



Evington Echo

EvingtonEcho.uk

Issue 313

April and May 2025

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Keeping you up to date with Evington's news

The newspaper of Friends of Evington Charity No. 1205219

Artists at work at Headway

Volunteer artist, Helen Wilford, comes weekly to teach art and design at Headway. It's therapeutic art for the members, and carers are welcome to join in.

All paintings are saved and used for calendars, collage, cards or framed. Members choose pictures for inspiration. They paint in watercolour mainly but sometimes work on large canvases in acrylics, with the canvases donated by Alan Tanner's family in memory of him.

Staff also get inspiration from the ideas of this group and carry on with whatever members want to do - craft, woodwork, mosaics, sewing, gardening - anything that is feasible they will have a go and get a sense of achievement.

Established in 1990, Headway provides support services for adults with acquired brain injuries, their families and carers.

Written by Shenaz Rehman



Designed by
Jason Chauhan

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The Evington Echo is a project of the charity Friends of Evington. It is regulated by Impress. It is a member of the Independent Media Association.

| 2025 | Deadline - Fri. | Published -Thur |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| June/July | 16th May | 5th June |
| Aug. /Sept. | 18th July | 7th August |
| Oct./Nov. | 12th Sept. | 2nd Oct. |

VE Day in Evington

To celebrate the end of WWII in Europe

Thursday 8th May from 12 noon
Outside 11-13 Main Street LE56DN
 Outside Ginns and Gutteridge and Eden Cafe

Come and join this street party

Please bring food to share or make a donation to cover costs.

Organised by the Knit and Natter group and Friends of Evington with host Cllr. Zuffar Haq.

Another celebration will be VJ day on Friday 15th August.

The VE Day event on 8th May is with our local councillor, Zuffar Haq, who is working with Friends of Evington and the Knit and Natter group.

Editorial

This editorial highlights some ongoing and future activities of Friends of Evington in cooperation with partners, friends and the local authority. This incorporated charity manages this magazine, the Evington Echo website and Evington in Bloom, which promotes community and environmental activities in the Evington area.

The weekly lunch club at St. Denys Parish Centre is part of Best Community Charity's ongoing commitment, in partnership with Friends of Evington, to foster social connections in Leicester. There is now a waiting list for this group.

The Fun, Fitness, Zumba Dance group is led by Jyoti who is a very experienced instructor (see poster on page 3). Places are still available.

Evington residents are being consulted on their views about how the special character of Evington's Conservation Area (one of 25 in Leicester City) should be preserved or enhanced.

The advertisements below invite you to two events - A Consultation Drop-In on 30th April from 5.00pm to 8.00pm at St. Denys Parish Centre and a Patch Walk on Thursday 1st May from 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

Linked to the proposed new management plan, the Leicester City Council is also consulting on introducing a new Article 4 Direction. This would give the Council more powers to help protect the distinctive character of properties in this area. There are minor changes proposed to the conservation area boundary as well.

The Council has also recently confirmed new Article 4 Directions for the conservation areas in Braunstone and Knighton villages, introduced after similar consultations and as part of new management plans for these areas which were published last autumn. A range of other enhancement works to those areas has been completed, including new signage, removal of street clutter, fencing repairs, new planting and other improvements.

The consultation runs from Monday 31st March to Monday 12th May and documents can be viewed at www.leicester.gov.uk/consultations

Public Drop-In Consultation

About Evington's Conservation area stretching from Evington Park in the North to Shady Lane in the South.

Date: Wednesday 30th April

Time: 5.00pm to 8.00pm

Venue: St. Denys Parish Centre LE5 6FA

Leicester City Council staff will give a presentation and be available to answer questions.



Patch Walk in Evington Village

Join Cllr. Deepak Bajaj and LCC Officer Justin Webber (Interim Historic Environment Team Leader for Planning, Development and Transportation) on a walk around Evington's Conservation Area.

Date: Thursday 1st May

Time: 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Meeting venue: Evington Library
 200 Evington Lane, LE5 6DH

R.S.V.P. 07910431044



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R.O.S.E.

Return Our Services to Evington Village



An Action Team has been established to fight for the re-establishment of our services, including the GP branch surgery and pharmacy. These services were removed without proper consideration of the consequences and without proper due diligence of the alternatives.

We aim to have a rolling programme of actions and events during 2025 to persuade the Integrated Care Board (the NHS Local body) and the City Council, who could have intervened under powers bestowed on them by Parliament in January 2024, to rethink this.

We cannot do it without people power as we are simply a body of concerned citizens. WE NEED YOU to help us get the services you deserve back into the locality. There are GPs willing to re-establish our local service, but the integrated Care Board is standing in their way and the City Council stands idly by.

Our plans include:

1. A Series of questions to Full Council
2. A Series of questions to Health Scrutiny Board
3. A Log of individual cases of 'hardship', service deficit
4. A Survey of traders
5. A Petition from traders
6. A Survey of constituents
7. A Petition from constituents
8. News briefings
9. Publications
10. A Series of protest actions at:
 - a. ICB Meetings County Hall
 - b. Leicester City Full Council
 - c. Evington Village
11. Letters from constituents to:
 - a. Leicester City Council (LCC)
 - b. The Integrated Care Board (ICB)
 - c. NHS England

Questions to Full Council and The Health Scrutiny Board will be agreed by the Action Team. We are looking for residents willing to pose these questions, contribute examples of hardships faced by the loss of the local surgery and pharmacy, join the protests, actions and/or submit letters drafted personally and/or by the Action Team, to:

The City Council

The Integrated Care Board

NHS England or post them to roseevington@gmail.com

For more information contact: roseevington@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR EVINGTON ECHO

For delivery rounds at: * Harringworth Road and Nelot Way 100 copies and * Davenport Road 120 copies. Please can you help. Please contact Chris Hossack on 2415153.



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Helen (admin.) on 07910431044

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LETTERS

CHURNED UP VERGES



Dear Editor,
During the closure of Spencefield Lane for gas pipe repairs, impatient motorists churned up many verges along the Goodwood Road Bee corridor. I was able to report this on my Love Clean Streets app. and was told Parks and Open Spaces will be repairing this when weather conditions allow. Money should be spent on maintaining the biodiversity habitat of this area. Thoughtless motorists cause backward steps in our necessary work to improve habitats for our pollinating bees and other insects/pollinators.
Name and address supplied.

POTHOLES

Dear Editor,
The Common, Evington.



This pothole is so deep that I fear for any vehicle driving over it. Shady Lane has many more with the recent local road closures but this is by far the worst.

Margot Fawcett
from Linden Drive

Editorial note: This pothole was reported on the Love Clean Streets app.

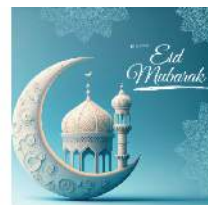


Evington Park Bowls Club

Evington Park Bowls Club is situated near the tennis courts in Evington Park. It is a friendly club, open to visitors and new members who will find a warm welcome. There are three qualified coaches and the club is able to loan equipment if anyone wishes to try the game. Flat-soled shoes, such as trainers, are required.

Bowls Bash Open Days will take place on Sunday 25th May and Monday 26th May
The club will be open from 2.00pm to 4.00pm and anyone can drop in during this time to try the game.

For more information contact Min on 07815073223 or Harry on 07909890377.



Goodwood Islamic Centre

EID MUBARAK

On the eve of the holy month of Ramadan Mr Najeeb Patel, Chairman and Ameer of Goodwood Islamic Centre, issued a timely reminder about social responsibility. The homily was in the form of a circular sent to Muslims generally but his appeal for responsible citizenship applies to us all. Our sharing of the community space we call Evington and Goodwood means we have responsibility towards the environment and to each other.

A Fresh Start

For many Muslims Ramadan is a time for a personal review, reflection and a reset. In this spirit of renewal, Mr Patel exhorted believers to "refine behaviour" and he referred to such secular matters as "irresponsible parking". He gave examples of complaints about "reckless parking on pedestrian crossings, blocking driveways and parking on grass verges".

Eid Mubarak

He appealed to us all to be mindful of others and he wished all Muslims a Ramadan full of peace and positive transformation. By the time you read this Ramadan will have passed and Muslims will be marking Eid. We wish all those celebrating Eid a joyful time. Thanks are due to the Ameer for his timely reminder about social responsibility.

Harkesh Farma

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Customers of Hunters Fish Bar on Welland Vale Road have long valued the quality of the food – noting the crispiness of the batter, the freshness of the fish and the generous

portions of chips. We checked the online customer reviews and most customers were unstinting in their praise.

It is with sadness and regret, therefore, that we must report that the owners, Johnny and Kit, have taken the decision to cease trading for personal reasons after over 11 years of dedicated service.

Although the last day of opening was the 23rd February, the couple remained in Evington in March to wind down the business.

Message to customers past and present: Johnny and Kit gave this statement to the Echo:

“As we prepare to close our doors for the final time, we express our heartfelt gratitude for your continuous loyalty and kindness throughout the years. It has meant the world to us and how wonderful to have been part of the Evington community!”

The Friends of Evington will continue to support local businesses and we wish Johnny and Kit all the best.



H. Farma

EVINGTON VILLAGE CONVENIENCE (NISA LOCAL) 38-40 MAIN STREET, EVINGTON LE5 6DL



This store, under new management, is keen to help the local community. Karan Gorania, owner and manager, says, “We are on the waiting list for a cash machine, but in the meantime we offer cash back to local businesses and customers in order to help alleviate some of the difficulties caused by the relocation of the Post Office from Evington Village.”



THANK YOU KNIT AND NATTER GROUP



A big ‘Thank you’ to the Knit and Natter group for these two beautifully knitted ‘toppers’ that add a wow factor to Evington Village. The Valentine Day topper is on display inside the Eden Cafe and the Easter topper is on the postbox in Main Street.

Please visit Evington Village, enjoy its heritage, shops and walks in Evington Park, St. Denys churchyard and the adjoining heritage moated site (through the gate in the churchyard) and beyond that to the Arboretum.





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REFRESHMENTS



2nd HAND BOOK STALL



Raising funds to support community gardening in Evington

Contact: diane@growtogether.org.uk

RHS AFFILIATED SOCIETY CHARITY NO: 1193728

CLLR. ZUFFAR HAQ'S REPORT



These are some of the tasks I have undertaken during the last few weeks as an Evington Ward Councillor.

* Supported by my team, Nitesh Dave and Farida Patel, my Saturday surgery for residents continues to take place on Saturdays at 11 o'clock at the Eden café in Evington.

* Have attended council meetings at the Town Hall and City Hall and surgeries for residents, at the Evington library.

* Attended the Rehma Mercy anniversary charity event.

* Attended the Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration event.

* Trying to get more funding for Leicester's NHS hospitals now. All our neighbouring cities have already had funding for the NHS and over recent years have had new state of the art hospitals built. Leicester was promised funding to upgrade our hospitals several years ago. Sadly this funding date has been pushed further and further ahead and we are missing out on upgrades to our hospital buildings, equipment and services. Leicester deserves better!

* Attended the launch event of "A world

of colour and Emotion" at Leicester Museum and Art Gallery.

* Having recently visited the LRI and seen the huge number of patients in A&E and on the wards. I organised a coffee van to visit as a thank you to the hard-working staff who are stretched to the limit.

* Invited as a speaker on BBC Radio Leicester talking about Cancelled Operations and Radio Ramadan about Fostering.

* Visited a Ramadan Festival.

I continue to carry out casework, leading from residents' requests for help or support with issues or problems that concern them.

I attended a meeting regarding the proposed cancellation of transport for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), to oppose the withdrawal of this service.

At the Ward meeting, the agenda included a presentation given by the Golden Token community group, from Rowatts Hill, about the services they offer. Also an update from the Highways and Housing Departments.

I continue to actively support our local schools and keep them informed about potential funding and other opportunities.

I'm still being approached by residents who are very concerned and upset by closure of the doctors' surgery and pharmacy in Evington and have arranged to meet with members of the Integrated Care Board about this unsatisfactory situation.

I continue to work hard to support residents and communities in our area.

Early Notice

EVINGTON IN BLOOM GARDENING COMPETITIONS

Calling all green fingered residents. We are launching 2025 gardening competitions.

Whether you have a full-blown lawn with flowerbeds or a selection of hanging baskets and pots - everyone can enter.

Best overall garden - Prize £25

Most creative use of space

Prize £25

Best young gardener (under 16)

Prize £25

Tallest sunflower - Prize £25

To enter any of these competitions, please email 3 photos of your garden, yourself or sunflower with relevant information to evingtoninbloom@gmail.com

Please include your name, address and contact number.

Closing date of entry is 31st August.

An Evington in Bloom panel will judge all entries in the first week of September 2025.



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Ward Evington



Surgery Details
Evington Library
Evington Lane LE5 6DH
1st Tuesday of each month
4.00pm - 5.30pm

Surgeries provide an opportunity for any ward resident to talk with their councillor and discuss a particular concern or issue. You can also contact your councillor directly if you need to, outside surgery times.

The full list of councillors is available on
leicester.gov.uk/councillors

Cllr. Deepak Bajaj
 deepak.bajaj@leicester.gov.uk
07976096183

Cllr. Jerry Johnson
 jerry.johnson@leicester.gov.uk
07742766461

Cllr. Zuffar Haq
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Accessibility

The building is accessible by wheelchair users with a ramp and an automatic door entry system. Assistance from staff is available on request. As well as English, Manager Nadeem can communicate in Urdu and Hindi.

This branch has a low payment counter including clip boards, dropdown counter. Assistance dogs are welcome. Hearing assistance is available including induction loops.

We wish Nadeem and the business well and hope it will remain a feature of the local shopping parade for a long time. Let's support our local services to secure their long-term future.

H Farma



ST DENYS CHURCH LIGHTS

After many years of planning we have finally installed pathway lights in the churchyard. This has only been possible thanks to very generous donations by members of the church and people from the wider community.

To give thanks for this we are having a "Songs of Praise and Thanks Giving" on Saturday 12 April at 3.00pm in the church. You are all cordially invited to this event. We also welcome your suggestions for songs or poems on the theme of light that could be included in the event. It would be wonderful if people from the Evington community came along to celebrate this milestone.

Michael White



This newly opened café is next to St. Joseph's Church, 409 Uppingham Road. The entrance is in St. Joseph's Church car park. The café opened on 2nd February 2025.

The business owner, Natasha Kelly, rents the space from St. Joseph's Church. She said, "This opportunity came at a time in my life when I was looking for a challenge like this, as my children are grown up. I have worked in catering for 27 years, but now I'm managing my own independent



project, which I love. If you have suggestions, please contact me."

Twelve users were extremely complementary, commending this café for its good food at reasonable prices, friendly and relaxed atmosphere and helpful and efficient service. Others added that it was a fabulous addition to this area, with pleasant staff who are extremely helpful, adding that the café has good access for the disabled.

The café is open from Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 12noon and Saturdays from 9.00am to 12noon. Contact Natasha (Nash) by mobile on 07985235244 or email theolivebranchleicester@gmail.com for more information.
Helen Pettman



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The Golden Token Youth Club was previously a shop at 41 Radstone Walk, now given a new life by being converted into a vital community centre for the people of Rowlatts Hill. Founded by Dujana Nasir, it provides somewhere for locals both young and old to stay and connect, and offers the practical help necessary to improve the lives and futures of the young people living there. The facilities on-site include a seating area and kitchenette, teaching area, computer hub and

even a pool table for all to use. While this community centre had started off as a small project of a university student, it has met success in its primary goal of getting the local young people off the streets, and now even attracts attendees from wider areas too.

HILLSIDE UNITED

This youth club offers a variety of activities for its young people to allow them access to work and personal development through helping them build life skills and confidence. A weekly football club has been set up by Golden Token for the local kids, who have named their team 'Hillside United', using Humberstone Park to meet up and play every Saturday, for 10 year olds. For Ala, the football club has become one of her favourite activities to come from the centre, and she has made many friends and even learnt how to play pool!

SKILLS GUIDANCE

It also aids in improving the employability of young people from the ages of 16 to 20 years old, by giving them access to online certifications, first aid course certificates, and in-person help in improving CVs to really showcase their skills. What Golden Token wants to achieve through programmes like this, is to allow young people access to real-life opportunities and give them a sustainable future in work and employment. Great importance is placed on mentoring and giving the youth a place to develop themselves in their own way, as shown through their entrepreneurship programme, which provides advice, guidance, and grants of up to £100 per person to the club's own young people, to help them start their own businesses and find success in whichever industry they set their sights on. Further help is provided, focused on improving young people's digital skills in an increasingly digital world.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Visits from police have been organised to help foster trust between the youth and law enforcement, in addition to much more community work, such as providing local refugee support, help filling in forms, and making a place for kids to hang out and creatively express themselves through making music such as rap. The main focus at this youth club isn't on any particular race, religion, or interpersonal differences, but rather on fostering an environment of both diversity and community inclusion.



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The Golden Token Youth Club continued

MAPPING A PATH TO SUCCESS

Dujana Nasir - also known as DJ - is the founder of Golden Token and of this centre, contributing much of his own time and resources into converting an old shop into a vibrant and useful community centre. As an economics student, he used his own money and loans to build up this centre from scratch with the aid of a few friends. While he used to live in Highfields, when he moved to Rowlatts Hill, he found the state of the neighbourhood in need of action, and what he wanted to do was help out young people by fixing the root cause of the problem to reduce antisocial behaviour and give them a path to make themselves successful.

MENTORING

He draws inspiration for this club from his own youth and the help that he received, which allowed him to fulfill his potential with his GCSEs and go on to study at university. DJ states that he was drawn into social work out of necessity and a desire to improve his own local area. He is



now joined by many volunteers, including Ariyan, who helps out with running the sessions that the community centre offers, such as coaching football. A

local mother, Indy, says the community centre has helped the progression of the

area for young people by providing a secure place for them with mentors that really bring out the kids' own lively personalities.

YOUTH VOICES MATTER

What Golden Token Youth Club really wants is to inspire young people and 'show kids their voice matters' by allowing them to give their own opinions in a space in which they will be heard, to then allow them to grow into practical and successful young adults. However, this community centre still remains a modest, grassroots organisation focused on doing what they can with the resources they can get, meaning that the more they have access to, the greater the impact they can have across residents of all walks of life. Since the area of Rowlatts Hill is composed primarily of council housing and divided between two wards, this has caused a barrier to funding that could be really appreciated when trying to keep a community centre based around reducing the level of local antisocial behaviour and making a real difference in the lives of young people thriving.

A FUN DAY IN JULY

Amongst aims to expand their impact across a wider range of expertise that the current volunteers don't have access to, Golden Token hopes to set up Rowlatts Hill's first ever 'Family Fun Day' in the coming July, a plan reliant on further support from community charities, agencies, and councillors, that would include various food stalls, entertainment and fun activities for children, as well as providing another way to secure funding for the vital community centre to ramp up its effect.

Zayba Dawson

BREAKING FAST AN IFTAR IN THE STREET



'The City Retreat' organised this Iftar on Churchgate, Leicester on 13th March. The fast was broken at 6.08pm. Healthy food and bottles of water were donated to participants, who were welcomed from all backgrounds. Speeches emphasised the reasons for fasting and the philosophy of sharing, kindness and inclusiveness, that this mosque promotes. This was the first outdoor Iftar in Leicester's City Centre.

DONATING FOOD



One of many donations taking place in Evington during Ramadan. This picture shows a member of staff with the food packs she provided for the members at Headway. She is giving food gifts during Ramadan.

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WHAT'S THE NUMERICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF 2025?

Kalpesh Nagar is Head of Mathematics at Moat Community College and he has strong personal connections with Evington. He shares some fascinating and fun facts about the number 2025.

2025 is a PERFECT SQUARE

$$45^2 = 45 \times 45 = 2025$$

(The next year to be a perfect square is 91 years away! $46^2 = 2116$... wow!)

- 2025 = Sum of three squares
 $5^2 + 20^2 + 40^2 = 2025$

- 2025 = Sum of cube numbers from 1-9
 $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + 4^3 + 5^3 + 6^3 + 7^3 + 8^3 + 9^3 = 2025$

- 2025 is a Harshad Number (aka Niven number)

2025 is divisible by the sum of its digits: $2 + 0 + 2 + 5 = 9$

$$2025/9 = 225$$

$$92 \times 52 = 2025$$

Mathematical meaning is one of several types of importance we can attach to numbers. This could be our birth year or that of our loved ones. It could be a key historical date such as 1066, 1914 or 1939. As we enter Spring let's look forward with hope and optimism to 2025 and make it a year to remember (for good reasons).

2025

Kid's Stuff in Evington - is your group here?

Hamilton Air Cadets Mon. & Thurs. 7.00pm - 9.30pm Tel: 2416559.

Woodcraft groups in Leicester cath.brownhome@ntlworld.com

Evington Youth Club Football practice Fri. 7.30pm - 8.30pm and Saturday.

Youth Club - Basketball, Chess, Pool and Table Tennis 10.30am-12.30pm.

Neptune Swimming Club Tel: 299 5575.

Scouts' groups (See Scouts section on page 15).

Roundhill Tennis Club Mon. evenings and Sat. mornings Tel: 07521 694 241.

Golden Token Goldentoken.co.uk info.goldentoken@gmail.com Tel: 07883873031.

"BRILLIANT, FUN AND EXCITING"

These were the words eight-year-old Jasmine used when talking about Beaver Scouts.

At an open event held recently, the 33rd/65th Leicester Scout Group, based in Wigley Road, facilitated activities for all age ranges. Archery, darts (using foam balls), fires, toasting marshmallows and making popcorn were just a handful of the choices children, young people and adults could try. The Group has Beavers (boys and girls aged 6 to 8), Cubs (boys and girls aged 8 to 10), Scouts (boys and girls aged 10 to 14) and Explorers (boys and girls aged 14 to 17).

The Group have opportunities for children and young people to join any of the sections and are also looking for more volunteers. Eryn (14) and Joshua (15) said that the best things about being involved in Explorers are camping, having fun, fire lighting, learning survival skills, working towards their Duke of Edinburgh award and making new friends. Eryn added, "I've built my confidence and made new friends very quickly. We get an opportunity to plan the programme and decide what activities we'd like to do."

Anit, a volunteer with the Group said, "I got involved when my children joined. It's great to see the fun the children have and to see them grow and develop. Scouts teaches the children good values. I've really enjoyed helping the children. If you want to help young people, it's the best place to be."

In a recent report, Steph Simmons said, "Joining Scouts will lead to lasting memories and thrilling experiences for children which will expand their self-belief, helping them realise there's nothing they can't achieve whilst having fun. Whether it's camping under the stars, navigating obstacle courses, canoeing on a river or participating in international jamborees, Scouts enjoy an array of exciting activities that fuel their sense of adventure."

For further information about the Group please email: terencesamuel@hotmail.co.uk Also check the information on page 15.



**Evington Bowls Club
Bowls Bash Open Days
Sunday 25th May and
Monday 26th May
2,00pm - 4.00pm**

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A Spring Walk Through Evington Photographs by Harbhajan Lotay



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BAN PESTICIDES IN URBAN AREAS



The local Friends of the Earth committee, who have many members in Evington, have been campaigning to have pesticides banned in parks, in order to help our bees and other pollinators. They are supported by Climate Action, Leicester and other local environmental groups. and are now letting you know that Greenpeace have launched a petition asking for pesticides to be banned in urban areas.

Editorial Comment

Let's all work together. In 2018, Leicester City Council invited Nick Packham from Buglife to come and teach Park staff, University staff and a range of volunteers about the environments and plant biodiversity needed for habitats that help bees and other pollinators. We have a bee-line in Evington that runs parallel to Goodwood Road and St. Denys Road. There are Leicester Environmental Volunteers that help working with LCC officers as well as 10 'It's Your Neighbourhood' groups in Evington alone and one Bloom group affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society and East Midlands in Bloom.

So we ask Leicester City Council, please don't use pesticides in Parks and Open Spaces and please support the campaign to stop pesticide use in urban areas.

Some links:
<https://action.greenpeace.org.uk/protect-our-pollinators>
friendsoftheearth.uk//climate/urgent-



case-big-climate-plan
buglife.org.uk/projects/urban-buglife-leicester/

Locally there is:
leicesterfriendsoftheearth.blogspot.com,
[climate action at www.climateactionleicesterandleicestershire.org.uk](http://climateactionatwww.climateactionleicesterandleicestershire.org.uk)
 Go to evingtonecho.co.uk to search for links using any of the key words in this article.

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JUDGEMEADOW COMMUNITY COLLEGE HOSTS A STEM-CELL DRIVE

Staff and students at Judgemeadow Community College in Evington have joined together with charity DKMS (an international, non-profit making organisation focussed on fighting blood cancer) to support a national campaign to find a matching donor for Shenaz Ossman, a grandmother undergoing blood cancer treatment.

Matches are more likely to come from individuals with a similar ethnic background to Shenaz.

The drive took place at Judgemeadow throughout the day with more than 100 potential donors having swabs taken. The students alongside members of staff played a key role by helping attendees register and supporting DKMS volunteers. The school also delivered a workshop prior to the donation drive to educate the student volunteers about blood cancer and the need for donors and the importance of initiatives supporting efforts to increase donor registration.

Liam Christopher, Donor Recruitment Manager at DKMS said, "We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone at Judgemeadow Community College - students, staff and leaders - who came together to make this event a success. Each new addition to the registry brings hope and a potential second chance for someone in need of a lifesaving transplant. For those who couldn't join us on the day, it's never too late to make a difference - order your free swab kit today at DKMS.org.uk/register-now.



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DIRECTORY OF MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SERVICES

If you have a smartphone, just point your camera at the code and then tap the yellow code underneath to find a comprehensive list of services.

This digital directory has been compiled by young people for children, young people and their parents/carers. It offers connections to a huge number of local mental, health and wellbeing services in addition to selected national organisations and websites.

It is a tool to enable quick, easy access to the support services out there.

This directory was commissioned by the Integrated Care Board for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and the agent is the Documentary Media Centre.




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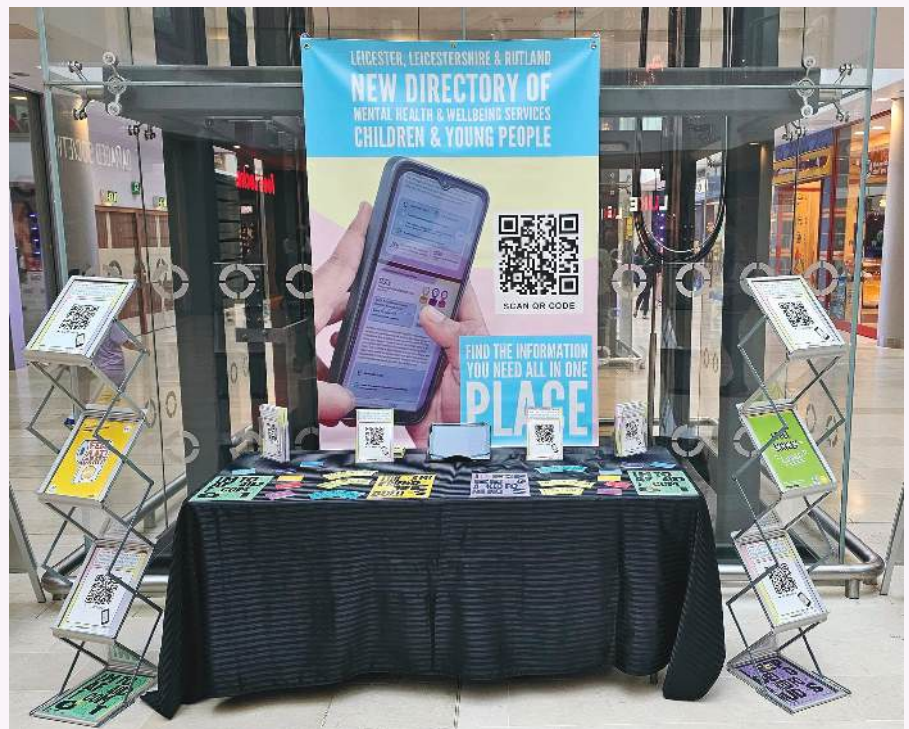
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CARTER FOR THE BIG 'UN

Ali Carter is a good, clean potter, one of the best in the game (along with Ronnie O'Sullivan and Mark Williams) and a strong breakbuilder. He has got a solid safety game too and is a 6 time ranking tournament winner.

I think he still concedes frames too easily when he only needs 1 or 2 snookers and doesn't scrap some of the frames out when he should.

A prime example of this came in the World Championships a few years ago when he played Gary Wilson in Quarter finals. For me, he conceded too easily in at least 2 frames if not 3 (a bit more scrap in them and who knew?).

He had of course defeated O'Sullivan by 13 frames to 9 in the second round of the 2018 tournament. If he could take O'Sullivan he could Wilson surely. He also ran O'Sullivan fairly close in the 2024 Masters final, nip and tuck with him for most of it and has runnered up two World finals to him in 2008 and 2012. For some reason I thought they would be back to contest the World Final that year but it never materialised. He's due one with O'Sullivan and good luck to him.

An encouraging semi-final run and a good match with Stephen Maguire in the Welsh Open along with a World Open semi final (victory over Jack Lisowski 5-4 in round 2)

shows that Carter might just be returning to form at the right time.

So what of the others? Well, it was very much Shaun Murphy's Masters this year, as well as he's played in a tournament in a long while and a maximum down in it as well.

Kyren Wilson has 3 Ranking titles this season and is the defending World Champion while David Gilbert ran the semi final in 2019 (a cracker with John Higgins which he probably should have won) and again in 2024. Could he be a dark horse? He plays attacking, good to watch snooker on his day.

I remember Jack Lisowski playing in the best 2 matches of the 2022 World Championships, both of them going all the way, 13-12 over Neil Robertson then down by the same scoreline to John Higgins in the Quarter Finals. A very fluent potter and breakbuilder on his day. An interesting match came in Round 2 of the World Open between Ali Carter and Jack Lisowski with Carter prevailing by 5 frames to 4.

Mark Selby has won it 4 times, runnered it up in 2023 and has won the Welsh Open recently while Ronnie O'Sullivan hasn't played all season but is good enough and daft enough to win.

Steve Billingham



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So please pop along and speak to a member of our team at any one of the local pop-up housing offices. We will be open at 11.00am to 3.00pm every week from March 2025 onwards.
See table below.

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| New Parks Library 121 Aikman Avenue LE3 9PW | Tuesday | 11am - 3pm |
| Tudor Centre Bewcastle Grove LE4 2JU | Tuesday | 11am - 3pm |
| Pork Pie Library Southfields Drive LE2 6QS | Wednesday | 11am - 3pm |
| The BRITE Centre 130 Braunstone Avenue LE3 1LE | Wednesday | 11am - 3pm |
| St. Matthews Centre 10 Malabar Road LE1 2PD | Thursday | 11am - 3pm |
| Thurnby Lodge Community Centre Thurncourt Road LE5 2NG | Thursday | 11am - 3pm |

ST. DENYS CHURCH LE5 6FA

Every Sunday 10.00am (except 4th May when the service will be Matins) Holy Communion with hymns followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre.

Thursdays on 10th April, 1st May, 22nd May, 5th June said Holy Communion Other Thursdays Holy Communion or Morning Prayer. 10.00am.

Evensong: Sunday 18th May 4.00pm.

Holy Week services are as follows:

Palm Sunday 13th April, 9.45am, with on street procession and service of Holy Communion in church with Bishop Saju
Monday 14th April, 6.00pm, Compline via Zoom (e-mail the church office for log in details)

Tuesday 15th April, 6.00pm, Compline

Wednesday 16th April, 6.00pm, Compline

Maundy Thursday 17th April, 10.00am, Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday 17th April, 6pm, Holy Communion with foot washing

Good Friday 18th, 10.00am, Activity morning for families (see Crafty Church Advert)

Good Friday 18th, 2.00pm, 'The Last Hour' meditation

Easter Day 20th, 6.00am Dawn service

Easter Day, 10.00am, Holy Communion
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SCOUT GROUPS

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
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

115 Leicester Scout Group

We meet every week on Saturday mornings. We are based at Coleman Neighbourhood Centre LE5 4ES for Beavers 6-8, Cubs 8-10.5, Scouts 10.5 - 14, Explorers 14 - 18.
E-mail: 115thleicesterscouts@gmail.com
www.scouts.org.uk
Instagram:@115leicesterscouts

MEETINGS AT EVINGTON VILLAGE HALL LE5 6DN

Attitude 4 Dance

Dance classes for children aged 3 upwards and an adult, ladies only, tap class. All based at Evington Village Hall. For more information contact Nicola on nicfb123@hotmail.co.uk

Evington Garden Club

Meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Evington Village Hall from 2.30pm. As usual visitors are welcome. Further information tel: Merrick Yates on 2705950.

15th April Scents and Sensibility
Stephen Ashpole

20th May The National Garden Scheme
John Frazer
No meeting in June and July.
The full programme for 2025 is available on request.

Fun , Fitness and Zumba Dance Exercises

Move with Jyoti Patel. (New group). Every Monday 6.30pm to 7.30pm. Jyoti is an experienced tutor. £3.00 a session.
For more information telephone 07910431044.

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 Barbara Garlick on 07713804407.

Silver Swans Ballet Classes

Sessions are held on Thursday morning from 9.15am through to 12.45pm. For more information about joining a class, please contact Vanessa on 07765 407323.
nelliebeeswans@gmail.com
www.nelliebeeballet.co.uk

Bhangra Classes

Mondays: At Judgemeadow Community College for adults and children.
Saturdays: at Hamilton Community College for adults. Tel: Preet on 07525153284.

Visit the new website at www.evingtonecho.uk

ST. DENYS PARISH CENTRE LE5 6FA

Monday Meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays in the month 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Tea and chat.

Lily House Bereavement Support. Tuesday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.30pm For more information contact 0755 289 4993. Please leave your name and phone number and your call will be returned.

Evington Local History and Heritage Group.

Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday in the month from 2.30pm to 4.00pm. £3.00 a session for visitors. includes coffee and tea. £20 a year for members. The next sessions: Wednesday 9th April and 14th May.

Gentle Exercise Group meet weekly on Thursdays from 10.30am to 11.30am. Please telephone if you would like to join this group. A waiting list will apply. Tel. 07910431044.

Lunch Club on Wednesdays at the Parish Centre. (Now full.)

THE CEDARS LE5 6DN

Rummikub Club

Monday morning 11.00am. Rummikub is a board game. £1.50 includes a tea or coffee and a biscuit.

Evington Social Club

Every Wednesday from 11.00am to 1.00pm at The Cedars, Main Street, Evington. £1.50 with tea, coffee, biscuits provided. Tel: Renuka on 07514 202579.

Evington Scrabble Group

Every Thursday from 11.00am to 1.00pm at The Cedars, Main Street, Evington. £1.50 with tea, coffee, biscuits provided.
Tel: Lesly on 2419096.

Nordic Walking

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Evington House Yoga at Mayflower Methodist Church, Ethel Road, LE5 5ND

Mondays 6.00 - 7.00pm with Manjula (Ladies).
Wednesday 6.00 - 7.00pm with Manjula (Ladies). Tel: Manjula on 07448 732696.
manjula.odedra.yoga@gmail.com

IN TOUCH RUGBY (MEN ONLY)

at Judgemeadow Community College, Evington LE5 6HP.

An indoor walking touch rugby group for men aged 18+. Visit www.llrmind.org or just turn up for a game, a drink and a catch-up.

Ward Surgeries

The Evington Echo is delivered in Evington ward, and parts of Stoneygate ward and North Evington ward.

All information about dates and times your councillors are available can be found at www.leicester.gov.uk. If you find this difficult to look up, do ask at your local library. They will be able to let you know who your councillors are. Councillors are there to help their constituents, so there are phoning options if you can't make a surgery time.

PLANT SALE

Evington Village Hall Monday 5th May
10.00am - 3.00pm
Also books and refreshments

See advertisement on page 5.

CONSERVATION INFORMATION MEETINGS

1. Public Drop In Wednesday 30th April at St. Denys Parish Centre 5pm - 8pm
2. Patch Walk Thursday 1st May at 6.30pm. Meet at Evington Library.
See advertisements on page 2.

VE DAY IN EVINGTON TO CELEBRATE THE END OF WWII

Thursday 8th May 12 noon onwards on Main Street, Evington Village

See details on page 2.

BOWLS BASH OPEN DAYS

Sunday 25th May and Monday 26th May
2.00pm - 4.00pm drop in.
Evington Bowls Club (near the tennis courts in Evington Park.
See advertisement on page 4

THE NATIONAL FOREST WALKING FESTIVAL

16th - 26th May
www.thenationalforestwalkingfestival.org.uk

EDEN CAFE LE5 6DN

Eden's Knit and Natter Group

Tuesdays 12 noon at the Eden Café Bar, Main Street. Tel. Barbara on 077 138 04407.

Evington Family History Group

Meetings are at the Eden Café Bar, 11 Main Street, every Wednesday 10.00am to 12.00 noon. Tel: Barbara on 077 138 04407.

EVINGTON YOUTH CLUB (EYC)

THE COMMON, EVINGTON LE5 6EA

On Friday evenings from 7.30pm to 8.30pm there are special football sessions open to all young people aged 8 to 14.

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For more information visit info@evingtonyouthclub.com

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