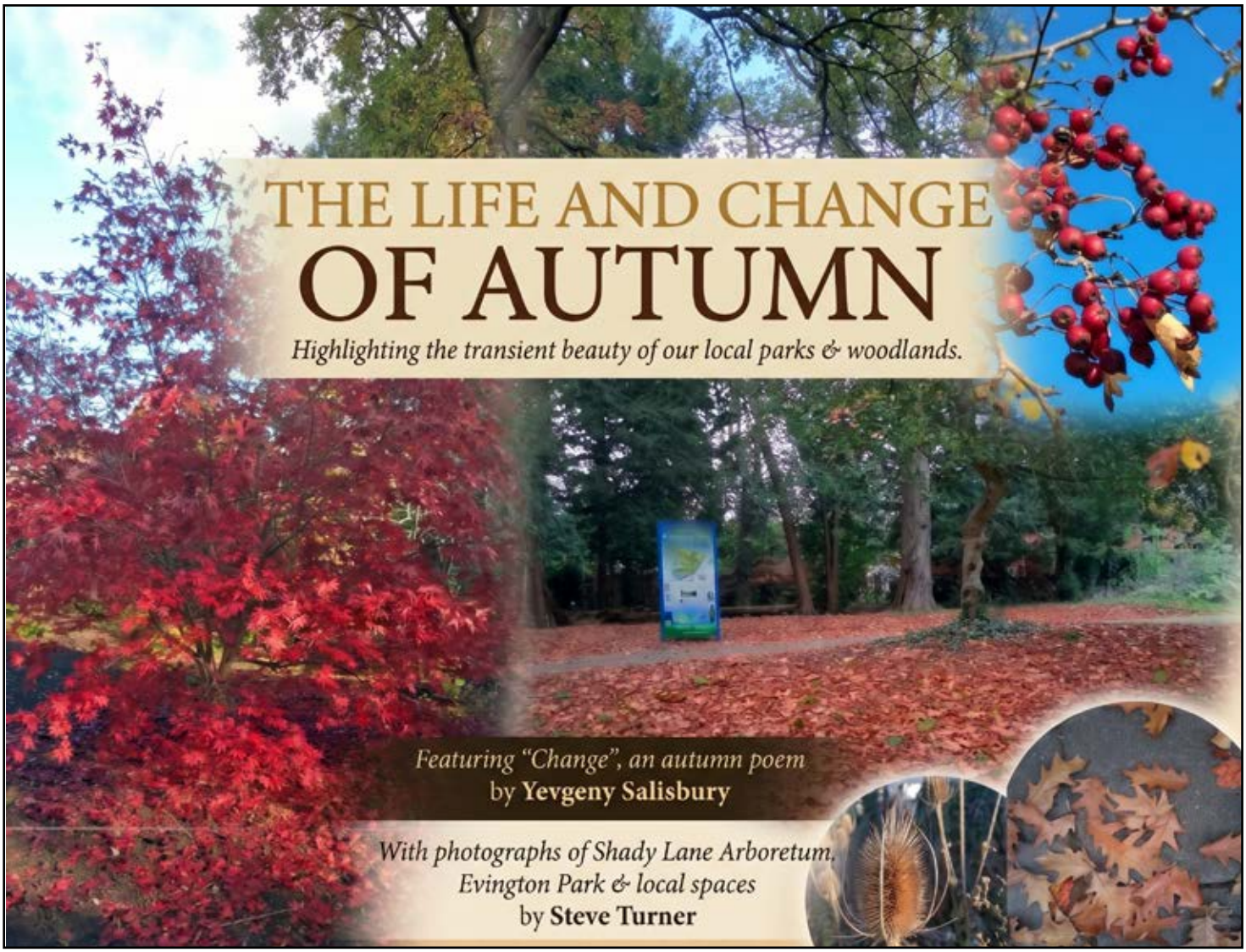
Evington Echo

evingtonecho.uk

Issue 323 December and January 2027 6,000

Keeping you up to date with Evington's news



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Poem Change by Yevgeny Salisbury - page 3 **Become a Community Reporter - page 4**
Local Football - page 8 **Evington Library - page 10** **Listing regular groups - page 15**



The Echo Team/ Editorial/ Complaints

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February March 2027 edition

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April/May 2027 edition

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Publication: Thursday 1st April

Erratum

In the Oct./Nov. '26 issue, the article on Evington Garden Club was wrongly attributed. It was written by Jane Everton.

The Get Together Diwali event was held on 16th Nov. not 9th Nov. as advertised.

Editorial

In this issue, you will read about the ongoing work to help the Evington Echo continue and improve into the future. A key part of this has been defining roles - particularly between governance and operational voluntary work - and involving more people in roles where they feel comfortable, safe, and able to enjoy what they do. Alongside this, we have been organising new events and supporting long-standing ones, particularly with those who share the aims of Friends of Evington. (To view the constitution, visit evingtonecho.uk and type 'Constitution' into the Search bar.

Making room for people to join is definitely the theme going forward. Since the last issue, this has included a Remembrance event (see page 13) Navratri celebrations, and a Diwali event, all aimed at bringing local people together to share experiences, learn from one another, and strengthen community connections. The Evington Echo also works alongside local groups - some affiliated with Friends of Evington for insurance and governance support, while others simply use our publicity and noticeboards to reach local residents. Additionally, we work in partnership with 'Better Media' to support the work of Friends of Evington's Acting Chairperson, Rob Watson.

We hope you enjoy this edition and many more to come. Wishing everyone who celebrates a very Happy Christmas.
Helen Pettman

Complaints and Corrections

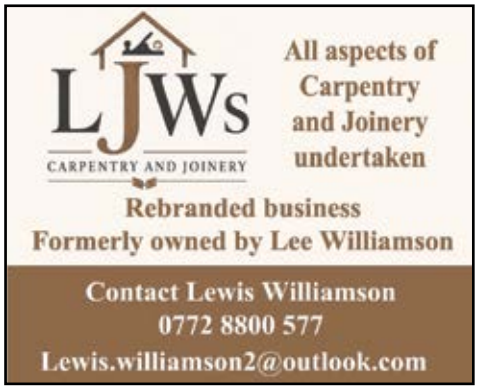
We strive to maintain high journalistic standards and ensure all of our reporting is accurate and fair. However, if you ever spot a factual error, or have a concern about something the Evington Echo has published - or how we went about gathering a story - please let us know.

The policy covers our printed magazine, our website and our official social media channels. Asking for a correction or making a formal complaint is completely free of charge, and we welcome your feedback to help us put things right.

For more details on how to get in touch and how we handle your concerns, please visit our website at evingtonecho.uk and type 'Complaints and Corrections' into the search bar, or go directly to https://evingtonecho.uk/complaints-corrections-evington-echo/

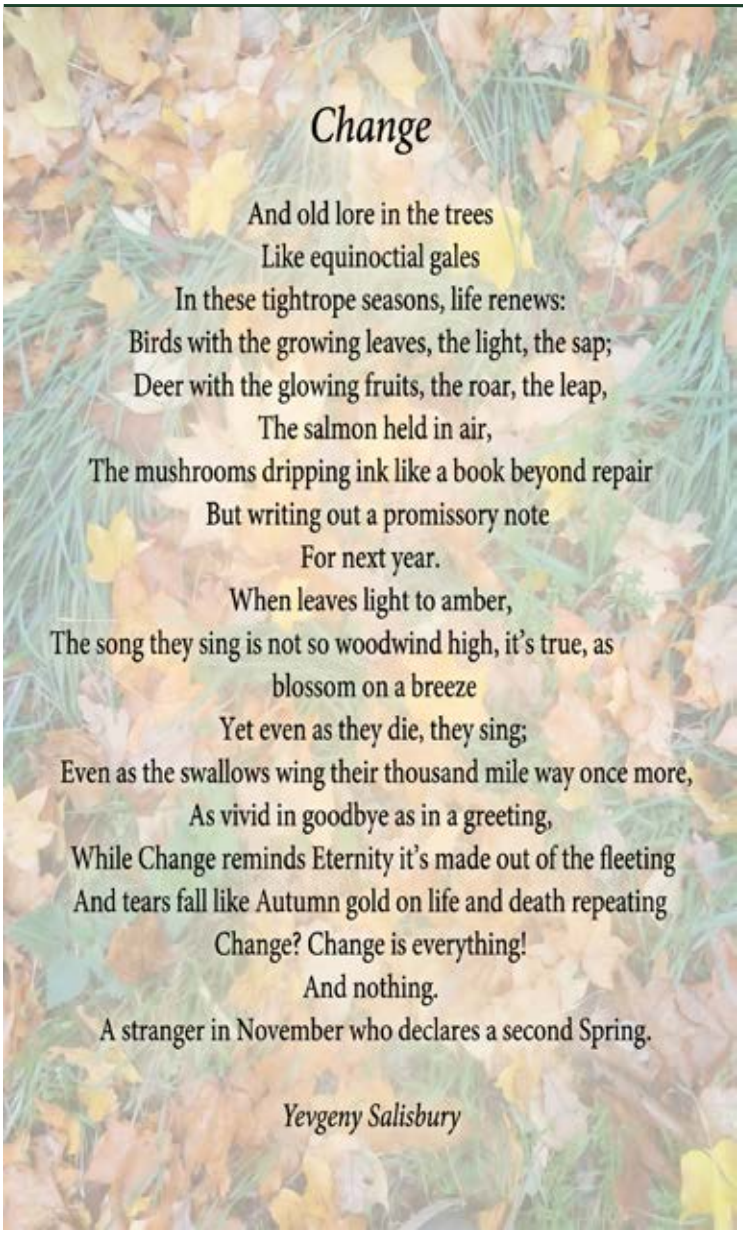








Featured / News updates /Requests



Change

And old lore in the trees
Like equinoctial gales
In these tightrope seasons, life renews:
Birds with the growing leaves, the light, the sap;
Deer with the glowing fruits, the roar, the leap,
The salmon held in air,
The mushrooms dripping ink like a book beyond repair
But writing out a promissory note
For next year.
When leaves light to amber,
The song they sing is not so woodwind high, it's true, as
blossom on a breeze
Yet even as they die, they sing;
Even as the swallows wing their thousand mile way once more,
As vivid in goodbye as in a greeting,
While Change reminds Eternity it's made out of the fleeting
And tears fall like Autumn gold on life and death repeating
Change? Change is everything!
And nothing.
A stranger in November who declares a second Spring.

Yevgeny Salisbury

DISTRIBUTORS WANTED FOR THE EVINGTON ECHO

These are the areas where new distributors are needed. Please consider helping to lessen the workload. The magazine comes out 6 times a year and if you had a helper it would take less than an hour to deliver 100 copies. Moving forward with a new administration structure in place, you would also be invited to special social events to meet up with other distributors with the option of making new friends and feeling involved.

(1) Rogerstone Road, Durston Road, Fallowfield Road and shops. 58 copies
(2) Hospital Roads including Woodborough Road. 129 copies
(3) Scampton Road and Green. 60 copies
(4) Beechwood Close, Oakside Crescent and Close, Sunnyfield. 100 copies
(5) Chalvington Close, Yelverton Close and Marydene Road, Ingarsby and Downing Drive 84 copies.

The Cedars Update

Following enquiries about the future of The Cedars, owner, Pippa Weaver has confirmed that the property has not been sold. The Evington Echo will follow any developments and provide updates when further information becomes available.

Evington Park House Update

Leicester City Council's Planning Department has confirmed that Evington Park House is not being transferred through a Community Asset Transfer arrangement. Instead, a lease tender process was undertaken and a preferred bidder identified. The Council has advised that legal matters are still being discussed and that completion of the lease has been delayed. The Evington Echo will continue to seek updates and report further developments when more information becomes available.

Leicester City Council Consultations

Consultations on school admissions for 2028/2029 are open until 14th December. Go to: www.leicester.gov.uk and then use the search bar and type in 'Consultations'. Following that you click on 'View our consultation'.

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Become an Evington Echo reporter and enjoy it!



Your Community, Your Stories: Become an Evington Community Reporter

What's happening in Evington, and whose stories are we missing? A new partnership is giving residents the chance to explore these questions, learn reporting skills and help their neighbours understand more about the area they share.

The Evington Echo is a partner in the Leicester News Innovation Lab, led by community radio station, Soar Sound. The project receives funding through the Local News Fund from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). It brings community media organisations together to train and support people as community reporters.

For Echo readers, this is an opportunity to turn curiosity about local life into useful stories. You might want to find out what a community group does, talk to volunteers caring for a green space, explore local history or understand a change affecting your neighbourhood. Arts, health, sport, public services and every day experiences all offer starting points.

You don't need to arrive as an experienced journalist. A willingness to listen, ask questions and learn is a good place to begin. Training and supported practical activity will help participants develop skills in interviewing, checking information, writing, photography and recording audio. Working alongside others also offers a chance to build confidence and discover which activities suit you.

Trust must be at the heart of this work. Residents need to know that information has been checked, people have been represented fairly and reporting is approached impartially. Being close to a community brings valuable knowledge, but it also requires care: knowing someone, or strongly supporting a cause, doesn't remove the need to ask questions and examine evidence.

Fair reporting means listening carefully, distinguishing facts from opinions and giving people a reasonable opportunity to respond when their actions or decisions are questioned. It means being clear about what is known, acknowledging uncertainty and correcting mistakes. Impartiality requires an open mind and sound judgement about the evidence behind different claims.

Community reporting can help residents look beyond rumours or brief social media exchanges. A thoughtful interview or clear explanation can show how a decision was reached, where support is available or why an issue matters to different people. It can also bring attention to the quiet, sustained work that helps Evington thrive.

The Echo's involvement will connect this learning with a publication rooted in local life. We want residents with different experiences and interests to help shape the questions being asked and the stories being explored.

To get involved, email editor@evingtonecho.uk with your name, interests and any questions about becoming a community reporter. You can also scan the QR code on page 7 to join the Evington Echo Community Reporters WhatsApp group and hear about opportunities to take part.

Your knowledge of Evington could be the starting point for a story that helps someone else understand it better.

Rob Watson

Dr. Rob Watson: robwatson@decentered.co.uk https://decentered.co.uk Https://forum.decentered.co.uk 07817720688.





St Denys Church Welcomes a New Vicar



Reverend Cecilia Adjadje

On the evening of 28th October, St. Denys Church was filled with parishioners, well-wishers, civic representatives, local ward councillors, and ecumenical partners for a service of welcome and commitment to shared ministry led by the Bishop of Leicester. The occasion marked the formal collation and induction of the Reverend Chizoro Cecilia Adjadje as the new Vicar of the Benefice of Evington.

For those unable to attend in person, the service was live-streamed by the church media team and will be accessible via the parish website and social media channels. Reverend Cecilia joins Evington following 3 years serving as Curate in the Knighton Benefice at St Mary Magdalen Church alongside the Reverend Adrian Jones, having been ordained deacon and priested at Leicester Cathedral. Born and raised in Nigeria within a Christian family, she is married to Peter, and together they have 3 children.

Before answering the call to ordained ministry, Reverend Cecilia built an extensive professional background in the technology and commercial sectors, working as a systems analyst as well as in marketing and customer service. Her academic qualifications reflect that rigorous grounding, holding a BSc in Computer Science, an MSc in Information Systems Management, and a Master of Business Administration (MBA). She subsequently completed her theological training at St Mellitus College East Midlands.

Throughout her ministry and wider diocesan work, Reverend Cecilia has been a steadfast advocate for inclusion, accessibility, and wellbeing. As a wheelchair user, her leadership embodies the vital importance of removing both physical and liturgical barriers across church life. She champions environments where accessibility signifies acceptance, ensuring that people of all abilities, backgrounds, and walks of life feel a genuine sense of belonging in community spaces. Following the service, attendees gathered to extend their personal greetings. The warmth and optimism across the congregation reflected a shared enthusiasm for the vision, rich experience, and pastoral energy she brings to the parish. We warmly welcome Reverend Cecilia and her family to Evington.

St. Philip's Church, 2a Stoughton Drive North, LE5 Evington

St. Philip's Church is a welcoming, community-focused Anglican parish led by Rector Rev'd Jonathan Surridge. The church combines traditional worship with active outreach, education, music, and the arts. It is closely connected with the nearby St. Philip's Centre.

St. Philip's hosts a popular pre-school nursery and supports local homelessness initiatives by providing a venue for One Roof, Leicester. There's a Women's Conversation Group and a Women's Christian/Muslim Dialogue Group and a home for Leicester Chorale and Leicestershire Sinfonia.

The church also works closely with the nearby St. Philip's Centre on interfaith and wider community programmes, including:
*Come Dine where paired families from different faiths and beliefs make meals in each other's homes.
* A leadership training programme aimed at building cross-cultural and cross-belief relationships in Leicester.
*Support for local community-building and heritage storytelling projects focussed on living well together.
*Call the church office on 0116 273 5313 and ask for Shirin for availability and further advice.





Police News

Evington and North Evington Police

Neighbourhood Link is the Community Messaging Service for information about Leicestershire Police. You can sign up at www.neighbourhoodlink.co.uk. The benefits of signing up are: Keeping updated with police activity in your local area.

- A trusted source of the latest crime reduction tips and advice
- Able to share your views and have your say through surveys
- Choose to receive updates from partner organisations like Action Fraud

This service is free to use.

To report a non-emergency incident call 101 or visit www.leics.police.uk/report-crime. In an emergency always dial 999.

3 main policing priorities

1. Preventing Retail Theft and shoplifting
2. Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour
3. Issues surrounding Road Safety and related matters across the East Leicester Policing area, including Fatal 4 Matters *(the 4 main causes of fatal and serious road collisions: speeding, drink or drug driving, using a mobile phone while driving, and not wearing a seatbelt)* and parking.

Police Surgeries

December 2026

- Evington Ward (3 December): Held at Falcon Cash & Carry on Rowlatts Hill Road from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm with PCSO Jignesh Arichandra (6153).
- Evington Ward (23 December): Held at Evington Library from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon with PCSO Martyn Goodey (6143).
- North Evington Ward (11 December): Held at Spinney Hill Police Station from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm with PCSO Georgina Cook (6513).
- North Evington Ward (23 December): Held at NatWest Bank on East Park Road from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm with PCSO John Oleh (6660).

January 2027

- Evington Ward (15 January): Held at Tesco, Downing Drive from 10:00 am to 11:00 am with PCSO Jignesh Arichandra (6153).
- Evington Ward (25 January): Held at Falcons, Rowlatts Hill Road from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm with PCSO Mohammad Meerun (6048).
- North Evington Ward (6 January): Held at NatWest Bank, East Park Road from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm with PCSO John Oleh (6660).
- North Evington Ward (26 January): Held at St Barnabas Library, French Road from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm with PCSO Jignesh Arichandra (6153).

Officer of the Month

Congratulations to Georgina Cook (PCSO 6513) on receiving her 25-year Long Service Award in recognition of her dedicated career serving the people of Leicester. She began her policing journey as a Special Constable, then joined Leicestershire Police as a traffic warden in 2002 and then became one of the force's very 1st Police Community Support Officers in 2003. Georgina Cook said, "I am proud and grateful to have been part of the policing family."

Leicestershire Police serve over 1 million people across Leicester, Rutland, Blaby, Charnwood, Harborough, Hinckley and Bosworth, Melton, North West Leicestershire and Oadby and Wigston.

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Enjoyably Evington activities

How "Enjoyably Evington" Strengthens Our Community

Across Evington, dozens of informal clubs, exercise classes, and gardening groups bring neighbours together every single week.

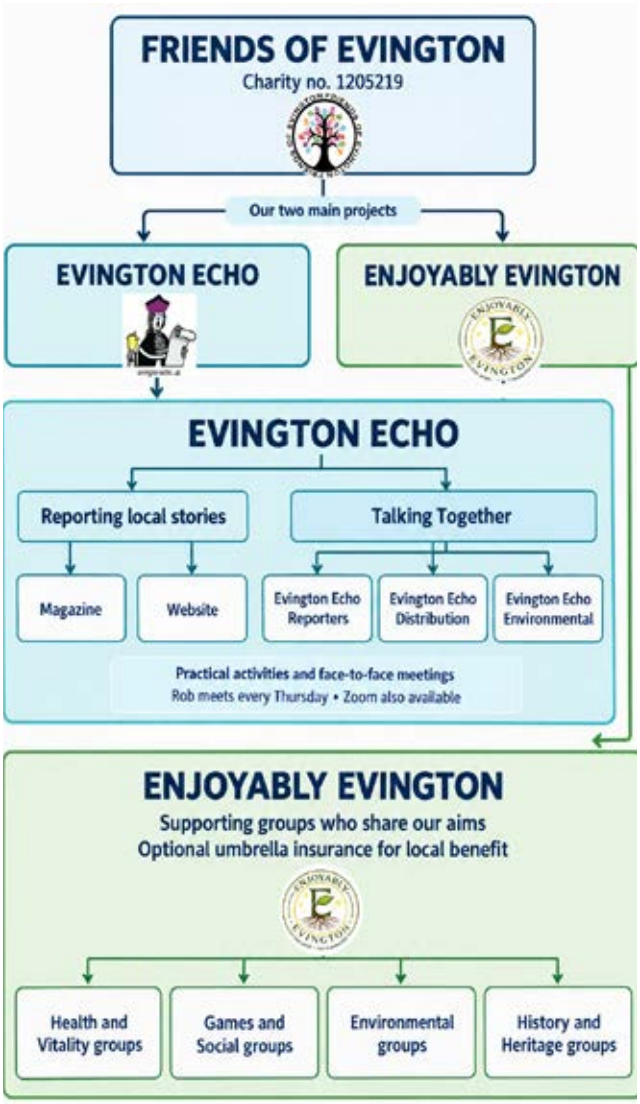
Yet behind every successful community activity lies an essential question: how do small, grassroots groups protect themselves and their participants without getting buried in legal red tape?

That is where the Enjoyably Evington initiative steps in. Established to deliver the core charitable objectives of the Friends of Evington (FoE), Enjoyably Evington acts as a protective civic umbrella. Its primary purpose is to ensure that grassroots groups can thrive safely, sustainably, and for genuine public benefit.

Whether you join a weekly fitness session, play a round of Scrabble, attend a local history lecture, or help plant pollinator bulbs along our verges, you are taking part in a safe, supported network designed by the community, for the community.

Interested in joining an existing group or bringing a new community activity under the Enjoyably Evington umbrella? Contact Friends of Evington or reach out through the Evington Echo or these QR codes.

Helen Pettman.



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DISTRIBUTORS QR CODE

Scan with your phone to join.

ENVIRONMENT QR CODE

Scan with your phone to join.

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Holmes Park Football



Fitness Gym Man of the Match - Devon Jackman.

Team Manager - Dr Karam Sharma.

There is something special about non-league and grassroots football that you simply cannot bottle or buy in the top flight. On any given weekend, grounds like Holmes Park in Whetstone—well known as the headquarters of the Leicestershire & Rutland County FA—become far more than just pitches marked out with white lines. They turn into lively community hubs where neighbours, families, and friends gather on the sidelines, grab a hot drink, and share in the drama of 90 minutes.

At its core, this kind of local football is about bringing people together. In an area as diverse and vibrant as ours, a match day cuts straight through cultural differences. On the pitch and along the touchline, backgrounds melt away; everyone is united behind the same pass, the same tackle, and the same goal celebration. Lifelong friendships are formed by simply turning up week after week, whether as a player putting on a pair of boots or a resident cheering from the rail.

Equally important is what this setup offers to the next generation. Grassroots clubs provide the essential stepping stone where local boys and girls can hone their skills, learn teamwork, and discover the game.

For some, it is purely about exercise, discipline, and having fun with mates on a Saturday afternoon. For others, this very grassroots infrastructure is the breeding ground for bigger ambitions: progressing to represent Leicestershire county squads, catching the eye of talent scouts, and perhaps one day running out at the King Power Stadium for Leicester City Football Club or playing on the international stage. Every professional player began on a community pitch just like this.

Holmes Park is located on Dog & Gun Lane in Whetstone, Leicester (LE8 6FA).

My Journey At CFA



I started playing football at CFA (Community Football Academy) when I was just 6 years old, with my dad as my coach. I am now 14 and still playing at the same club. Over the years, I have experienced many highs and lows and developed a real passion for football.

Some of my friends from the academy and I eventually made it into the 1st team. During our 1st season, we lost almost every game apart from one. However, after getting a new coach, everything changed. We went on to win the entire season undefeated. After COVID, our team gradually dismantled, and I moved to another team within the club. After getting to know my new teammates and welcoming a new coach, we managed to win the league. Now, we hope to do it all again this season.

Football has been a core part of my life from a young age. It has helped me stay active, healthy and confident. However, it means much more to me than just a sport. My teammates are not simply friends; they are family.

My dad is one of my biggest inspirations and the main reason I started playing. He often tells me stories about how good a player he was and the challenges he faced growing up as a British Asian footballer. Opportunities were not always equal, and he sometimes experienced hostility from opposition players. Hearing these stories makes me appreciate how lucky I am to play alongside people from different backgrounds, cultures and faiths.

CFA has also connected me to the local Evington community. Our team trains and plays at Judgemeadow, and many of us live right nearby. I still remember my 1st game, where we lost 10–0. Despite the result, I remember my mum cheering us on from the sidelines. She put so much effort into taking me to early morning games, even when we kept losing. I will always appreciate the support both my parents gave me.

When I first started playing, I was extremely shy and nervous. Before every game, I would get butterflies in my stomach and worry about making mistakes in front of the watching parents. Sometimes, I just wanted to sit on the substitutes' bench. However, football gradually helped me overcome these fears.

One of the biggest things football has taught me is communication. I used to be very quiet on the pitch, but now I confidently organise my teammates from the back, give instructions and encourage others. Looking back, I can see how much football has helped me grow, not just as a player but as a person.

I am proud to still be part of CFA and hope to make many more memories with my teammates. If you have ever wanted to play grassroots football I highly recommend you take that 1st kick.

Eesa Gaffar







New Shop and New Events

Ready to board at Waffle Station?



Your next stop:
Welland Vale Rd.

Evington residents have been enjoying sweet treats (in moderation of course) since the opening of dessert parlour, Waffle Station.

It is a welcome development for the local retail scene on the shopping parade. The former Hunter's chippy was transformed into a bright and welcoming hub. It has the branding and slick operation of a franchise but it is actually an independent business offering niche desserts such as waffles, cookie dough and mini- doughnuts as well as a good range of hot drinks

Ashraf Karim is a co-proprietor, and he enthused about the local retail community and welcomed they're gradually burgeoning customer base.

He said their mission is "Bringing people together, one waffle at a time." Ashraf has a long personal history in Evington having studied here and residing here with his family. He has realised his ambition to set up a business in Evington.



Readers can use this code:

WSTATIONECHO26 for a discount. Just use it online or present it in person to benefit. The code is exclusive to the Echo and will inform us how many readers used the discount through this advertorial. Thanks to Waffle Station for this generous offer.



Diwali Event

Sonsored by Friends of Evington
A local Evington event open to all.



This was a wonderful Get Together Diwali celebration organised by Helen, Harjit and myself.
We were delighted to welcome Nirmaladevi, a renowned Kathak dancer, together with her talented former student, who now teaches Bhangra. They shared their skills and taught us some beautiful Kathak steps and lively Bhangra moves.
Our thanks also go to Joyti who runs a Zumba class every Monday and always brings so much energy and enthusiasm.

It was lovely meeting new friends, enjoying delicious shared food and sharing such a happy evening together.

A special thank you to everyone who stayed behind to help clear the hall. Your kindness and teamwork were greatly appreciated.

Bharti Solanki

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Evington Library Tel: 454 0320 Opening hours from 5th Oct.

	Library Plus	Staffed	Library Plus
Monday	8.00am – 10.00am	10.00am – 2.00pm	2.00pm – 8.00pm
Tuesday	8.00am – 10.00am	10.00am – 6.00pm	6.00pm – 8.00pm
Wednesday	8.00am – 2.00pm	2.00pm – 5.00pm	5.00pm – 8.00pm
Thursday	8.00am – 10.00am	10.00am – 5.00pm	5.00pm – 8.00pm
Friday	8.00am – 8.00pm	Library Plus all day	
Saturday		1.00pm – 4.00pm	
Sunday		Closed	

Library Plus is an extended, unstaffed self-service access service provided by Leicester City Council at Evington Library and Knighton Library. It allows registered members to use library facilities outside of standard staffed opening hours. It is open to registered library members aged 16 and over who have completed an induction, and to accompaned children under 16. Once registered members can scan their library card and pin at the door panel. For more information or to join ask library staff.

Regular groups:

Every Monday. Toddler Time. 10.00am – 12.00noon.

Every Tuesday. Tea,/coffee and board games. 10.30am – 12.30pm.

Every Thursday. Craft Group. 2.00pm – 4.00pm.

Every Saturday. 1.00pm – 4.00pm. Puzzle library for 8 years and under.

Navratri. Keep Fit and Open to All



GET TOGETHER

A Navratri event on 12th October at Evington Village Hall was organised through Friends of Evington by Helen, Bharti and Jyoti. The intention was for an inclusive event for people of different ages, abilities and backgrounds to enjoy being together.







Knitted Displays (left) in Main Street, Evington

These displays for Remembrance were created by Eden's Knit and Natter group. Thank you, ladies for all the time and tremendous effort that goes into making these top-pers. We hope they will be liked and respected by everyone. Lynda.

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Starting conversations about Funeral Wishes

Here is some advice:

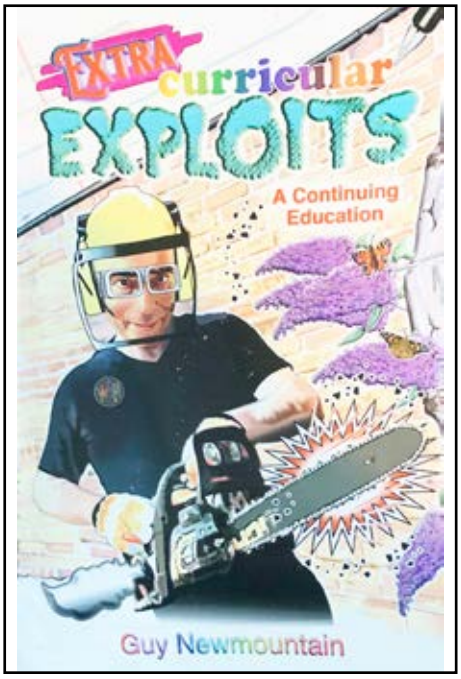
*If someone feels uncomfortable about their funeral wishes, leave it there and return to the conversation another time.
*Make your wishes easy to find.
*Give a copy to someone you trust and tell them where the original is kept.
*Add a date. If your preferences change, replace old copies so everyone has the same information.
*Consider what will be practical and affordable for those arranging the funeral.
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Recording your wishes is free: the funeral itself is paid for separately when needed. Visit baytreefunerals.co.uk/funeral-wishes-leicester/ For help call 2788868.

Book Review: Extra Curricular Exploits by Guy Newmountain



In this 3rd book in his series, Guy Newmountain shares 70 short stories capturing strange, amusing, and sometimes poignant moments from across his life. His tales stretch from his early years growing up in Evington and playing tricks with his brother, through later life and girlfriend experiences, to eventually finding a niche that suits his many talents.

Two stories in particular stood out to me. The first comes from his days as a supply teacher in the 1990s, when a Reception class at a school book fair discovered a book that eclipsed all the others—featuring a nee-nar, nee-nar siren, a tweet-tweet, a miaow, and a ding-a-ling-a-ling, all at the touch of a button. The second is a gentle, poignant piece about the death of Guy's dog.

This collection of true stories will resonate with Evington readers in particular, who will enjoy recognising familiar local places alongside the humour and warmth of the writing. Guy also created all the illustrations himself, and they are brilliant.

Extra Curricular Exploits (ISBN 978-1-0371303-0-4) is available to purchase online or to order through your local bookshop.



Summer flowers looked after by Diane from Usher & Allen Hairdressers, 36 Main Street.

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An Autobiography and about East Midlands in Bloom

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF ROB WATSON



Rob has been guiding the development of the Evington Echo for about 5 years

I came to Leicester in 1993 to study Media Studies at what had recently become De Montfort University. It was an exciting moment. Media production was moving from large, distant studios onto desktop computers, and things that once required expensive facilities were becoming possible for individuals and small groups. I stayed because Leicester felt a good size, with a lively reputation for bands and events. I've lived in different parts of the city and spent a few years in Melton Mowbray, but Leicester became the place where my studies, work and friendships developed.

After my degree, I stayed to do a Masters. In 1998, I got a teaching job on the BSc Media Technology degree in the Engineering Department. There was always something new to investigate. Blogs, social media, digital cameras and portable video equipment were becoming affordable and widely available. Teaching meant learning how these things worked, then helping students explore what they could do with them.

I learn by doing. Community media is not a spectator sport. We have to roll our sleeves up, take photographs, write blogs, record conversations and tell stories. Skills develop through practice, particularly when other people are around to share ideas and help solve problems.

I was especially drawn to radio and podcasting. In 2008, I helped develop the student station, DemonFM, into a full-time licensed community radio station. That brought together my interests in teaching, production and giving people opportunities to participate.

I returned to research in 2009 because I wanted to understand what motivates people to take part in community media. Why do people volunteer their time? What inspires someone to build a platform through which their neighbours can be heard? I completed my PhD in 2018 and later became freelance.

Decentered Media is the name under which I bring that work together, offering research, consultancy, training and practical development support. The starting point is listening to the people involved and working out what they want to achieve. My work with Soar Sound puts those ideas into practice through community radio, bringing together local voices, music, information and conversations about life in Leicester. I also make Distraction Therapy, my weekly show on Soar Sound.

Radio Lear, Leicester Emergent Arts Radio, represents another side of my interests. It is an arts radio station on DAB in Leicester and Leicestershire, providing space for experimental music, sound art, field recordings and spoken word. Across these activities, I want people to feel able to contribute to the places where they live. That requires encouragement, practical support and opportunities to learn, as well as access to equipment and platforms.

That is why I support the Evington Echo. It pays attention to the everyday life of a particular place: its people, groups, businesses, achievements and concerns. It also represents years of commitment by Helen and the volunteers who write, photograph, proofread, organise and distribute it.

My contribution is often behind the scenes, helping with technology, production and ways of sharing the workload. I want to help more people become involved while retaining the Echo's local character and the trust of its readers. Its future depends on making participation manageable and rewarding, so that another generation feels able to pick up the work and carry it forward.

News from East Midlands in Bloom

The Management Team for East Midlands in Bloom reported a successful season with 46 Bloom groups and 122 It's Your Neighbourhood (IYN) groups in the East Midlands (Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire.)

East Midlands in Bloom is a charitable organisation affiliated with the Royal Horticultural Society and they aim to send an independent judge or judges to all Bloom groups that enter the Bloom competition and to all IYN groups. (IYN groups are not competitive). Their formidable task is to get the marking scheme consistent across all groups and all judges.

The groups that make it to the prestigious 'Britain in Bloom' competition are judged again.

In the East Midlands Grimsby (A small city) achieved a Silver Gilt award. Bosworth (a large village) achieved a Gold award and Edwinstowe (a small town) achieved a Gold award. Evington has been much involved in the Bloom competition entering as an urban area from 2012. This year there were 8 IYN entries from Evington which included in alphabetical order:

Downing Drive IYN

Evington Village Green and Hall IYN

Garden of Prosperity IYN

GraceWorks IYN

High Street Flats Community Garden IYN

Main Street, Evington IYN

Sedgebrook Gardeners IYN

Spencefield Drive Garden IYN

Helen Pettman







Celebrations at the Secular Hall



To mark the 175th anniversary of Leicester Secular Society visitors enjoyed an exhibition and guided tour of Secular Hall; a unique building rooted in Leicester's radical past.

The hall was specially built for the society and it is truly remarkable that it has been in continuous use since it opened in 1881.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Lord Mayor Kulwinder Singh Johal who lauded the LSS for advocating for an inclusive and plural society free from religious privilege, prejudice and discrimination.

H.Farma

Evington Commemorates Remembrance Day

Residents, councillors, and local school representatives gathered at the Evington War Memorial on Main Street on Wednesday 11th November to honour the fallen.

Organised by the Friends of Evington, the service began with a civic welcome from Cllr. Zuffar Haq, followed by Cllr. Jenny Joannou officially dedicating the new "Lest We Forget" memorial bench, funded by the Evington Ward and installed by Leicester City Council's Parks Services.

Students from Judgemeadow Community College delivered poignant readings of The Exhortation and The Kohima Epitaph, framing the traditional two minutes' silence observed at 11:00 am, while another Judgemeadow student recited 'In Flanders Fields' from memory. Wreaths were laid and tributes paid by students and staff from Judgemeadow, City of Leicester College, Crown Hills Community College, and Whitehall Primary School, alongside a teacher representing St. Paul's R.C. School. Cllrs. Joannou, Haq and Bajaj all shared tributes at the close of the service. Afterward, community participants gathered at The Cedars for tea and a friendly chat.

Pictures by Mike Joannou and text by Helen Pettman.



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SMALL ADS

Looking to buy or sell household items, or promote a small local business? Write your advert (up to 25 words) and drop it, along with the correct fee, in an envelope at Bennetts' Shop, 30 Main Street, Evington Village.

Rates: For items under £100, adverts cost 50p for residents or £2·50 for businesses. For items under £1,000, adverts are £5 for residents or £15 for businesses. For items priced at £1,000 or more, please contact the Editor.
Please include your name and address in the envelope for verification; rest assured, only your chosen contact number will be published. If you block unsolicited calls, you can ask readers to text your mobile number 1st.

WANTED Reliable lady cleaner required for retired lady. Downing Drive area. Please ring 2415776 for details after 5.00pm.

FOR SALE Harrington 400 2 berth tent (Peakland) for 4 people. Has slight fault but still useable. £20 Mb: 07762 016495. Message 1st.

FOR SALE GEMINI TENT 3. 3 people tent with entrance area. £10. Mb: 07762 016495. Message 1st.

WANTED by retired gent. Car to buy with 4 doors 2016 onwards. Ideally with new MOT. Contact David on 07815 710,275.







COUNCILLORS' INFORMATION

The Evington Echo is circulated in Evington Ward, but also parts of Stoneygate Ward and North Evington Ward. Here are details of how you can contact a councillor in your ward.

Evington Ward
Cllr. Deepak Bajaj 0797 609 6183
Cllr. Jenny Joannou 0774 276 6461
Cllr. Zuffar Haq 0774 276 6454

North Evington Ward
Cllr. Ravi Mahesh 0774 276 6437
Cllr. Dilip Joshi 0774 276 6456
Cllr. Sanjay Modhwadia 0778 492 0818

Stoneygate Ward
Cllr. Raffiq Mohammed 0774 276 6430
Cllr. Yasmin Surti 07742 766432
Cllr. Aasiya Bora 07551 673938

Local councillors are elected officials who represent the interests of residents, making key decisions on local services like housing and transport, and a clean, pleasant, workable environment. They act as a bridge between the community and the council.


Cllr Raffiq Mohammed


Cllr. Yasmin Surti


Cllr Aasiya Bora


Cllr Jenny Joannou


Cllr Zuffar Haq


Cllr Deepak Bajaj


Cllr Ravi Mahesh


Cllr. Dilip Joshi


Cll. Sanjay Modhwadia

CONTACTING YOUR MP



Shockat Adam
(Leicester south)
Constituency Office:
8 De Montfort Street,
Leicester, LE1 7GA
Phone: 0116 507 8089

email: shockat.adam.mp@parliament.uk
website: shockatadam.org



Shivani Raja
(Leicester East)
Constituency Office:
7 Loughborough Road,
Leicester, LE4 5LJ
Phone: 0116 366 8535

email: shivani.raja.mp@parliament.uk
website: shivaniraja.uk

Both MPs accept mail sent to them at the House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. Though their local constituency offices are best for direct casework and scheduling.

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Fun, Fitness and Zumba-type Dance Exercises: Every Monday, 6.30pm–7.30pm at Evington Village Hall, Church Road, LE5 6FA (£4.00 each session). Tutor: Jyoti Patel. Come along.

Pilates: Wednesday mornings, 9.00am–10.00am at Evington Village Hall, Church Road, LE5 6FA. Tutor: Charlotte from Jane Fitness. Suitable for both beginners and experienced participants.

Silver Swans Ballet Classes: Every Thursday, 9.15am–12.45pm at Evington Village Hall, LE5 6FA. Contact Vanessa on 07765 407323 or nelliebeeswans@gmail.com.

Gentle Exercise Group: Weekly on Thursdays, 10.00am–11.00am (£2 a session) at St. Denys Parish Centre.
Mob: 07910 431044.

Wing Chun Kung Fu: Beginners classes at Evington Village Hall, Church Road, LE5 6FA, Thursdays 7.30pm–8.30pm. Mob: Inzar 07837 26772. Your 1st lesson is free. See advert on page 11.

No Strings Badminton: Every Friday, 7.00pm–8.00pm at Evington Leisure Centre, 131 Downing Drive, LE5 6QL. Tel: 454 1035.

Mobile Roller Disco: Every Friday, 7.15pm–9.00pm at Evington Leisure Centre, 131 Downing Drive, LE5 6QL. Tel: 454 1035.

Nordic Walking in Leicestershire: Walking with long poles is a great way to improve your mental and physical wellbeing. Email ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com or tel: Penny 0750 2576764.

Guided Walks (Live Well, Walk More – LCC): Short walks up to 90 minutes across Leicester and Evington.

Social, Games & Coffee Mornings

Monday Tea and Chat: Meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays in the month, 2.00pm–4.00pm at St. Denys Parish Centre LE5 6FA.

Knit and Natter: Tuesdays, 11.30am–2.00pm at Eden Café Bar, Main Street, Evington. Mob: Linda on 077587 32274.

Goodwood Coffee Morning: Every Thursday, 10.30am–12.00 noon at Goodwood Evangelical Church, Gamel Road, LE5 6TB.

Rummikub Club: Monday mornings, 11.00am (£1.50 including tea and biscuit). The Cedars, Main Street.

Evington Social Club: Every Wednesday, 11.00am–1.00pm (£1.50). Contact Renuka on 07514 202579. The Cedars, Main Street.

Evington Scrabble Group: Every Thursday, 11.00am–1.00pm (£1.50). Contact Lesly on 2419096. The Cedars, Main Street.

Please note: Rummikub Club, Evington Social Club and Evington Scrabble Group may need to change their venue in the new year. Watch the noticeboards in Main Street and Tesco, Downing Drive for more information.

Meet the Vicar: 12th Dec. 10.30am - 2.30pm 13th Dec. 11.30am - 2.00pm. St. Denys Parish Centre (attached to the Church).

Talks, Heritage & Special Interests

Women's Institute (Humberstone Heights and Belgrave WI): Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 2.00pm to 4.00pm at Evington Village Hall, Church Road, LE5 6FA. Mob: Barbara 077138 04407.

Evington Garden Club: We meet every month on the 3rd Tuesday at Evington Village Hall, Church Road, LE5 6FA, starting at 2.30pm and resuming in January 2027. For more information contact 2705950.

Evington Family History Group: Every Wednesday, 10.00am–12.00 noon at Eden Café Bar, Main Street, Evington. Contact Barbara on 077138 04407.

Evington Local History and Heritage Group: 2nd Wednesday afternoon in the month from 2.30pm to 4.00pm at St. Denys Parish Centre, LE5 6FA. £4.00 a session for visitors (includes coffee/tea), £25 a year for members. Next meeting: Talk on Winstanley House Susan Barton.

Scraptoft Players: Amateur dramatics reheasals on Thursday evenings and some Sunday afternoons at The White House, Thurnby. Contact Jude on 07946 414982.

Leicester Recorder Players: Twice monthly on Saturday afternoons, 2.30pm - 5.00pm at Evington Village Hall, Church Road LE5 6FA

Children, Youth & Families

The Ark Toddler Group: Every Wednesday, 9.30am - 11.30am at Goodwood Evangelical Church, Gamel Road, LE5 6TB.

Evington Youth Club: The Common, Evington, LE5 6EA Mob: 0735 234 4183
Fridays 7.30pm - 8.30pm (Football practice £3) and Saturdays 10.30am - 12.30pm (Basketball, Chess, Pool and Table Tennis. £3) info@evingtonyouthclub.com

24 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 0116 2760457.

19th Leicester (Evington) Scout Group
We have 3 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 0116 2209017. Email: info@evingtonscouts.org.uk
Facebook - search for Evington Scouts and send us a private message.

115th 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. 115thleicesterscouts@gmail.com. www.scouts.or.uk
Instagram@115leicesterscouts

Hamilton Air Cadets meet Mondays and Thursdays 7.00pm - 9.30pm. Tel: 0116 2416559.

Neptune Swimming Club Tel: 0116 299 5575.

Woodcraft groups in Leicester Email: cath.brownhome@ntlworld.com.

If you have a group that runs to benefit a local area in or near Evington for fitness, social wellbeing or young people, please contact editor@evingtonecho.uk

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