo started when a community tutor and a librarian decided Evington could do with a local newspaper and circulated a few green leaflets to call a meeting. A few residents turned up to the meeting in Evington library, but no community tutor or librarian! Despite a dwindling group and lack of any experience, the first issue was published in June 1981 and has continued ever since.

## Big Help out

On Monday 8th May, there's a 'Big Help

Out' organised by 'The Together Coalition'. It encourages people to try volunteering to support their local areas. If you would like to try out volunteering for Friends of Evington please contact Helen Pettman or Harkesh Farma (Details on page 2).

## Evington House - A Public Place

A team of people, including Baljit Singh, Rob Watson, Harkesh Farma, Val Fisher and myself initiated a meeting to discuss the future community use of Evington House and to retain the house as a public asset.

Baljit spoke about Capital and Revenue costs. Capital costs include the overheads: building, heating, lighting and maintenance costs. Revenue costs are about the day to day running of the centre where we can apply for grants.

Baljit said that if we run it with volunteers, then our revenue cost is £0, but he would recommend applying for grants and/or business sponsors to pay 3 people to support the activities from 8.00am to 3.00pm and 3.00pm to 10.00pm with a third overlap person. Estimated cost £30,000 a year.

Everyone made contributions at the meeting and the outcome was to progress the matter directly with the City Council at the earliest opportunity, with Friends of Evington having oversight of the proposals.

Helen Pettman.

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## MAY DAY SALE

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### Evington Village Hall

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**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May**

**10.30am—3.30pm**

Parking at St Denys' Church Car Park




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Raising funds to support community gardening in the Evington area.  
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Many Evington residents used to travel to the Uppingham Road for a hair cut at Dannies. Now Louise has moved to a salon behind the Barbers Shop in Main Street, Evington and can be contacted on 07969959042 or by email at [louiseveritt@hotmail.com](mailto:louiseveritt@hotmail.com).

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# LETTERS

Dear Readers,

In the Martin Lewis podcast this week, they were asking about good customer service. I made a comment about Bennetts on Main Street in Evington village and it was read out. He said on my behalf:

"I am a regular customer at our local hardware store, Bennetts, on Main Street, Evington.

I had a tap from my allotment that was stuck and I wanted to buy a replacement. He said they didn't sell taps but he put it in his vice with some WD-40 on it and loosened it with a wrench, so now it works fine. He didn't charge me a thing. I always go there now for any household or allotment needs as I like to support independent businesses. Also if I need two screws for a job they will sell me two screws, not a massive pack. Brilliant."

Ruth Adams

Dear Editor,  
I wonder how many of your readers have noticed the appalling conditions on Evington Road?

Traffic is just dreadful and laws are not enforced. The other day, I saw two people standing in the middle of the road with collecting buckets. That is both dangerous and illegal! Trouble is nobody cares (not even the law!!). Something needs doing about the traffic conditions on Evington Road. The current congestion cannot go on. Too many cars get parked there. Frankly, I think it should be designated a 'bus only' lane and ban all other motor vehicles. What do other readers think?

Ian Morton

## Leicester Life Skills Charity

We are looking for volunteer guides at Warning Zone. For more information visit: [www.warningzone.org.uk](http://www.warningzone.org.uk)  
Email: [volunteer@warningzone.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@warningzone.org.uk) or call 2629739.

## 3 YEARS OLD AND TAKING PART



Taking part in the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Big Garden Birdwatch has been an annual event for one Evington family for many years. Margaret (aged 14) is a veteran birdwatcher and she introduced her three and a half year old brother to this event on 27th January.

They received a reply from the RSPB which said: "The numbers are being crunched and the results are due to be published in mid April. The excitement is building as we want to see how our birds are faring another year on. Keep an eye out."



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## Nitrous Oxide & Balloons – A Warning!

You may be used to seeing little shiny silver canisters in the gutter – these are nitrous oxide canisters. This is the new 'drug of choice' for many young people.



Increasingly, we are also coming across larger cylinders (about 30cm long, shaped like a balloon pump), which are highly pressurised canisters, obviously containing much larger quantities of nitrous oxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) – intended to be used in the food industry. Often found in parks, on grass verges and down small back streets and quiet cul-de-sacs, they are frequently accompanied by several latex balloons. Inhalation directly from the canisters is highly dangerous so it is used to inflate balloons and then inhaled from them. It is also known on the street as 'balloons', 'hippy crack', 'chargers', 'Nos', 'Noz' and 'whippits'. After cannabis, nitrous oxide (also referred to as 'laughing gas') is thought to be the most commonly used drug amongst 16-24-year-old in England.

When inhaled, nitrous oxide causes short-lived feelings of euphoria, relaxation and fits of giggles (hence its nickname); in other words, a quick 'high'. However, it can also cause sound distortions and hallucinations, anxiety and paranoia, severe headaches, dizziness and can stop people thinking straight. It slows your brain and your body's responses. Heavy, regular use can cause a deficiency of vitamin B12 leading to serious nerve damage, numbness in the fingers and toes, pain and difficulty walking, spinal injuries and even paralysis. It can also stop the formation of white blood cells, leaving the body unable to fight infection. Inhaling too much nitrous oxide can cause unconsciousness, suffocation from a lack of oxygen, even death. According to the Office of National Statistics, the inhalation of nitrous oxide has been listed on at least 45 death certificates since 2010. Consuming alcohol alongside increases the risks from both and it can become addictive. Like all drugs, it affects some people much more than others.

Although the gas has legitimated uses in the food industry and medical uses (mixed with oxygen as 'gas and air' for use in labour or dentistry) it is strictly regulated and monitored in use and dosages. In the park, in the dark and under peer pressure it is much harder to regulate and to remain safe. Under The Psychoactive Substances Act 2016, it is illegal to sell or give away nitrous oxide for recreational

use, with a penalty of 7 years imprisonment, a hefty fine, or both. Stay alert within your local community; be aware for signs of this anti-social behaviour. Closer to home, by spotting canisters, balloons and unusual bodily symptoms you may prevent potential illness and grief within your families.



Sources: Frank (the anti-drug website) and The Independent (article 26/1/23)

## OPENING AGAIN



Alpacas at Stoughton Grange Farm Park, Gartree Road, LE2 2FB.

After 21 years, a farm park is opening again at Stoughton Grange. The expectation is that it will be open by the time you read this, and open for 7 days a week from 10.00am. The noticeboard outside advertises Cuddle Corner, Sandpit, Pedal Tractors Lakeside Walk, Woodland Play Area, Den building, Outdoor picnic area and Feed the Animals. [stoughtongrange.co.uk](http://stoughtongrange.co.uk)

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## Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB)

Leicester Digital Partnership was awarded the Small Scale Digital Audio Broadcasting (SSDAB) licence for Leicester as part of Ofcom's third licensing round. Its social gain objectives are to 'carry out media production and distribution services that will benefit communities in Leicester and Leicestershire'.

Dr. Rob Watson (Evington Echo trustee) is the Managing Director of Leicester Digital Partnership, the not-for-profit CIC responsible for the new DAB multiplex. The first batch of stations to be available on DAB are Kohinoor Radio, Community Radio 1, Nishan Radio, Panj Pani, Radio 2 Funky, Radio Seerah and Ramadan Radio Live.

DAB digital radio offers advantages over traditional analogue systems because of better quality of sound, more channels and more choice as digital platforms provide more space. Also it's easier to find channels when they are set, as with TV channels.

## Radio Seerah

Now a DAB radio and full time since 2019, Radio Seerah is dedicated to sharing the meaning of the Islamic faith to people in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

It broadcasts on 1575 AM/MW and aims to bring a better sense of understanding,

trust and belonging in our 'super-diverse city'.



*Celebrations for 10 years of Radio Seerah*

It's a challenge as Radio Seerah has to connect with people who speak many different languages with different traditions and backgrounds. Speakers at the celebration evening spoke about Radio Seerah for telling stories, letting people share their experiences in a responsible way and providing a platform for media training. Media training needs to be trusted and accountable. It is a powerful way of building community and bringing people together, not just as listeners, but as participants and volunteers.

Rob Watson

## Keep Fit with calming and gentle exercises.

This friendly group meets on Thursdays from 11am to 12noon at the Portacabin by the Leisure Centre on Downing Drive.. At £2 a session do drop in and see if this group is for you.

## A SPECIAL DAY FOR GINNS AND GUTTERIDGE

Having closed throughout lockdown and then lacked staff afterwards, Ginns and Gutteridge, a funeral directors on Main Street, Evington, has been closed until now.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March messages were sent around Evington inviting local people to an opening ceremony. Rev Anthony Lees-Smith (Vicar of St. Denys) was invited to give a blessing, then early visitors enjoyed a horse and carriage ride around Evington.



*Horse and Carriage, which gave rides to local people.*



*Bill Ginns is cutting the ribbon for the opening of the refurbished Ginns and Gutteridge.*

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This picture taken in front of the shop shows from left to right: Sarah Brookes (Funeral Service Arranger), Sheila Williams (Funeral Service Arranger), Stephen Bradley (Regional Manager) and Nicola Brooks (Funeral Director).

Sheila Williams and Sarah Brookes, funeral arrangers are now based at Ginns and Gutteridge, Evington village, for five days a week from 9.00am to 5.00pm. This opening event included lovely refreshments and a raffle, with thanks to Morrisons, The Barbers, Dannies, The Vintage 186 Café, The Cedars, J&A Chemists, Premier, St. Denys Church, Sue's horses and carriage and many individuals for generously donating prizes and/or time. Visitors enjoyed a tour of the building and a full explanation of this business and how it operates.

Sheila and Sarah would love the community to call in and are keen to help Evington in Bloom make the village look great and support the biodiversity approach. The funeral directors can cater for all faiths and none for services and are there to make clients feel well supported and guided to choose what they want and what they need to do.

## LEICESTER ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEERS (LEV)

have been busy in the Evington Ward this year, with a particular focus on the Evington Arboretum, Shady Lane.

In January, LEV members braved the cold and frost to wade into the pond and they hand pulled out one third of the vegetation, such as bullrushes, sedges and willowherb. As always, we are careful to leave this by the side of the pond for a few days to allow any creatures to climb back into the pond.

They also created a habitat pile out of deadwood, so that the wildlife could shelter from the elements during the winter. We were especially thrilled to spot a Green Woodpecker in the woods nearby!

During February, our attention turned to the trees. A large area of mature poplar trees were being overcrowded by smaller, self-set saplings. Volunteers worked hard to clear a patch of overgrown, Poplar self-sets. This really opened up the area, ensuring the large, mature trees have the space to continue to thrive.

Volunteers also cleared a very overgrown patch of willow and crown lifted the trees to let in more light, promote the health of the trees, and open up sightlines to allow visitors to enjoy this beautiful gem of a park.

If you would like to know when we are

returning to the area, please apply to become a Leicester Environmental Volunteer.

You will receive invitations to join staffed sessions all across the City, as well as when we visit Evington.

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Penny Brown (LEV coordinator)

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# Alex Portlock from Nimes, France reports on her visit

## Chocolate

Alex was interested in chocolate, so she explored various ways to buy guilt-free chocolate that is Fair Trade.



There's a Just Fair Trade shop in Leicester run by Adina Zoltai, which works with ethical suppliers around the world and has an Easter collection.

Local shops in Evington also supply Fair Trade Chocolate, including Morrisons, the Co-op and Tesco.

There is a Christian Resource shop next to Leicester Cathedral, which sells Fair Trade chocolate, and the money spent there goes towards the work of the diocese. (See Alex's full article at [www.evingtonecho.uk](http://www.evingtonecho.uk) which also includes a recipe)

## The Great Central Gazette: a fresh, sustainable and people-centred newspaper in Leicester

A brand new media in Leicester with a fresh, local outlook on the city.

Three graduates from De Monfort

University have created The Great Central Gazette, a Leicester-based publication launched on 31st March. Emma Guy, Reece Stafferton and Meghan Lupton form a creative and skilled team, dedicated to producing good-quality news.

This online media (print should follow in 2024) is run as a co-operative, where members have their say on editorial decisions.

It covers the 'Leicester Built-Up Area', as defined by the Office of National Statistics. This includes Leicester city and its inner and outer suburbs.

With regards to the content, readers can expect investigations, videos, podcasts, opinion and culture. Whatever the field, the young editors promise to put people at the heart of every story.

Amongst the first articles is an interview with Professor Alwyn Jones, lecturer and specialist in Law at De Monfort University, on human rights.

As this innovative and free media is volunteer-led, anyone interested in getting involved can register on [Voluntary Action Leicestershire](http://VoluntaryActionLeicestershire) (VAL), or email [admin@greatcentralgazette.org](mailto:admin@greatcentralgazette.org).

Readers will be asked to become members for a minimum of £2 a month, although those struggling with the cost of living will be able to apply for free membership.

Alexandra Portlock

## Alex explores French Leicester

Alex said, "I have thoroughly enjoyed my ten-day internship with the Evington Echo. Even though I was born in Leicester, I would qualify as a French ex-pat. I now live in Nimes, a Roman-inspired city in Southern France.

Alex explored the 'vie a la francaise'. She found Adult



Education courses for languages and culture, La petite ecole francaise at Mellor Primary Community School, Checketts Road, an earlier French film festival at the Phoenix, a bust of the French philosopher, Voltaire, at the Secular Hall, some lovely postcards in the Newarke Houses museum which were embroidered with messages such as 'kisses from France', aimed for English WW1 soldiers to buy and send home and

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# Alex Portlock from Nimes, France reports on her visit

a French restaurant called Chloe Gourmet.

For the full article go [www.evingtoecho.co.uk](http://www.evingtoecho.co.uk)



333



Alex is outside Chloe Gormet, a French restaurant in Leicester.

## A hub for biodiversity in Sedgebrook Open Space

Letting Nature do her own thing on a small green patch (it's a bit over 1ha, does that qualify as small?) opposite the local Co-op on Downing Drive is the conscious decision of a group of local volunteers. Jeff Henry, a retired physics teacher living next to Sedgebrook Road, is leading this Community Garden Project. Turning Sedgebrook Open Space into a biodiverse and attractive space including a wildflower meadow and a circular mowed running and walking path. This local It's Your Neighbourhood group have been working hard since the summer 2021, after a campaign led by locals to save the area from being partly turned into space for houses.

A group of around 15 people have planted plants, bulbs and seeds, such as penstemons, cow parsley and hellebores. These plants that grow well are chosen because they are sustainable, pollinator friendly and mostly native.

Providing new opportunities for wildlife is this IYN's goal. It meets the objectives described in the Leicester city local plan, according to the publication draft which can be found on the website [consultations.leicester.gov.uk](https://consultations.leicester.gov.uk).

The project has been funded from a £10 000 pound Community Lottery grant given to the charity, Friends of Evington.

As walkers stroll on the 500m grass pathway mowed by the volunteers, they

come across walls of twigs, old leaves and other cuttings. Behind what looks like mere rubble is a well thought structure. The gardeners (and somewhat improvised builders) have used plant residues to create 'deadhedges', lodges for local



fauna.

Sedgebrook Open space is to be a welcoming hub for wildlife, but also for the local community. It's another much appreciated breather from the bustling city. In addition to the flowers and herbs, a picnic bench is to be installed, making the land even more pleasant. It is a project supported by the Council and long awaited by the community. The Council has been asked when the picnic bench installation will be delivered. Penny Brown, Leicester City Council's volunteer coordinator for IYNs and Bloom tells us this will be done as soon as the ground is firm enough to take a lorry and installation equipment.

Anyone interested in helping out in this community garden project is welcome. No particular skills are required, just motivation and interest in gardening, as well as availability on Thursday mornings. Please contact Jeff Henry email : [contact@littlegreenshoots.uk](mailto:contact@littlegreenshoots.uk) or telephone 07854525820.

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## Traffic fumes you can't abide? Please consider Park and Stride.

It is well established that pollutants in engine emissions can lead to and aggravate respiratory diseases, such as asthma. Motor vehicle pollution also contributes to the formation of acid rain. The pollution emits greenhouse gases that cause climate change.

It is heartening therefore to know that Whitehall Primary School continues its campaign to reduce traffic congestion at the school gates. The primary motive is to safeguard children and to reduce hazards and inconvenience for parents, drivers, pedestrians and residents in the immediate vicinity. The school has taken on the challenge to affect behavioural change by encouraging more children and their families to walk to school.

In partnership with Living Streets and Leicester City Council, children are already being recognised and rewarded for making changes which promote daily exercise and help to reduce traffic congestion near the school.

This said, it is acknowledged that not all children are able to walk the whole way to school for a range of reasons: the distance involved and time pressure on parents. Whitehall has therefore set up a Park and

Stride scheme.

Park and Stride enables parents and carers to park their car within a 10-minute walk away from the school. They can stride the rest of the way with their children.

Harris, aged 4 in a reception class, is a young enthusiast and advocate of the scheme. He told the Echo: "My Mum used to drive to school but now she parks further away and I walk to school. I like getting the badges."



The Coleman Centre (LE5 4JZ), near the maternity unit General Hospital, has agreed to trial a Park and Stride site on their car park. It is initially for up to 20 families of children at Whitehall Primary School. Families received a permit to authorise parking from Monday to Friday during school term time only.

If you have other ideas for traffic reduction then please let us know.

Contact details are on the inside front cover.

Harkesh Farma

(With thanks to Ms Bahadur, Eco-Lead at Whitehall)

## World Book Day



*This picture shows an Evington resident dressed up for World Book Day, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023.*

This event is celebrated in our Evington schools and encourages children and young people to read for pleasure.

The charity provides £1/£1.50 book tokens that can be used to purchase 12 titles. So much goes on in schools on this special day!

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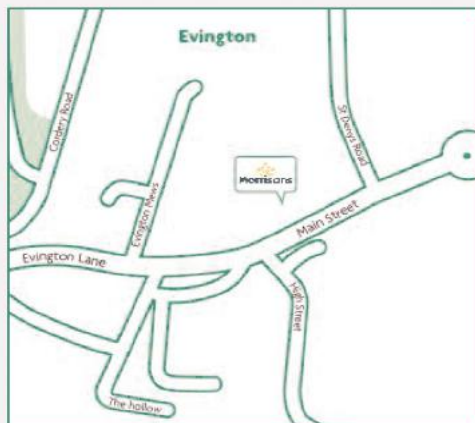
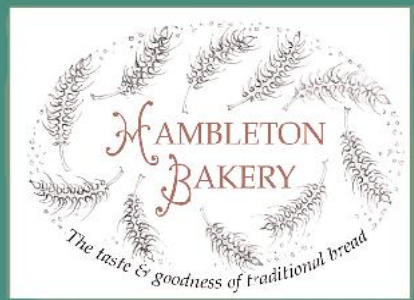
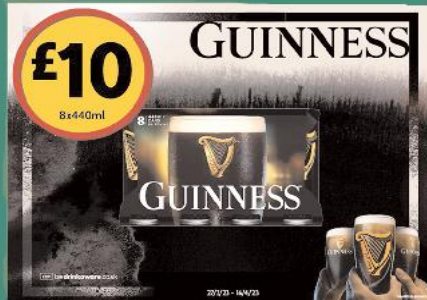


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# Evington Youth Club



Wonderful news! Evington Youth Club has been awarded a grant of £10,000 from the National Lottery Community Fund.



Thanks to this very generous grant we now have a whole set of new skylights and new lighting in the Sports Hall which will help to keep all the sporting activities dry and safe for many years to come.

Not long after the new roof was completed on the main section of the club building, one of the skylights in the adjacent Sports Hall was broken, possibly by a stray ball. All attempts to repair the skylight failed and then another skylight began to leak. To make matters worse, one of the Sports Hall lights was hit by another ball, creating a huge problem for its replacement. As a result of all these

difficulties, activities in the Sports Hall had to be limited, especially on wet and snowy days.

Thanks to the grant from the National Lottery Community Fund, EYC has been able to replace all the skylights and upgrade all the lighting to LED, with the result that the Sports Hall is once again able to provide the whole range of its sporting activities in a dry and safe environment.

We are particularly grateful to Wigston Roofing Ltd for the excellent work that they have done, including their research to find the best possible skylights to suit our purpose. The new skylights are double-skinned and 200 times stronger than glass so don't need a security grid to protect them from stray balls! We are also very grateful to Kneller and Kneller for the superb new LED lights that they have installed.

## More good news about funding!

Evington Youth Club are incredibly grateful to the Co-op Community Fund for a grant of £2,000 and to Sport England (via Active Together) for a grant of £1,500. Sport England is already funding coached table tennis sessions on Saturday mornings and has agreed to fund coached football/fitness sessions through their Let's Get Moving Together Fund on Friday evenings from the 28<sup>th</sup> April. The funding

from the Co-op Community Fund will enable the club to expand its range of youth fitness and sports activities dramatically in the coming months.

For further details about these exciting opportunities for young people to get active, make new friends and improve their health and wellbeing please visit [www.evingtonyouthclub.com](http://www.evingtonyouthclub.com)

Liz Warren



## BECOME A SCHOOL GOVERNOR

Oaklands School is Unique! We are a thriving and growing special school in Evington. We are looking for people to make a valuable contribution to the school by becoming a School Governor. This is a voluntary role and would suit someone in our local community who is interested in working as part of a team to support the school moving forward. You would have induction and support to understand the role and our current Governing body are a diverse team who are committed to ensuring that everyone's contributions are valued. To find out more about our school visit [www.oaklands.leicester.sch.uk](http://www.oaklands.leicester.sch.uk) or @OaklandsSchool\_

If you are interested in becoming a School Governor at Oaklands, please contact us at 0116 241 5921 or email: [office@oaklands.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:office@oaklands.leicester.sch.uk)  
Sarah Osborne

## INDOOR FOOTBALL AND FITNESS CAMP

Evington Youth Club launches Indoor Football and Fitness Training for boys and girls aged 8 to 16 with FA certified coaches including a female coach

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## Evington is in the top 5!

Data obtained by Leicestershire Live, using a Freedom of Information request, shows that Evington ward is in the top 5 wards.

This sounds like good news on the surface. I smell a rat though. Evington is the Leicester ward with the 4th highest rat infestation. You may not have spotted one but they are with us, nonetheless.

There is an adage that one is never more than 6ft away from a rat. However, the arithmetic for working out the average distance to a rat is a bit rough and ready because rodents are not evenly spread. Added to that is the distinction between the streetwise urban rat and its country cousin the rural rat. Where does that leave suburban Evington poised just on the Eastern edge of the city? Surely, our rats live in gentle suburbia – hiding in the long grass, stealing quality seeds and wholemeal breadcrumbs from bird tables, and nosing around ever so inquisitively in our detritus. Evington provides ample greenery in which they can hide. They make their own nests and hiding holes from almost anything including ubiquitous plastic. They venture out to compete with foxes, squirrels and badgers for tasty morsels left by us. Overall, with an abundance of food and shelter, life for an Evington rat is quite cushy and that's the problem.

### How can I deter those pesky pests?

We can help reduce the problem by not

scattering food for birds on the ground, and by always putting litter in a bin. Rinsing food containers before recycling also helps prevent rodents from being drawn to the smell of food. Sealing up tiny entry holes also deters them but remember if the rodent's head can poke through the whole body will surely follow. The rat has Houdini-like suppleness and flexibility and can limbo through the tiniest crack.

Try this website for more tips:

<https://bpca.org.uk/pest-advice/domestic>

### Pest Control

The city council runs a weekday pest control service and there is currently no charge for people who report a rat problem. No distinction of urban or suburban rats is made by the City Council which prefers to categorise (or should that be categorise?) rats as either living indoors or outdoors.

The council aims to respond to reports of indoor rats within 48 hours where possible and 15 working days for rats outside the home. If you find that you have been inadvertently co-habiting with a rodent or several then don't hesitate to go to [leicester.gov.uk](http://leicester.gov.uk) and enter 'pest' in the search bar.

### The Financial Cost

The Council spent a total of £165,970 in 2022 on dealing with rat problems and some of the worst affected areas were in Abbey, Belgrave, Rushey Mead. Evington

and North Evington.

### The Risk to Health

Around the world, rats and mice are known to spread over 35 diseases that can infect both people and pets, including: plague, salmonellosis and leptospirosis.

Harkesh Farma

## From John o Groats to Ghana

Neville Maggs visited Ghana in October 2022 for the official opening of the new classrooms he sponsored. Neville raised the money when he walked and ran from Lands End to John o'Groats in 2019.



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This Christian Aid Week we celebrate how our partners in Malawi are helping farmers transform their livelihoods using the humble but mighty pigeon pea: a drought-resistant, soil-revitalising, high-protein, low-cost, delicious crop.

Our partners in many areas of the world are well equipped with local knowledge to bring aid to those suffering through earthquakes as in Turkey and Syria working with Islamic Aid, or those in war-torn Ukraine in need of shelter and support.

We will be delivering gift envelopes in much of Evington, inviting you to either give online or take the envelope with your offering to Morrison's on Main Street. Thank you so much.

Chris Hossack



## Evington Village Fete and Show 2023

This takes place on Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup> from 12.00 – 5.00pm on the Village Green on Church Road. With a number of new attractions as well as some of the established favourites there will be fun for all the family as well as the show marquee featuring Evington's finest. Go to our website.

<http://www.evingtonvillagefete.uk> for all the details you need to enter your prize rhubarb, your superb cake, to say nothing of that art work. Hard copy brochures will be available from Bennett's hardware store on Main Street.

To be sure of having a stall make your booking now with Ian Palmer at [ianpalmer1@talktalk.net](mailto:ianpalmer1@talktalk.net) or give him a ring on 07968 692825.

If you have items for the tombola you wish to donate then contact Chris Hossack on 2415153 or [chris\\_hossack@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chris_hossack@yahoo.co.uk). If you would like to help either on the bookstall or selling raffle tickets then I would like to hear from you please. Hope to see you there. Chris Hossack. Chair of Fete Committee.

## Evington Local History and Heritage Group Programme 2023 Spring / Summer

April 19<sup>th</sup> The Making of Modern Lutterworth. Dr Pam Fisher. Victoria County History.

May 17<sup>th</sup> Electric Trams 1902. Cynthia Brown.

June 21<sup>st</sup> Visit to Thurnby. Walk starts from the Rose and Crown led by Judith and Michael Lord.

All meetings are held in the St Denys Parish Centre except the visit to Thurnby, and start at 2.30pm to 4.00pm.

Members pay £20 for a full year or £30 for a family ticket.

Those coming for an individual talk £3 on the door.

Later in the year, November 15<sup>th</sup>, Robin Jenkins from the Record Office will be speaking about the Base Hospital, the 5<sup>th</sup> Northern General Hospital R.A.M.C. (T) and its satellites, now the University of Leicester during the Great War, 1914-1918.



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Thursday	8am-10am	10am-6.30pm	6.30pm-8pm
Friday	8am-10am	10am-5pm	5pm-8pm
Saturday	-	10am-4pm	-
Sunday	-	Closed	-

To enjoy self-service access you must be registered and attend an induction at the library.

200 Evington Lane, LE5 6DH    0116 221 1286    [leicester.gov.uk/libraries](http://leicester.gov.uk/libraries)



### 19th Leicester (Evington) Scout Group

We have three sections according to age: Beavers for ages 6 to 8, Cubs for ages 8 to 10, and Scouts aged 11+. You can contact us in any of the following ways:  
Phone - 2209017.  
Email - [info@evingtonscouts.org.uk](mailto:info@evingtonscouts.org.uk)  
Facebook - search for Evington Scouts and send us a private message.

### 24th Leicester (St Philip's) Air Scout Group

We welcome new members, both boys and girls, to our group of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. We meet on Monday evenings at St. Philip's Church Hall. For more information, please contact: 2760457  
Email: [chrisandpeterhardy@btinternet.com](mailto:chrisandpeterhardy@btinternet.com)

### Evington Youth Club (EYC)

Open Saturday mornings from 10.30am - 12.30pm to all young people between 8 and 19 years. Table tennis, Chess club, Boxercise, etc. Cost/contribution £2 per session. Girls Can is on Tuesdays from 3.30pm - 4.30pm. [evingtonyouthclub.com/new-activities](http://evingtonyouthclub.com/new-activities)

### Evington Local History and Heritage Group

The local history group's next meeting is on Wednesday 15th February and then monthly on the third Wednesday of the month between 2.30pm and 4.00pm. Note the new time but same venue - St. Denys Church Parish Centre LE5 6FA. Free parking available. Membership £20 a year for 10 meetings, £3 for visitors per session. For more information contact John and Pauline Sloan. Tel: 2412210. email: [jandpsloan@gmail.com](mailto:jandpsloan@gmail.com)

### Evington Garden Club

For an interesting and entertaining afternoon, the club meets on the third Tuesday of the month, in the Village Hall, starting at 2.30pm until 4.15pm. Doors open 2.00pm. Free parking in the adjacent car park.

New membership would be most welcome. Visitors £2. Annual Membership £12. For any queries please phone

### Exercise Sessions in the Portacabin at Evington Leisure Centre

The Calming and Gentle exercise group with yoga used to meet in Evington Park House. Now they are meeting in the portacabin which is at the rear of the Leisure Centre. They meet on Thursdays between 11.00am and 12.00 noon. Sessions cost £2. Contact Mary on 07952 775449. Places are limited.

### Evington Park Bowls Club

This club is opening for 2023 season from Monday 17th April. The first three sessions are free on Mondays from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. Tel: Harry Pettman on 2204525 or Mrs. Min Ingram on 4828285.

### Women's Institute in Evington Village

Humberstone Heights and Belgrave Women's Institute hold their meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 2.00pm to 4.00pm at Evington Village Hall. Everyone is welcome with a view to joining. A very friendly welcome awaits you. For more information contact Josie Rowles Tel: 0792 220577.

### Leicester u3a Learn Laugh Live

For more information about Leicester u3a contact [publicity@leicesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:publicity@leicesteru3a.org.uk)

### Evington Library

#### Quilling and Crafts

This group now meet in Evington Library on Thursdays from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Pop in to see what they do.

**Walk in Parent and Toddler group.** Tuesdays from 10.00am to 12noon.

### Evington House Yoga at Mayflower Methodist Church Ethel Road, Leicester LE5 5E

Mondays 6.00 - 7.00pm with Manjula (Ladies only).  
Wednesday 6.00 - 7.00pm with Manjula (Ladies only). For more information tel: Manjula on 07448 732696.  
[manjula.odedra.yoga@gmail.com](mailto:manjula.odedra.yoga@gmail.com)

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### Bhangra Classes

Mondays: At Judgemeadow Community College for adults and children.  
Saturdays: at Hamilton Community. College for adults.  
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### Tai Chi

Thursdays 10.00-11.30am.  
Mayflower Methodist Church. £8.25 per session. For further information, contact Laraine on 0777 943 4742.  
Email: [larainetucker@icloud.com](mailto:larainetucker@icloud.com)

### Silver Swans Ballet Classes

(Over 55's) for Beginners through to Advanced. Thursday mornings at Evington Village Hall. For details please contact Vanessa on 0776 540 7323.  
[iebeeballet@hotmail.com](mailto:iebeeballet@hotmail.com)

### Evington Family History Group

Meetings are at St. Denys Parish Centre, Church Road, Evington, Leicester, LE5 6FA every Wednesday 10.00am to 12.00 noon. Car parking is available in the Church Car Park opposite the Church. Beginners welcome. For more details contact Judith Walmsley on 2764409.

### Goodwood Evangelical Church Gamel Road Leicester LE5 6TD

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Thursdays 7.45pm Prayer Meeting.  
For further details contact Stephen Taylor on 079022946004.  
[www.goodwoodevangelicalchurch.org.uk](http://www.goodwoodevangelicalchurch.org.uk)

### Evington Leisure Centre

Call in to see the range of fitness and swimming activities taking place.

### Evington Social Club

Every Wednesday from 11.00am to 1.00pm at The Cedars, Main Street. Evington.  
Tel: Renuka on 07514 202579.

### Evington Village Fete and Show 2023

Saturday 12th August 2023 on Evington Village Green from 12.00noon to 5.00pm.

### St. Denys Church LE5 6FA

'Monday Meet' meet every first and third Monday in the month, 2.00pm - 4.00pm in St. Denys Parish Centre. All welcome for chat, friendship, and refreshments.

'Coffee, Cake and Fellowship' meet every third Tuesday in the month, 10.00am - 12.00noon in St. Denys Parish Centre. All welcome to meet socially for a time of chat, friendship, and refreshments.

Cruse Bereavement Group meet every Tuesday evening, 7.30pm - 9.30pm in St. Denys Parish Centre and the church. Counselling and comfort offered in a friendly environment.

Youth Club alternating with Youth Music Group meet every Friday during term time, 7.00pm - 8.30pm in St. Denys Parish Centre and Church respectively.

Open Church Thursday morning. Refreshments and free wi-fi.

For the monthly pattern of services visit [www.stdenys.org.uk](http://www.stdenys.org.uk) or phone Qyan Arnachellum (Mr.) on 0780338228454. Easter Sunday services are on 9th April.

King Charles III Coronation on Saturday 6th May is being shown on the big screen in St. Denys Church.

Saturday 27th May at 10.00am there is a Coffee morning in aid of Diabetes Research in the Parish Centre next to the Church.

### Rummikub Club

Monday morning at The Cedars In Evington at 11.00am and we play the game Rummikub.

Rummikub is a tile based game with elements of the card game rummy and mahjong which can be played by 2-4 players.

Cost £1.50.  
For further information please contact Lesly on 2419096.

### My Word Poetry Group

This friendly group meet on Tuesdays at Blends Cafe Downing Drive 4.00pm to 5.30pm. Tel: 0780 449 5527 for more information. All welcome.

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