

EAST KNOYLE NEWSLETTER

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The East Knoyle Newsletter

In this issue ...

A note from the Editors.....

Wed 23rd September – next week - is the autumn equinox, the sun crosses the equator and the nights get longer.....

Perfect time to curl up with your EK Newsletter and catch-up on the Flower & Veg Show (P12), the Eclipse (P13) and the Summer Fete and Dog Show.

If you are not too busy “shooting hoops” in the new mini basketball court, make sure you book your tickets for the Moviola (P10) and / or Harvest Supper (P11).

Best of all (and we must try and maintain our excitement and editorial objectivity) - THE FOX IS BACK!!!!!!

Doreen, Andrew and family have done an amazing job, getting the hallowed refuge back up and running (P6).

Perfect location for Free Thinking, Fantasy Football, game of Bridge or just catching up with friends over a beer....

Almost forgot to mention, David Pickering’s article on the Humming Bird Hawk Moth and Painted Ladies (P17) is considerably more interesting and informative than the one on bees (P20).

Enjoy!

The Editors

The paper this magazine is printed on is from renewable managed forest resources

This month’s cover: Stylist Wilbur Godfrey,
photo Sarah & Tony O’Reilly

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Parish Council News

The KHG playground, boosted by the new equipment, has been very popular with all age groups. The basketball mini court has been the scene of many a slam dunk and a side benefit of all this activity is that Wren's Shop sold record numbers of ice creams in August!

The Parish Council is focused on providing the best possible experience. Further works to hedges and over-hanging branches have now been completed and grass-cutting will resume in September now some rain has materialized. The playgrounds annual RoSPA Health and Safety inspection is scheduled for September and will identify any further areas for improvement.

East Knoyle Parish Council owns and is responsible for maintaining the Parish common lands. Sustainable best practices are followed to both offer a diverse ecosystem in conjunction with residents' enjoyment of these special public spaces. If there are any queries or observations regarding these practices they should, in all instances, be directed to the Parish Clerk or through participation in the Public Forum at the start of every Parish Council meeting. The Parish Council welcomes community and resident engagement through the appropriate channels.

A reminder that it is Wiltshire Council who are responsible for clearing fallen trees that are blocking roads. Reporting of such incidents is via the MyWilts app. The Parish Council is currently dealing with a number of tree issues on its common land which represent a significant and growing proportion of its annual expenditure. Let's hope the impact of any super el nino weather event avoids East Knoyle this autumn.

Community Engagement is central to the Parish Council's agenda. Over the summer EKPC supported the fantastic Wren's Shop 20th Anniversary event at the Windmill and the Flower and Vegetable Show. This month it is supporting the free St John's Ambulance First Aid training and ensuring the Wren's Shop defibrillator is serviced and fully operational.

Our Marquee and new Fire Beacon are available for Community Events. New ideas are always welcome.

The dates for the various EKPC meetings for 2027 have now been agreed. A date for your diaries. The Annual Parish meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 7th April.

Peter Dean

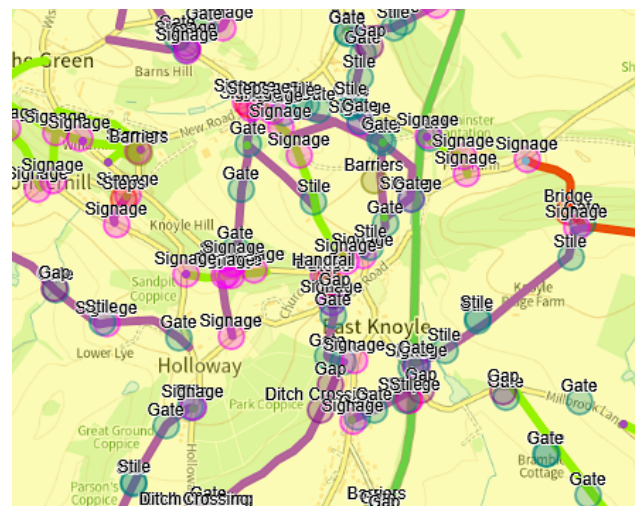
Parish Clerk

Common Lands and Rights of Way

The Common has had its final cut of the year with the added benefit of being baled and taken off site - thanks to Leigh Williams and his son Charlie. Also to Ed Knight for transporting and positioning tree trunks to the rear of the Common to deter fly-tipping and Richard Curtis for clearing EKNO14/10. Thanks also to our CLAROW team, always working quietly in the background. All of those mentioned have provided their services free of charge to help our local community.

Asset Collection

Wiltshire's Rights of Way Team are collecting a database with the GPS location and a photograph of every gate, stile, signpost etc on the County's path network. To do this they have asked for a volunteer from each Parish - although some Parishes (such as East Knoyle) have considerably more Footpaths/Bridleways/Byways than others. **Jill Caudle** (a member of our CLAROW team) took on this task in mid August and as of the 3rd September has so far recorded 157 'Assets', as she walks **every** path in the Parish. The intention is that the map and database should eventually be available to the public (for instance to find the more obscure routes) but we don't know what the timescale is for that just yet. This has been a huge undertaking for Jill and we extend our huge gratitude to her for taking this on. We'll keep you updated on the PC website as things progress.



Ann 07746752510

East Knoyle Village Hall

The activity of providing teas for the Flower & Veg Show went very well and a big thank you to the contributors of the cakes and the team on the day who undertook the serving of the teas. It was a very convivial gathering with all ages able to enjoy the lovely day.

The Quiz Night has been set for Saturday 14th November starting at 7.00pm. Anne Snell is setting and delivering the questions as she has undertaken quite a number of events like this in the past. We are all looking forward to her Quiz. There is a Ploughman's style platter on each table to be enjoyed during the pre-quiz build up, as well as the bar in the Medieval Room with the card reader available for payments as well as cash. Paul Naish is in charge of the tickets at £12.50 each, please contact him for a table of 6 on p.naish@sky.com – at the last count only 2 tables out of 11 remained.



The Church Fete took place at the Village Hall and it was really great to see so many families, and all ages of people, some with their dogs ready for the Dog Show, enjoying the facilities of Teas, cakes and the Bar.

The Committee have asked for quotes to repair the Lime Plaster in the Medieval Room now that a Bat Survey has been completed. The plan is to do the work in January 2026 aiming to avoid too much disruption to Medieval Room users, as soon as we have established the dates, we shall announce them on the Whats App.

The other disruption will be for the reroofing of the Medieval Room, there will be grants to apply for along with Area Board applications for funding and that all takes time.

All wishes,

David Jenkins

Hindon Surgery News

Repeat Prescription Requests We have recently seen a large increase in the number of repeat prescription requests made by telephone. If you are able to order your medication online, we would be grateful if you could do so. You can request repeat prescriptions through an internet browser using [SystemOnline](#), or via the Airmid or NHS App on your smartphone.

Ordering online is not only convenient, but also helps to improve safety. A written request goes directly to our dispensary team, reducing the risk of mistakes or misunderstandings. It also helps keep our telephone lines free for patients who need to speak to a member of our team.

If you would like to start ordering online but are unsure how to do so, please ask us — our staff will be happy to help you get set up. Of course, we understand that online ordering is not possible for everyone. If you are unable to order online or visit the surgery in person, we will continue to help you request your medication by telephone.

We are proud of how quickly we answer our phones, something patients have also recognised in the GP Survey. By ordering repeat prescriptions online whenever you can, you can help us maintain this service for everyone.

Flu and Covid Clinics This autumn, our flu and Covid vaccination clinics will be held a little later than usual because of a national shortage of flu vaccine supplies, which has affected GP surgeries across the country.

Our main vaccination clinics are now expected to take place during the **last two weeks of October**. As in previous years, we will offer flu and Covid vaccinations at the same appointment where appropriate.

When it is time to book, we will contact eligible patients by **text message, email or telephone**. We expect invitations to start going out in early September.

You may also receive an invitation from NHS England. Please wait until you receive an invitation from us or the NHS before contacting the surgery to book.

If you cannot attend one of our main clinic dates, don't worry — we will do our best to arrange an alternative appointment for you.

Wren's Shop News

Using the Post Office as your bank

Bank branches are disappearing – the Santander in Shaftesbury is just the latest – but did you know we can use the Post Office for all but the most complex banking transactions.

The provision of a Post Office at Wren's shop is a convenient and valuable service for the village, and is subsidised by the shop's trading because the Post Office income doesn't quite cover the wages for Annie, our post mistress. The more transactions that go through the Post Office the more it earns. This includes cash withdrawals and deposits, cheque deposits, foreign exchange and bill payments as well as the usual mailing services.

Please do your bit to retain this important village service and think of using our Post Office for all your delivery, mail and banking needs. Pop in and have a chat with Annie if you need to know more. The Post Office is open Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 1pm.



**Owned & Run by the Community
For the Community**

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday: 08:00 to 18:00
Saturday: 08:00 to 16:00
Sunday/Bank Holidays: 09:00 to 12 noon

Newspapers every day
Fresh Fruit, Vegetables & Meat 6 days a week
Fresh Bread delivered 3 times a week
Croissants baked in-store daily
Hot Drinks available

Orders Taken

Tel: 01747 830735

Email: shop@wrensshop.co.uk

<http://www.wrens-shop.co.uk>

Facebook: WrensShopEastKnoyle



**East Knoyle
Post Office**

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday : 09:00 to 13:00
(Closed Weekends & Bank Holidays)

Our Services

- Amazon Drop-off & Collections
- Banking - cash withdrawals, cheque/cash deposits
- Banking Balances
- Bill Payments & Top-up
- Drop & Go Drop-off
- Customs Forms for International Postage
- Euros on Demand, Other Currencies - to order
- ParcelForce UK & Worldwide (incl Large Parcels)
- Postal Orders
- Royal Mail Letters & Parcels (Inland/International)
- Royal Mail Redirections
- Royal Mail 24/48Hr Tracked &/or Signed For
- Savings & Investments
- Special Delivery, Tracked & Signed-for Postage
- Stamps (1st & 2nd Class & International)
- Travel Money Cards

Tel: 01747 830928

Pub Matters – What’s Been Happening?

Great news - we have The Fox back!

The viability of pubs continues to be a struggle, and the Government hasn’t helped with its recent policies on employment, energy and rates, but Andrew and Doreen, with Ed and Helen and their grandchildren, are now working hard to open the Fox and Hounds at weekends. Starting with just drinks sales earlier in the summer, they’re adding to what the pub offers, and there’s now food available, a revitalised cellar, a jukebox and pool table, and an occasional visit from a ‘burger and ribs’ van. There have been some lively and fun evenings, including a party and the busy gathering for the eclipse, and it’s been great to have a beer or glass of wine with friends, renew acquaintances and meet new East Knoylers.



The pub’s future will of course be determined by Andrew and Doreen as the owners, and it remains for sale, either as the freehold property or under a new lease. But the designation of The Fox and Hounds as an Asset of Community Value, some tighter planning rules on ‘change of use’ that have just been announced, and also new stronger community ‘right to buy’ legislation (in the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026) means that The Fox’s future as a pub is safeguarded – as long as that’s what the community wants.

What happened about a community pub?

After the pub closed in April last year an informal group of us explored what it takes to create a community-owned pub. We sought the views of the village and worked up a preliminary business plan that included investment in the kitchen and the skittle alley to create a daytime café and community space alongside the pub. We commissioned a property survey and independent valuation and on the back of these made Andrew and Doreen an offer to buy the pub which they declined. If the offer had been accepted, our plan was to create a Community Benefit Society, (an off-the-shelf ownership structure promoted by The Plunkett Foundation which assists community businesses), and raise funds from as wide a share ownership as practicable. We’d then renovate the property and accommodation, and offer a generous, flexible lease to a couple looking for a ‘lifestyle’ business and wanting to live in our community. All of this can be resurrected at short notice if needed and if the opportunity arises.

Getting behind our revived village pub

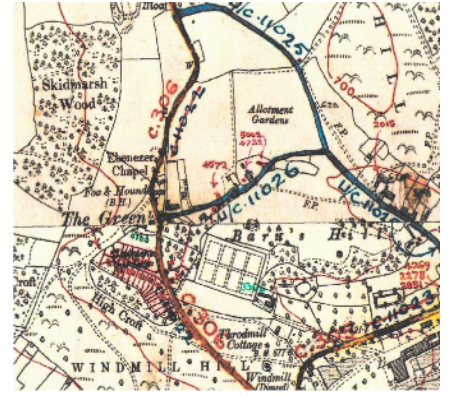
I hope that’s a useful summary and also gets people who are new to East Knoyle up to speed. Since the pub re-opened we’ve ‘stood down’ from advancing a community pub, and we support the Knight family as they bring The Fox back to life. Let’s all support them in their efforts and make the Fox and Hounds the village pub again! See you there.

“A village without a pub is just some houses” J Clarkson 2025

Chris Cox

Round and About

The Chapel at Salisbury Crematorium was filled to capacity for the funeral of one of the village's oldest, and longest-standing, inhabitants, Iris Hull, who died in July at the age of 94. The kind and much-loved matriarch of the Hull family, Iris was a country-woman through and through who spent the greater part of her married life at Park Farm, supporting her husband Michael in all he did and providing a welcoming environment for their family and many visitors. Despite poor eyesight, Iris was a wonderful cook and an accomplished knitter; many local children



and charities have benefitted from the gift of one of her splendid woollen dolls. After giving up the farm, Iris and Michael moved to Milton where they had a lovely and productive garden. In recent years they were both to suffer ill-health, which eventually meant a move away from the village they loved. We send our condolences to Michael, to their children Caroline, Richard, Sheena and Quinton, to all the grandchildren, four of whom read eloquent tributes to their grandmother at the service, and to Iris's wider family. She will also be much missed by her friends at T@3.

We send our sympathy to the Rev. June Lane, whose husband Brian died in June. For many years now Rev June has been a tower of strength to successive rectors, taking services in St Mary's when needed. Brian was by profession a design and technology teacher and a great craftsman.

Another resident who will be greatly missed is Wilma Piquet, who has moved to Warminster. Wilma came to The Street about 40 years ago and set about making the house stand out with the colourful displays of flowers in window boxes, pots and baskets. After the death of her husband, Wilma joined Care Matters in Warminster and gave dedicated help to a lot of people, including several older residents in East Knoyle. When Babs organised her Macmillan Coffee Mornings Wilma was a great supporter, and many people will have come across her on dog walks. We send good wishes to her and Steve as they settle into a new home.

In Upton, Malcolm and Barbara have moved away. They will be as quietly supportive of many organisations in their new area as they were here.

But of course we have some new residents to welcome as well. Greg and Vicki on The Green are delighted to be in the country again, revelling in identifying all the flora and fauna, getting to know people and walking their young dog.

From Wales to East Knoyle by way of the East Midlands, Jane and Roger Pearce are very happy to have finally settled in the village. After careers in education (Jane) and in aero space engineering (Roger) they have changed lanes and are now busy in their new roles as grandparents. They are very much enjoying village life and the surrounding countryside. To quote Roger "We landed on our feet here".

And in the centre of the village, Alena has moved from Watford in Hertfordshire. She is very much looking forward to making East Knoyle her home for many years to come!

T@3

Are you a resident or ex-resident of East Knoyle? If so, do come along to T@3 on the second Thursday of each month. To avoid wastage it is a real help to email tat3ek@icloud.com to indicate attendance. 24 hours' notice even better! Doors open at **2.45pm**, and we need to be out of the village hall **by 4.30pm**. Next dates: 8th October, 12th November.





The 25/26 Poppy Appeal ends on the 30th September and the great news is that at the time of writing, the high level of support demonstrated by our Branch and its supporters has once again achieved a total in excess of £15,000. In recent years this high level of fund raising has tended to become the norm, but could not be reached without a great deal of effort by so many people - and is never taken for granted. Once again, our sincere thanks are due to everyone who has contributed in so many ways and supported our events during the past year.

Future Plans, the year moves on and by the time you read these lines planning for our programme of Autumn events, culminating in the two weeks of national Remembrance, will be well under way.

We are currently working on plans to launch the commencement of the 26/27 Poppy Appeal on Thursday 22nd October with a combined talk/book signing evening given by one of our favourite speakers, Charlotte Carty, who will be speaking about her shortly to be published book. More details of that to follow nearer the date but do make a note in your diaries and, as many of you are aware, she is well worth listening to.

On the same date our band of volunteer collectors, led by Ian Gurney, will spring into action at Willoughby Hedge service station selling a wide range of 'Poppy merchandise' for the duration of the period of Remembrance. The importance of their efforts cannot be underestimated as around 80% of our annual total is raised during these two weeks. Ian will be in contact with existing volunteers, again, nearer the time. New volunteers are most welcome so if you are interested in joining our autumn efforts, then please contact us for more details (830354).

The 11th November not only marks Armistice Day but is the 86th anniversary of the courageous and successful attack by a handful of Fairey Swordfish aircraft on the Italian fleet at anchor at Taranto, so, that evening, the culmination of this important two weeks in the national calendar will be a talk on the raid given by Graham Dunlop. Graham had a distinguished military service record and is a well regarded speaker on military history. Once again, more details to follow.

Briefly looking back, the first week of August feels a long way away now with only slowly recovering lawns to remind us of those days of heat, however it was one of our busiest weeks of the year the highlights being yet another successful talk by Charlotte Carty on the people of Nagaland together with our 'Strawberry and Pimms' teas at which we traditionally combine with the EKWS to say thank you to our Poppy Appeal supporters and volunteers. As anticipated, both events were convivial and entertaining in their own ways. There are too many people to thank here for their valued contribution in making both such a success but be assured, we have already raised a glass to them - including EKVH for the use of their lawn and the Parish Council for the provision of the marquee.



Last but not least, the monthly coffee mornings at Hays House continue to be well supported by Branch members. Over the past 5 months we have got to know the residents' stories and background well (some of whom are well known faces from the village) and Robin and Sonia Egerton's black labrador, Wren, certainly proved a hit on her first visit.



Diary Dates:

Friday 2nd October	VFN Coffee morning at Hays House
Monday 5th October	Branch Meeting
Thursday 22nd October	Launch of the 26/27 Poppy Appeal
	Talk/Book signing by Charlotte Carty
Monday 2nd November	Branch Meeting
Sunday 8th November	Remembrance Sunday service
Wednesday 11th November	Armistice Day Service
	'The Raid on Taranto', talk by Graham Dunlop
Monday 30th November	Branch Meeting/Lunch/AGM

Ron Clark
Branch Secretary



The Women's Branch of the Royal British Legion

July's meeting saw a demonstration of jewellery making from Flora Rosevear, which was inspiring and very informative. She showed us a number of lovely pieces she had made and we all made a note for Christmas presents for friends and relatives!

August saw a break in meetings, but the ladies produced scones and jam as an extra at the Pimms and Strawberry event, and thanks go to all those who baked, and also to Denise Payne and Sonia Egerton who joined me to hull 7 kg of strawberries. The event itself was very enjoyable.

We are approaching our AGM in October, but before that our meeting on 13th September will have Celia Burt as the guest speaker.

Helen Lever has asked that I thank all the members for their hard work and support, and especially the office holders and committee members who do so much to provide ideas for the years programme. All the members appreciate how much time Helen dedicates to the Branch, and especially her ability to provide decorations for any event!

New members are always welcome..please contact Gill Staunton or Helen Lever for any further information, helen08.lever@hotmail.co.uk or gill.staunton@btinternet.com

Gill Staunton
Secretary

East Knoyle rainfall July and August 2026

JULY was a dry month as we all know. We had 0.5" (12.7 mm) of rain in July 2026, compared to 0.8" (20.2mm) of rain in July 2025 (even that was considered very dry). The 30-year average for July is 2.28" (57.94mm). So, in July this year, rainfall was 22% the 30-year average.

AUGUST. We had 0.94" (24 mm) of rain in August 2026; zero rain until 26 August. Compare this to 1.71" (43.5mm) of rain in August 2025. The 30-year average for August is 2.81" (71.37mm). So, we only had about 33% of expected rainfall in August 2026, all of which in the last week .

To repeat my words from last year – except the situation this year is even worse: 'we are still waiting for significant prolonged rain to penetrate the ground, soften it, and fill those cracks in the clayey soil. Fingers crossed for September.



Moviola



September means it must be Moviola time again. Last season, thanks to your loyal support we had good audiences every time. As a result, we have been able to make donations to two children's hospices: Julia's House and Naomi and Jack's House, as well as contributing to the equipment in the Village Hall and supporting the village Newsletter with some help with their expenses. We are very happy to be able to do this with your help and hope that this year will be as successful.

Our first film this autumn on **Wednesday 30th September** is **The Devil Wears Prada 2**. We are back at *Runway* magazine where the scariest boss Miranda Priestley, played of course by Meryl Streep, still presides as editor. However, all is not well in the world of fashion magazines, and it needs the return of Andy (Anne Hathaway) to shake up the business. Emily Blunt and Stanley Tucci are also back in town, and the whole thing is extremely entertaining with a great cast all having fun. Pure escapism, and the clothes are fab!

A very different tone is set for our next outing on **Wednesday 28th October**. **Tuner** with Leo Woodall and Dustin Hoffman is a very interesting concept. Leo Woodall plays a young man who suffers from extreme sensitivity in his ears. He works as a piano tuner for a veteran piano tuner, played with great warmth by Dustin Hoffman. However, his hearing acuity and meticulous skills lead him to discover another unexpected talent: that of cracking safes. He unfortunately draws the attention of criminals, which threatens to spoil his budding romance with musician Ruthie, and pull him into increasingly dangerous territory. Described as a 'breezy, creative crime caper' this film has received many positive reviews.

We will be doing potatoes, as always. There is a bar and ice creams. We are keeping our prices low, so as many people as possible can come and enjoy a fun evening out in the Village Hall. Tickets remain at £5. You can buy them at the shop or on the door. Please indicate on your ticket if you would like a baked potato.

We start serving at 6.50 and the film starts at 7.30.

Sara Southerden

East Knoyle Village Hall 200 Club

The Village Hall 200 Club has held its fifth draw of the year on 2nd September. The winning number is 134. There's a shock of actual drizzle and a feeling of autumn in the air but there's something encouraging for this worthy winner:

David Webster £50.00

Thanks to David and to all subscribers. New supporters are cordially welcome to join at any time for only £12 a year. Just ring Sara and Neil Southerden on 830594 or leave a message in the shop.

The next draw is on November 1st.



Community Coffee Morning

St Mary's, East Knoyle

10.30 - 12.00

4th Tuesday of every month



Good Neighbours

In the five years since I came to these beautiful Wiltshire villages, I have been deeply struck by the friendliness and 'good neighbourliness' of our communities. It is very special the way people look out for their neighbours, helping and supporting each other. It's a great gift we offer and something so many of our towns and cities now struggle to do, where anonymity and transience, and the hectic pace of modern life, have broken down some of those deeper bonds.



We should be proud of our strong communities, but also not complacent. It would be so easy to allow it to drift away. Even now, our connections will be immensely strong with those we consider friends and those with whom we socialise regularly, but are we sometimes tempted to feel; 'I have **my** friends; I don't have time or energy or attention, or any need, to widen this circle'?

I am well aware that, when under pressure, (for example, when trying to whip round Tesco's, with my sons already irritated by how long I've kept them waiting), I can adopt a certain walk, a certain smile, that appears superficially warm, but simultaneously screams 'I am too busy for you!' Recognise that?

It's a temptation I know we sometimes experience in our churches; we welcome people warmly, but then have to ensure that busyness, shyness, or complacency, don't prevent us from offering anything more than a smile and a wave, or a few moments of small talk. Building and sustaining a community requires so much more.

It is, of course, one of the best known bible quotes, the commandment to 'Love your neighbour as yourself'; but as the inspiring spiritual writer, Henri Nouwen, said: 'We **become** neighbours when we are willing to cross the road for one another.' If we want our villages to retain that precious sense of connectedness, we need to be alert to the people for whom we don't yet 'cross the road'; the newcomer; the shy person who takes more perseverance to get to know; the people outside our usual 'set'; the person struggling with ill-health or grief who, above all, would hate to be seen as a 'burden'.

I can't promise I won't sometimes just smile and nod in Tesco's, but I'll try to 'cross the road' to you as often as I can. Perhaps we can meet each other in the middle!

Revd Kate McFarlane



Harvest Supper

SATURDAY OCTOBER 10th 2026

6.00pm onwards

East Knoyle Village Hall



Do come and bring your friends, a delicious hot meal, free drink of fizz beforehand and a pay bar.

Tickets :- £15.00/person. Children £7.50

Available at the shop or from	Ione Zatloukal	07761706491
	Hugo Middleton	07808299192
	John Maine	07762263472
	John Reading	07966476810

East Knoyle Flower and Vegetable Show 8th August

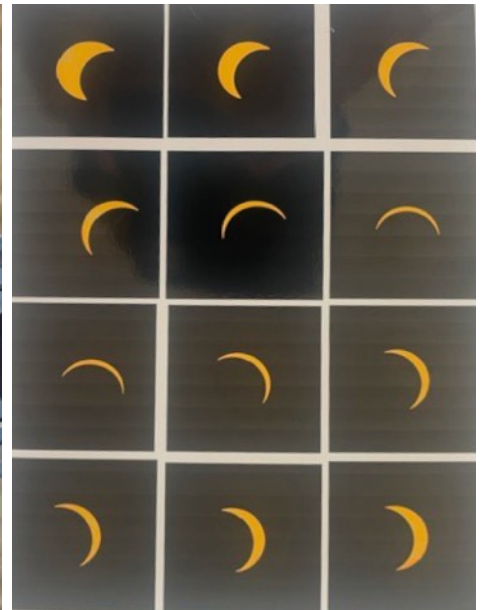


There were concerns that the adverse weather had created a difficult 'growing year'. These fears were ungrounded (in most categories!) and our gardeners put on an amazing display. Well done. And the produce selection continues to prove we are a village of bakers. Best of all, the number of entries in the Children's section continues to increase, and as does the standard of entries. Our Judges had a hard time this year! A huge thank you to everyone who made this year's Show a most wonderful and enjoyable event - the marquee erectors, tea makers, the Show team, but most of all, all those who entered their exhibits. A great community effort. See you next year!

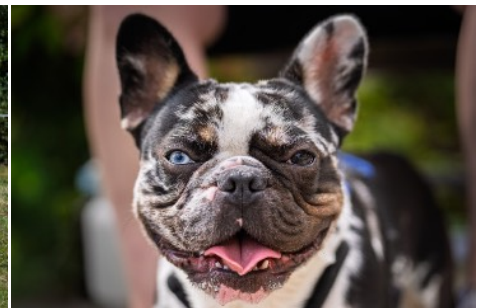
Partial eclipse 12th August

Photo credits:

- Sarah & Tony O'Reilly
- Martin Love
- James Doherty



East Knoyle Fête and Dog Show 6th September



St Mary's and St John's Hindon Primary School



After a well-earned summer break for our staff and children, we returned to school in September and have been getting to know our new children and their families as we welcomed a new cohort of Reception children into our school family.

The first few weeks are very much about settling in, getting to know the children as unique individuals, and building positive and nurturing relationships between our Early Years staff and the children. Starting school is a big milestone for the children and their families, and we aim to make that process as positive as possible.

Some of our existing children have moved up into new classrooms as they move up a year group, they are enjoying getting to know their new Teachers. The Autumn term is always a busy one with exciting new topics and learning.

Open Afternoon for prospective parents – Tuesday 6th October 26

On Tuesday 6th October from 1-2.30pm we are welcoming prospective families for an open afternoon. Come along and have a tour of our school, explore our lovely Early Years setting and talk to the team.

If you have a child starting school in September 2027 applications open on 1st September 2026 and the application deadline is 15th January 2027, so this is the perfect time to come and have a look at our school and see if it might be a good fit for your child.

We offer: A creative and enriching curriculum, caring and passionate staff, a wonderful indoor and outdoor Early Years space, all year-round weekly swimming & PE lessons at Port Regis, weekly on-site Forest School sessions for all children in our wild area and grounds, curriculum enrichment trips for all children, hot lunches made from scratch using local ingredients where possible, dedicated child wellbeing support from our ELSA practitioner, on site after-school & holiday club childcare run by staff that the children know.

If you would like to come along to our open afternoon, let our school office know via admin@hindonce.wilts.sch.uk or 01747 820260, if you can't come along on our open afternoon, don't worry at all, let the office know and we can book a separate appointment to suit you.

New on-site after-school & holiday club provision coming to Hindon!

We are very excited to tell you that Mrs Sharon Johnson who is one of our TA's and our Mental Health & Wellbeing Lead and ELSA Practitioner is going to be opening a new on-site after-school club & holiday club alongside her role in school.



The provision will operate from the lovely cabin and dedicated garden that are in our school grounds and will run from 3.00pm – 6.00pm on school days, as well as offering childcare during some of the school holidays in the form of a holiday club.

Children will be able to take part in a range of activities, both indoor and outdoors, socialising with other children and having fun. The setting will have a big focus on child wellbeing, both emotional and physical, it will be a screen free setting with access to a range of resources to allow children to explore their interests and learn new skills.

The setting will offer a home-from-home, safe, nurturing and fun environment for children from Reception age upwards, and will **NOT** be limited to just Hindon School Children, it will welcome families from across our local community who need childcare after school and during the holidays.

Because Sharon will be managing and operating this provision herself outside of her school role, it requires separate OFSTED registration as a standalone setting. Sharon has been working over the summer giving the cabin and gardens a refresh and getting things set up, along with completing all of the necessary paperwork. She has submitted the OFSTED application, and once they have carried out all of their checks and have visited the site to approve it, the setting will be open. This process can take around 12 weeks, so the setting is likely to open at some point in early November.

This is going to be a very positive addition to our school, which supports busy working parents, we already offer a Breakfast club in school from 8am each day.

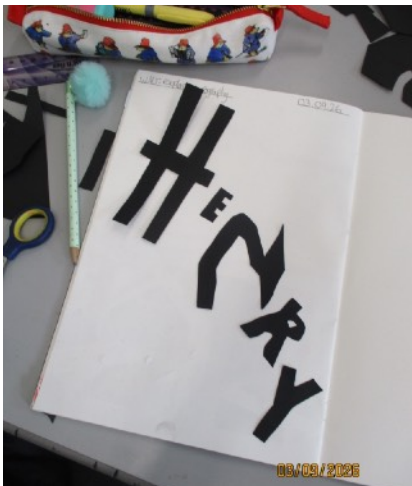
If you are interested in this new provision and would like to find out more and be kept updated in terms of opening dates and bookings, please e-mail Sharon via thenesthindon@outlook.com



A Super Start to the New School Year at Wardour

It has been a super start to the new school year at Wardour Catholic Primary School and I am delighted to have begun my journey as the school's new Headteacher. It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back and see our pupils return full of enthusiasm, excitement and readiness to learn.

We have also warmly welcomed our new Reception children, who have been busy learning new routines, getting to know their classrooms and finding their way around school. They have settled in incredibly quickly and are already becoming a very happy part of our Wardour family.



There has been lots of exciting learning taking place across the school. Our Year 5 and 6 children have been exploring typography and creating designs using their own names. Year 3 and 4 have completed some beautiful flower-press bookmarks, using the new flower presses generously donated



by our wonderful Friends of Wardour. Meanwhile, Year 1 and 2 have begun their exciting new topic, Castles and Dragons.

It has been a joy to see such a positive start to the year!

Mrs Amy Allen

East Knoyle Fantasy Football League (EKFL 2026 /

The new Fantasy Football season kicked off on 21st Aug with managers in the league this year. Before this, the Fantasy Football Managers Pre Season Training Camp was held at the Fox and Hounds. Dave Hockham, our rules expert, imparted advice concerning the new rules to new and existing league managers, but was thwarted in his attempt to get a kiss from Izzy.



Before this the two trophies for top Women's Manager and highest individual weekly score went to Issy Good. The Eusebio Trophy for top manager in the 2025-2026 season went to Stephen Lansley who prevailed after a nerve jangling final day where 7 managers were in contention.

Special mentions to Ellis Butcher for the loudest shirt of the evening (Chris Cox was beaten into third place) and to Martin Bale for propping up the League last season but still showing up on the night to be reminded of this fact.

Kevin Stow kandbstow@hotmail.com





Free Thinkers

When the World Happiness Report was published in early 2026 Finland topped the table for the 9th year in succession. Five of the top six places were filled by Nordic countries with the USA and UK moving down the table to 23rd and 29th respectively.

At the meeting we looked at the methods used in the compilation of the table and took a light hearted look at happiness levels in East Knoyle using the same methods adopted in the report.

Johathan Turnbull had researched the proliferation of Nordic Countries at the top of the table and gave a detailed account of societies offering free education and child care, top class health care and social safety nets to the residents. An emphasis on healthy outdoor living and community helped these countries achieve the top positions along with high levels of income equality.

Interestingly, Sweden had achieved an improvement in its happiness levels with one of the highest immigration levels in Europe. 19% of current Swedes were not born in the country.

One of the main conclusions of the report was the decreasing happiness levels in English speaking countries around the world. In particular the decline in mental health in Children and adolescents.

As background to this finding we looked at the main claims of the book "Anxious Generation" by Jonathan Haidt. Eric Brunner outlined the claims of the book and then looked at the scientific validity of the claims. This provoked an interesting discussion around phone use and social media which brought the meeting to a close. The meeting was fully subscribed but if you are interested in attending future meetings contact Kevin Stow at

kandbstow@hotmail.com

AUTUMN MUSICAL EVENING

**Enjoy an evening of songs and music by
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Jessie's fund
MUSIC HELPING CHILDREN

Knogle Nature - Humming Bird Hawk Moths

We have probably all seen one of these marvellous creatures this year, as along with Painted Lady butterflies this has been a special summer for them.

In my childhood in Devizes I remember seeing one for the first time hovering at the Honeysuckle flowers in our garden and being utterly amazed. They were rare then, and they had to fly up from North Africa and southern Europe; we now have a breeding population in southern England so some at least have become resident. Their breeding cycle is quite fast and so can now appear early in the season.



They of course get their name from resemblance to the Hummingbird itself, and similarly beat their wings amazingly fast: the moth can beat its wings at 80 beats per second, and this gives it great flexibility in the air. Like the bird it can dart from flower to flower in fast sideways movement. This high level of energy expenditure raises the body temperature to the highest recorded in the insect world at about 45° C which is about the limit an insect can tolerate.

This great activity needs fuelling and they spend the day sucking sugary nectar from flowers using their very long proboscis which you can see if close up; the bird uses its long beak in a similar way when feeding on floral nectar. In our garden they prefer the common Red Valerian and Phlox, and they have some of the most discriminating eyesight in the insect world, probably distinguishing between flowers already visited and those still with nectar.

They lay their eggs on Ladies Bedstraw leaves but can use a few others including Willowherbs. There is some in the Graveyard I think, and the rarer Heath Bedstraw in the acid grassland on Windmill Hill. If you are thinking of establishing an area of natural grassland include some! It smells strongly of honey.

There is a very good film on Youtube: (search Wakey wakey sleepyhead.)

David Pickering

New Vic @ Tisbury Events



Friday September 25th,	Jazz - Harvey Brink Trio	7.30pm
Sunday September 27th,	Art Exhibitions On Screen - James McNeil Whistler	7:00pm
Saturday October 3rd,	NTLive - The Misanthrope	7.30pm
Friday October 19th,	Let us take you to Paris (music)	7.30pm
Sunday October 11th,	Magic Lantern – Santosh (India)	7.00pm
Sunday October 18th,	Seventh Art productions: David Hockney	7.00pm
Tuesday October 20th,	MET OPERA - Macbeth (12A)	6.00pm
Friday October 23rd	Jazz -Philip Clouts Quartet	7.30pm
Sunday November 1st,	RBO – Manon	5.00pm
Saturday November 7th,	NTLive: Golden Boy	7.30pm
Sunday November 8th,	Magic Lantern – La Chimera (Italy)	7.00pm
Sunday November 15th,	RBO – Carmen	5.00pm
Friday November 27th	Jazz- Saoco Collective	7.30pm

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If you're worried about how you'll afford your heating oil this winter, there might be support available for you.

Eligible households can apply for the Wiltshire Crisis and Resilience Fund for Oil – a government fund that supports low-income households with the price of heating oil. It's worth applying for this now, while the funding is available, so you'll have a fund ready to use when you need to buy oil this winter.

To find out more and apply, visit <https://voucherfund.co.uk/wilts-crf-oil/> or call Warm & Safe Wiltshire on 0800 038 5722.



Autumn is when the publishers bring out their best titles for the gift buying season and we have a great selection this Christmas (there, I've said the C word.) I have put together a snapshot below for immediate enjoyment or for clocking Christmas presents for later on. Enjoy!

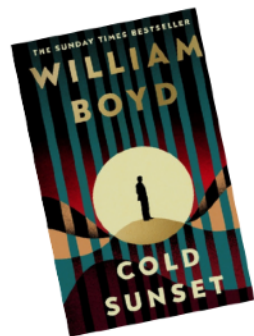
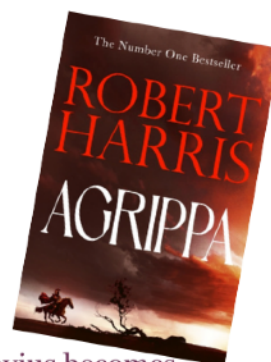


The Gruffalo Granny by Julia Donaldson, £14.99, hardback

Return to the deep dark wood with the first new Gruffalo story in over 20 years, and meet Gruffalo Granny as she visits the Gruffalo family. This fresh and exciting new Gruffalo adventure features the return of much-loved characters and is destined to become a classic.

**Agrippa by Robert Harris, hardback, £22, (signed copies available)
Fiction**

Julius Caesar is dead, and the lives of two teenaged boys are about to be changed forever. One is Caesar's 17-year-old nephew, Octavius, whom he has made his heir. The other is Octavius's closest friend, Agrippa. To claim Octavius's inheritance, they must fight the ruling elite of the Roman Empire – and, against all odds, they win. Octavius becomes the Emperor Augustus. A fascinating study of how power corrupts.

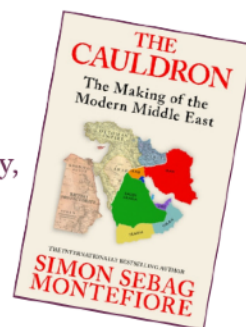


**Cold Sunset by William Boyd, hardback, £20 (signed copies available)
Fiction**

The third thrilling novel by William Boyd to star Gabriel Dax: travel writer, reluctant spy and accidental hero. Gabriel is on route to Russia, tasked with delivering a mysterious Blanco drawing to celebrated defector, Kit Caldwell. But Caldwell is convinced that the KGB suspects him of treachery and he wants to get out – now.

Making of the Modern Middle East by Simon Seabag Montefiore, hardback, £25, Non-Fiction

Montefiore delivers a fresh and unique history of the entire region in all its diversity, from 1900 up to the present day. Taking the reader on a spectacular journey from the Ottoman sultanate to the Trump presidency, from Morocco to Iran, this is a dazzling panorama of faith and fanaticism, creativity and tolerance, dictatorship and democracy brought to life by an extraordinary cast of kings, warriors, poets, terrorists and peacemakers. This is the essential story of how the Middle East of 1900 became the Middle East of today – and tomorrow.



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East Knoyle honeybees - Notes from the East Knoyle Apiaries – 31

It is mid-October and we have had a fantastic summer. Unlike their cousins in East Anglia and the South East, where it has been particularly hot and dry, our bees have had a lovely time. In our temperate climate, our flowers produce most of their nectar between 16 °C and 25 °C. When it is hot we have the slightly strange spectacle of lots of flowers and lots of bees buzzing around – but not much nectar. Fortunately, here everything seemed to flower at the same time. It is as if, our girls knew what was going to happen..... They built-up large colonies over the cool late spring and were well placed to raid the nectar larder!

Flowers create nectar to attract pollinators who transport the (male(?) pollen for fertilisation. This is, in the main, what happens to most flowering plants. Grasses and some trees are exclusively wind pollinated. (Honeybees are not indigenous to the prairie grassland of North America). Almonds require 100% pollination from honeybees (pollinating 5 million trees in California – is no mean feat and another story). Honeybees are well adapted pollinators and have special plumose, branched, hairs and a positive electrostatic charge that collects pollen. There are several variables: Some flowers are adapted to cooler (early spring) conditions like Crocuses and require bumble bees (who fly at 1-3 °C). Some flowers require specialist bees to pollinate (Ivy or Bee Orchids) – generally all down to tongue length. Non-native flowers can, like Himalayan Balsom, confuse our little bees. The picture shows the characteristic pollen stripe created when a honeybee squeezes into the tubular flower of a Himalayan Balsom. I can understand that you want to pull the Himalayan Balsom and keep it out of the river catchments – but it is a very good source of late season nectar!



Bees collect pollen in their pollen baskets (corbicula). These are a series of hairs and an indent on the outside of their hind legs and a comb on the inside. In summer, bees live for 3 weeks inside the hive and 3 weeks as foragers. Then they run out of buzz! 25% of foragers collect pollen only. 58%, nectar only and 17% both.



Depending on the temperature, a few bees collect water and some bees collect tree sap – propolis. Propolis was traditionally used as a tincture for sore throats and in various early medicines. Bees use it's antibiotic and antiseptic properties to line the inside of their hives. Bees hate mice (mice wee) – if they kill a mouse in the hive – they will mummify its body with propolis.....

Here is one of my pictures of our bees. They have drawn out fresh foundation and are filling it with pollen. The pollen is placed in a cell by the pollinating bee. Then specialist pollen receiver bees, pickle (in honey) and pack the pollen in the cells. I am not good on pollen identification, but suspect that the dark purple / green pollen is Rosebay Willow Herb the yellow pollen is a Hogweed or Ragwort or from some of the flowers, resplendent in the gardens of East Knoyle.

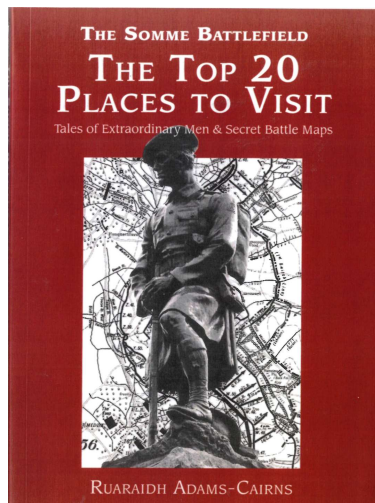


ASIAN HORNETS.

On the BeeBase Tracker [Yellow-legged hornet 2026 rolling update » APHA - National Bee Unit - BeeBase](#) there have been sightings in Romsey, Hedge End, South Dorset and Southampton in August and September. A nest was destroyed in Street at the beginning of the month. Not sure why it is not on the tracker. Please download the Asian Hornet Watch App and stay vigilant. Keep looking up for secondary nests when walking the dog. They are smaller and blacker than our European Hornets. Any questions? Please give me a call.

Tom 07967 552025 tomkenyon@tegk.co.uk

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BACS: a/c name Save the Children DC26, a/c no. 65586718, sort code 08-02-28 (please give names of those attending as reference)



Save the Children



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- Playing cards or crosswords/games/puzzles.

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- Rewarding for volunteers – fulfilling, provides social connection and become part of a valued team.

If this is something you feel drawn to help with, please contact us to find out more:

Liz Beadle, Stars Appeal Engage Co-ordinator,
Department of Clinical Psychology, Salisbury District Hospital
Telephone: 01722 425105 or email: sft.engage@nhs.net

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Enjoy the outdoors but 'be tick aware'

Ticks can transmit microbes that cause infections such as Lyme disease or tick borne encephalitis.

Being tick aware by using the following information can help to reduce the chance of tick bites and of being infected:

- you could be exposed to ticks whenever you spend time outdoors, including when in your garden or the local park
- ticks mainly attach to animals, but sometimes they may bite you, your family or your pets
- you can reduce the chance of tick bites by walking on clearly defined paths, using insect repellent and performing **regular tick checks**
- ticks can bite anywhere on the body, including in your hair. More than one tick can be attached to you at a time
- some tick bites can result in infection, so it is important to remove ticks safely and as quickly as possible
- the safest way to remove a tick is by using a pair of **fine-tipped** tweezers or a tick removal tool
- if you begin to feel unwell with flu-like symptoms, persistent headache, confusion or develop a spreading circular red rash (which usually appears within 1 to 4 weeks after being bitten), **contact your GP or NHS 111 promptly**. Mention if you were bitten by a tick or have recently spent time outdoors

Tick sizes compared to a one penny coin



Tick in the environment



Tick attached to skin



Lyme disease bullseye rash



Tick found under hair



For more information, search for the phrases 'ticks' and 'Lyme disease' on these websites:

www.nhs.uk www.gov.uk www.nice.org.uk/guidance

GOV-11370

Tick Awareness for Walkers

Ticks are small, spider-like creatures found in long grass, woodland and heathland. While most tick bites are harmless, some ticks can carry bacteria that cause Lyme disease.

Before you head out:

1. Wear long sleeves and trousers where possible.
2. Stick to paths and avoid brushing against long grass.
3. Use insect repellent suitable for ticks.

After your walk:

1. Check yourself, children and pets for ticks.
2. Pay particular attention to behind the knees, under the arms, around the waist and hairline.
3. Remove any ticks promptly using a tick removal tool or fine-tipped tweezers.

Be aware of symptoms A spreading circular rash and flu-like symptoms can be signs of Lyme disease. Contact your GP or NHS 111 if symptoms develop following a tick bite. Enjoy the outdoors safely by taking a few simple precautions.

For more information, visit: www.nhs.uk/conditions/lyme-disease/

[Tips and tricks to stay safe from ticks – UK Health Security Agency](#)



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Membership enquiries - membership@pythouseclub.co.uk

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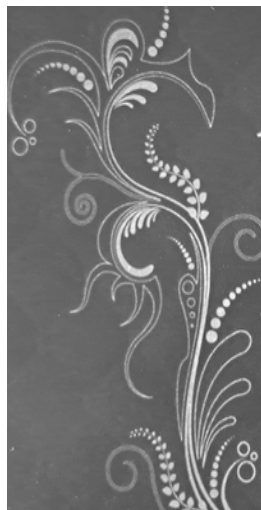
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Contact Billy On

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billy@mrsafemode.co.uk

Share with your community

East Knoyle villagers love reading the newsletter. It is a great way to share information.

Please send us articles, letters, recipes, reviews, photographs and anything else you'd like to share. We'd love to hear from you.

Articles may be edited at the discretion of The Editor

Useful contacts

Village Website www.east-knoyle.co.uk

Where you can also find online copies of the current and previous editions of the newsletter

Service	Number	
Doctor	Hindon Surgery	01747 820222
	Tisbury Surgery	01747 870204
	Abbey View Medical Centre	01747 865700
Crime	Rural Crime Reporting Line	0800 783 0137
	PCSO Alice Moore	101 or 07795 020508
Village Shop	Village Shop	01747 830735
	East Knoyle Post Office	01747 830928
Utilities	National Gas Helpline	0800 111 999
	National Power Cut Helpline	105
	Wessex Water	0345 600 4600
	CJM Tree Services 24/7 call out	07745 745257
East Knoyle Church	St Mary's Church	01747 830174

Find the App

MyWilts	https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting	Report potholes etc
Wiltshire Connect	www.wiltshireconnect.co.uk	On-demand bus service
Asian Hornet Watch	https://www.ceh.ac.uk/our-science/citizen-science/asian-hornet	Apps for iPhones and Android
What3Words	https://what3words.com/products/what3words-app	Give a location to 3m ² . Good for reporting potholes etc



DEADLINE FOR November / December 2026 Newsletter 10th November 2026

Newsletters are normally distributed around 10 days after the copy deadline.