

EAST KNOYLE NEWSLETTER

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The East Knoyle Newsletter

In this issue...

A note from the Editors...

Welcome to Issue 4 (of 6)– two thirds of the way through our 50th Anniversary year.

This bumper issue is a goldmine of local information. Many thanks to Revd Kate and the RBL for organising a wonderful D-Day Act of Remembrance and a fly past!

Golden opportunities: We do hope you have pruned you primulas, tweaked your tomatoes and started soaking your cherries (B.F. Gateau) in preparation for the EAST KNOYLE FLOWER & VEG SHOW on

3rd Aug. Online registration is open and doors open for registration in person, 4pm to 7pm on Friday

2nd Aug. The very best of luck!!!

Thank you to our own Tom Kenyon for the picture from the village D-Day commemoration, which graces the front page.

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Parish Council News

Knogle House Grounds Playground

The Parish Council would like to thank Gill and Garry Staunton, and their helpers, for all their work in organising and running the day, and for donating the considerable proceeds of their recent Open Garden Event to the KHG Playground Appeal. It was a wonderful Village community event.

Many of you will be aware that a fine body of volunteers have been working away in the Playground. And what a lot they have done! All the wooden play equipment has been inspected, cleaned, repaired if necessary, and then treated. The goal posts reset and painted. Perhaps the most noticeable achievement has been the refurbishment of the main gates – one person commented that the ‘new gates’ must have been expensive! See before and after photos below.



More Thanks

The Parish Council would like to also recognise and thank the great community contribution made by T@3. We understand that this is now regularly attended by up to 40 people. And thanks to Jan Knight for organising the recent afternoon Jazz concert (in association with Wiltshire Age UK). It was a full house – fantastic!

The Dips, near the Windmill

There have been several issues at the Dips near The Green in recent weeks that have led to the land managers (East Knoyle Parish Council) having to take action. The most recent is potentially serious in that one of the trees has been extensively used as a practice target for axe/knife throwing. Given that this area is a well-used public area the danger is obvious. There has been a lot of littering and destructive digging, as well as the use of power tools. None of this is permitted. As a result the Police have been informed – they too are very concerned about the axe throwing, especially as it almost certainly involves young people. They are currently carrying out frequent visits to the area as part of their regular patrols. They would also ask residents to report any anti-social activities to 101 and quote the original log number – 54240073018

East Knoyle Parish Council remains committed to encouraging everyone to use our common lands, but not to the detriment of other users or the natural environment. The natural area of the Dips has been used by generations of children for playing, but we cannot allow a few people to be destructive to this natural area.

Martin Brown. Clerk, East Knoyle Parish Council - clerkeastknoylepc@gmail.com

Did you know there is a East Knoyle village WhatsApp group?

The purpose of which is to relay important information quickly to those in the village, such as a tree blocking a road lost dogs or cats

Please message Deb Bateman on 07713 321 530 to be added.

Wren's Shop Notes from Ian Tait

- The EK Community Shop Association AGM will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 25 July 2024. Drinks and nibbles available from 7.10pm. All members registered for the 2023/24 accounts are eligible to attend. We are keen to register new members for the 24/25 season so if you are interested in joining us, please contact Sara Southerden (830594).
- Royal Mail has now provided a UK 24/48Hr Tracked and/or Signed For service. This has been available for international postage for many years, but our East Knoyle Post Office can now offer these options for UK parcels

POST OFFICE		Royal Mail Product Comparison					*Special Delivery by 9am and Saturday delivery available for an additional cost.	
▼ Feature		Special Delivery	Tracked with Signature	Tracked	Signed For	Standard		
	Delivery aim	Next Day Guaranteed by 1pm* or your money back	TRK24: 1 day aim TRK48: 2-3 day aim	TRK24: 1 day aim TRK48: 2-3 day aim	1ST C: 1 day aim 2ND C: 2-3 day aim	1ST C: 1 day aim 2ND C: 2-3 day aim		
	End to End Tracking	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗		
	Signature on Delivery	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗		
	Photo on Delivery	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗		
	Compensation Cover	£750	£150	£150	£20	£20		
	Additional Compensation	Incrementally for a fee up to a maximum of £2500	✗	✗	✗	✗		
	Compensation Cash, Gift Cards, Jewellery, Important Docs.	Documents covered up to £10,000 with optional add-on: Consequential Loss	✗	✗	✗	✗		

- This will be my last Newsletter contribution as I will be stepping down as the EKCSA Chair at the AGM. It has been an honour and fun to serve as the Chair and I'd like to thank everyone who has helped me throughout the past 6 years. From our latest accounts I think Wren's Shop is in a great position for the future.

Wren's Shop

East Knoyle Community Shop

**Owned and run by the
Community of East Knoyle for the
Community of East Knoyle**

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

Fresh bread, vegetables and meat delivered daily
Newspapers every day
Crissons and pastries baked in-store
Local organic milk
Coffee and Hot Drinks!

Meeting all your everyday needs and then offering you something extra - come and see if we can surprise you!
facebook.com: WrensShopEastKnoyle

Church Road, East Knoyle, SP3 6AE
Tel: 01747 830735
Email: shop@wrensshop.co.uk
<http://www.wrens-shop.co.uk>



East Knoyle Post Office

**Wren's Shop, Church Road, East Knoyle
Salisbury SP3 6AE
Tel: 01747 830928
Email: shop@wrensshop.co.uk**

Open Monday - Friday 0900 - 1300

Offering an amazing range of:

- Amazon Drop-off and Collections
- Banking (cash withdrawals, cheque and cash deposits)
- Banking Balances
- Bill Payments and Top Up
- Drop & Go Drop-off
- Customs Forms for International Postage
- Euros on Demand
- ParcelForce UK & Worldwide (incl Large Parcels)
- Postal Orders
- Royal Mail Letters & Parcels (Inland & International)
- Royal Mail Redirections
- Savings & Investments
- Special Delivery, Tracked & Signed-for Postage
- Stamps (1st and 2nd Class plus International)
- Travel Money Cards
- World-wide Currencies to Order

Closed Weekends and Bank Holidays *

What Does It Take To Run Our Village Shop?

VOLUNTEERS!

East Knoyle is lucky enough to still have a village shop & Post Office. Its team of volunteers keep it running 364 days a year. As well as the cheery welcome which our customers receive from those working behind the till, there is always a hive of activity going on behind the scenes. People do take time off occasionally – for holidays, family events or illness – & others ‘retire’ or leave the village. We need to be assured that we have an adequate number of people in the pool of volunteers to ensure that we can continue to open every day during our advertised times. Without our volunteers the shop would simply not run and we need more people to come forward to help. So the question is:

Could you become one of our volunteers?

What our volunteers do

Serving customers

Ordering goods & services

Checking prices

Training

Bookkeeping

Using the computerised stock system

Filling shelves

Receiving goods in from suppliers

Stockroom management

Cleaning

Maintenance

Just a couple of hours a week would make all the difference

If you feel that you could help, or if you would like to find out more about what helping us involves, then please contact either:

Ian Tait (01747 830647) or Liz Quantrell (01747 830898)

or email : shop@wrensshop.co.uk



Open Garden for Knoyle House grounds

Gill and Garry would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came and made the Open Garden an enjoyable and profitable day...£1,384 was raised in aid of the work needed in the Knoyle House grounds playground.

Thanks to Pam, Flora and Sue for their hard work before the event, especially designing posters and advertising, and organising the raffle. Thanks to Chrissie, Jill and Lucy for running the tea and cakes so well, and thank you to everyone who donated cakes and plants. Also thanks to Trish for the Alfred Radio interview, which brought in visitors from Trowbridge, Wincanton and even one lady from Bournemouth!

The icing on the cake was a performance by the choir who sang a sample of the songs they are preparing for the Shaftesbury Fringe.

As someone commented ' It was a quintessentially English event'.

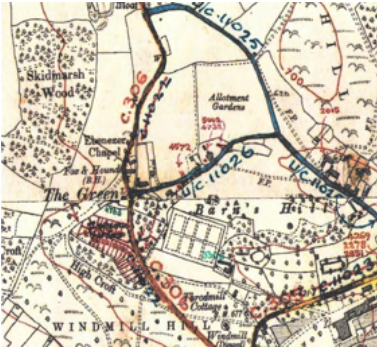
Gill and Garry



Volunteers doing amazing work at the Knoyle House Playground



Round and About



First of all, welcome to new residents:

David Bernstein and Sophie Carruth have moved into Brickyard and, first and foremost, would like to apologise to everyone for the noise and disturbance over the last three and a half years, and to thank them for their forbearance while the new home, the first rammed-earth house in the UK, was being constructed. H-shaped, this has been built on and within the site of the Victorian walled garden. They are delighted to be living here full time now, and already feel they know more people than in their previous village.

Nick and Torty Hutton, Alexa, Lavinia and Wolfie the Westie have completed alterations to their house in Holloway and are also here full time now. We all hope they too soon feel at home here in Knoyle and will play a full part in village life.

Carol Porter has moved into a cottage at the Shaftesbury end of The Street and is much enjoying living in the country. If you meet any of these new residents out and about, please say hello, introduce yourselves, reiterate the welcome to East Knoyle and encourage them to come to the Flower and Produce Show and the Church Fete.

Condolences go to Sam and the wider Brine family on the death of Jean after a period of declining health. Latterly living at the southern end of the village, Jean was local through and through with connections during her long life to Chicklade, Sedgemoor, Semley and The Green, where she and Sam moved after retirement. Jean passed her love of and skill with horses to the next generations, especially her daughter Sally and grand-daughter Gracie. St Mary's was full for her funeral service last month, remembering a kind and well-loved member of the farming community.

We also say good bye to Karen Taylor and her husband who are moving from the village. Keen and rather expert plantspeople, they will be missed by friends at T@3 and by fellow dog-walkers.

The Round and About Team are aware of a number of people who are currently, or recently have been, undergoing treatment in hospital. Naming no names, we send good wishes to all of them for a speedy recovery and the regaining of good health.

Join in **Ride and Stride** and help raise funds for repairs to the masonry of St Mary's East Knoyle
Saturday 14th September



A circular walk has been devised taking in Wardour Chapel, the churches of Donhead St Andrew, Donhead St Mary, Charlton, Semley, Sedgemoor and finally back to East Knoyle. It follows public footpaths and avoids roads so far as possible.

Money raised through sponsorship or donation will be split equally between the Fabric Fund of St Mary's East Knoyle and the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust.

The full circuit is about twenty two miles in total but you can do as much or little as you like, starting wherever you like.

More details on the East Knoyle website.

Royal British Legion

D Day commemorations, the 'Laying Up' and Dedication of our old and new Branch Standards combined with other activities, has meant that this has been an exceptionally busy period for the Branch. Nothing new there you might say.



On the 6th June we participated in the national commemoration of the 80th anniversary of D Day by holding a short service at the East Knoyle war memorial. Led by the Rector, Kate McFarlane, it commenced at precisely 1100 with a flyover by David Morgan in his Tiger Moth biplane. Our Branch and the East Knoyle Women's section were well represented, not only by our respective Standard Bearers and readers but also within the gathering of approximately 50 around the perimeter of the memorial. The memorial, in immaculate condition following a recent cleaning by Ian Gurney, was complemented by the beautiful wreath of red and white flowers provided by Helen Lever. Incidentally and completely independently, the same evening many of you will have heard the bells of St Mary's being rung by the EK's bell ringers ending our village's contribution to a nation wide commemorative initiative.



One of the most important battles of 1944 was that of Imphal and Kohima which lasted from April 4th to June 22nd. On the 20th June (2024) we were pleased to hold another of our film and talk evenings at Semley Village Hall in aid of the Poppy Appeal which featured: an introductory film by James Holland that laid out the framework of battles, followed by a most informative talk by Charlotte Carty. Charlotte, accompanied by her children and other volunteers, recently completed a 39 hour walk replicating the 70 mile trek her grandfather, Lt. Col. Felix Brown and the 1st Assam regiment, made through the jungle to relieve our troops at Kohima. Charlotte is an accomplished and entertaining speaker who vividly brought to life not only the experience of walking non-stop in her grandfather's footsteps, but also the bravery and endurance displayed by the soldiers and local Naga people involved in one of the greatest battles ever fought by British and Commonwealth troops.



You will have previously read that our Branch Standard which had served us well for just over 70 years was to be retired and a new Standard commissioned in its place. The Laying Up and Dedication service of both Standards took place at St Mary's on June 28th and was followed by lunch at the Fox and Hounds. Guests included county representatives of both RBL Wiltshire and RBL Wiltshire Women's section. At lunch we were delighted to present a cheque for £500 to RBL County Chairman, Paul Mayo, as a contribution towards the cost of purchasing the new Standard. Thanks to: our Rector, Kate McFarlane and Standard Bearer, Mark Gittins, for organising and leading this special occasion, together with a special welcome to Alex Drake of East Knoyle who played the Last Post and Reveille. Last but not least, the Fox and Hounds team of Murray, Feargal and Kate who laid on another splendid lunch.



Our new Standard was soon on ceremonial duty, parading at the Fovant Badges Drumhead service on July 7th held at East Farm, at the foot of the hill on which the badges are carved.

Future events include a visit to the Gartell Light Railway on the 25th July and the Strawberry and Pimms Tea on the 4th August at which our RBL Branch and the EK Women's Section combine to thank all our supporters within the village for their contribution to the success of our annual Poppy Appeal. A talk by Col. John Blashford-Snell is scheduled for the 27th September.

Poppy Appeal 2023/24

During these summer months appeal funds are boosted significantly by Roy Halsall displaying his WW2 Chevrolet and selling of Poppy merchandise at various commemorative events throughout the country. For instance, over the week he spent camping out at the recent Chalke Valley history festival he collected £760.42. This, combined with other events he attended in June, raising £294, has helped to boost our current total to £10,472.40. Don't forget, Roy still has a box in aid of the Poppy Appeal at the Wren stores in which you can place any unwanted currency of any age and denomination. If you are clearing out any old watches, medals or similar bric-a-brac he certainly could make use of those too. At the time of writing the appeal has received £235 from our talk on Kohima which means we are now well on our way to reaching the £11,000 mark.



IN AID OF THE POPPY APPEAL

Do you have any odd coins or notes, old or foreign currency? Even Euros! Old watches (working or not). Small items of militaria or interest, including Jewellery.
Gold or silver scrap.

Please contact Roy Halsall 830499, or leave at the Village Shop Post Office.

All money made will go to the Poppy Appeal.

With the months flying by and looking forward to the 2024/25 appeal, please note that Poppy Appeal organiser, Ian Gurney, is always keen to welcome new recruits to his team of collectors up at Willoughby Hedge service area during the main two weeks of the appeal in November. These collections are the backbone of our fundraising year so if you are interested and have a few hours to spare to become involved please let Ian or me know.

Next Branch Meeting: 6th August, 6.30pm, Fox and Hounds
Ron Clark — Branch Secretary (830354)



It's back!

**East Knoyle Village
Fete with Dog Show**



Sunday 8th September 12:00 to 4:00
all around the Village Hall

Family dog show Teas and cakes Beer tent Jams, cakes and produce stalls
The renowned East Knoyle BBQ Wellie wanging Book and art stall Raffle
Clothes stall Face painting Ladder game Wack-a-rat Bottle stall

Dog show commences at 2:00 with entry registration at 1:00

Please bring cash as card payment is not possible



**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

World's Biggest Coffee Morning

We're Back

**Join us for coffee at East Knoyle Village
Hall**

On Friday 27th September

10.30am to Noon

**Good prizes wanted for Raffle or Tombola.
Please phone Babs on**

01747 830242

East Knoyle Rainfall May and June 2024

MAY. We had 3.13" (79.5mm) of rain in May 2024. The 30-year average for May is 2.54" (64.47mm). So, in May this year, rainfall was about 23% higher than the 30-year January average.

JUNE. We had a measly 0.37" (9.5mm) of rain in June 2024. The 30-year average for June is 2.31" (58.63mm). So we had only had about 16% of expected rainfall in the month, and we were really suffering from lack of rain, hard to believe after the extra-wet January-April.

Thank goodness we have had 3.03", 77mm, in the first days of July (just five days since the rain started, 5-9 July) already well above the monthly average for July. Accompanied but unusually cold weather. But that is another story; we will see now if the rain continues all July.

Nat Page



East Knoyle Quiz Answer from previous issue

1: April 1974. 2: 910. 3: 26 October 1986. 4: Plaque near entrance of Village Hall. 5: 1954. 6: The Fox and Hounds. 7: Approx 235ft, Platshett Field, NW of Parish between Chapel Farm and Willoughby Hedge. 8: 53. 9: Wyndham. 10: 12 May 1995. 11: 1536. 12: Agent for the Seymour Estate in 1867. 13: July 1984. 14: Six bells. 15: Constitution Hill. 16: Jane Seymour in 1908. 17: Mr Wills, Mr D Waters and Lord (then Sir John) Eden. 18: 1695. 19: Harrowells. 20: 1978.



East Knoyle Free Thinkers—Friday 16th August

The recent Government intervention into the purchase the Telegraph Group of Newspapers has brought into focus who owns the newspapers we read and what are the motivation of the owners.

The Economical Democracy Index identifies one of the hallmarks of a good democracy is that it should have "a diverse and independent media". At the next meeting of the EKFT we will look into who owns the newspapers we read and try to establish what kind of influence they seek to have on our political and social views.

Our last meeting was over subscribed but there are often opportunities to join the meeting if the venue is not full. If you wish to attend check with

Kevin Stow at kandbstow@hotmail.com

T@3

On the **second Thursday** of each month about 30 people from all around the village gather in the village hall for tea, sandwiches, cake, laughter and chat... not forgetting the raffle. We see quite a few familiar faces, but are always glad to welcome newcomers, whether new to East Knoyle, or simply new to T@3.

Please email t@3ek@icloud.com to indicate you are attending, which means we can organise enough chairs and cake!

The next few dates are: August 8th, September 12th, October 10th, November 14th, December 12th

Doors open at **2.45pm** , and we need to be out of the hall **by 4.30pm**.



Family Fun Day and Dog Show

Once again, Nat and Katie Page hosted the annual Family Fun Day and Fun Dog Show on Sunday 2nd June in their gardens at Upper Leigh Farm. The weather was sunny and warm, attracting families from far and wide to come along and enjoy the day. A wide range of stalls provided a broad selection of products to buy, from stylish 'pre-loved' outfits in the "boutique" to artefacts from Brazil, Panama Hats, Wiltshire Honey, a wide range of books and Bric-a-Brac items, or people could try their luck at the Tombola stall. Children had their own area for games, prizes and Face Painting by Cassia – as well as the chance to pet the adorable visiting Alpacas.

Of course, all these stalls and activities in warm sunny weather means people need food and refreshments to sustain them through the day. So, there were BBQ'd hot dogs available, as well as cold drinks or tea and cakes in the shaded sunny gardens, whilst listening to local solo Guitarist / Singer, Conor Smith, who provided light entertainment as people relaxed in the garden eating snacks and quenching their thirst.

The many categories in the Fun Dog Show provided lots of entertainment to the audience, as well as their owners – the dogs seemed to be enjoying it too. Watching the dogs receiving their prized rosettes was the highlight of the show. The day was a fund-raising success for Save the Children (Shaftesbury Branch) bringing the total raised to some £3,500. Katie and her Committee would like to thank every one of our volunteers, helpers, stallholders and those attending for making the whole event such a successful and enjoyable day.



East Knoyle Flower & Vegetable Show

All systems are 'GO' for the Show on **3rd August**, ready to see who has succeeded against the odds and managed to grow something amazing. If not amazing, something to make it a good show, because it seems everyone has been up against it this year - weather and temperatures have been tricky, and I have lost track of the number of gloomy comments - "I won't have any roses left after the rain", "my beans took forever to germinate", "everything is very late". But, I am certain we will, as ever, be astonished at the display on the day. Don't hold back, let us see what you can do.

One thing that never changes is the tea and cake tent, and the camaraderie of all the exhibitors, their families and the visitors. Let's have another lovely village day!



East Knoyle Village Hall 200 Club

The Village Hall 200 Club has held its fourth draw of the year on 1st July. The winning number is 229. It's not been the sunniest of days, but it's a warm result for this shrewd investor, ready for the time when consistent summer reappears:

LUCY CAMERON £50

Thanks to Lucy 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 September 1st.



Ringling for Peace

On Thursday 6th June 2024, the band of East Knoyle Bell Ringers (assisted by Semley ringers) rang call changes for 30 minutes to 'Ring for Peace' around the world as well as commemorating the 80th anniversary of D-Day.

The bells were rung by Nicki Sturrock, Alistair Campbell, Paul Naish, Liz Oates (Semley), Mark Hawes (Semley), Andrew Oates (Semley) and Chris Cox.

If you're interested in joining our merry band of bell ringers, please give us a call (Nicki Sturrock 830143/Paul Naish 832335) and come and watch us ring at our practice on Monday evenings (7pm); we like it to be fun and there is always a pint at the pub after our practice!

Nicki Sturrock (Tower Captain)



Rain or Shine
Theatre Company
present

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

By Oscar Wilde

OUTDOOR COMEDY THEATRE

Upper Leigh Farm
What 3 Words Location: [innerdispensedcard](https://www.what3words.com/innerdispensedcard)

Friday 26th July at 7:30pm

Tickets: adult £16.00, children £8.00 (5-15 yrs), family £40.00 (2+2)
Tel: 01747 830278 or 03306 600 541
Or online booking through: www.bit.ly/Earnest-ULFarm

bar and light refreshments available
bring seating and picnic supper

gates open 6:00pm
katiepage@copac.org.uk

* in aid of Save The Children *
Don't forget the Raffle!

East Knoyle,
Salisbury,
Wilts. SP3 6AP

Open Garden Hatch House

Entry
Adults £5
Children £2

All donations and gifts welcome

Saturday 31st August | 11 am to 4.30 pm
Hatch House, Newtown, Tisbury SP3 6PA

Featuring Lady Rumbold's & Mrs Vernon's celebrated pre-loved clothes stalls and much more...

Books . Curio . Bric-a-Brac . Household Effects . Toys
BBQ by Compton McRae . Teas . Cakes . Ice Creams

Salisbury Hospice Charity

salisburyhospicecharity.org.uk

Just my Bread and Butter

As a phrase, 'my bread and butter' refers to our most basic needs and interests, what we require just to get by, but has the 'ordinariness' of this foodstuff meant we've forgotten to value it as much as we should?

As someone who hates waste, I always use up everything. I'd have been, in that way at least, an excellent 1940s housewife, using up every crumb and crust! So I shudder when I hear statistics like these:

- The UK throws away around 9.5 million tonnes of food every year – that's enough to fill Wembley Stadium 9 times over.
- Our total food waste could feed roughly 30 million people a year.
- Bread and potatoes are the most wasted foods in the UK, with an estimated 900,000 tonnes of bread thrown away every year,
- UK food retailers spend around £51,000 per annum on sending food to landfill while more than 8 million people in the UK are in food poverty.
- The UK's food waste emitted 18 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions in 2022. (That's more than Kenya's emissions - a country of 53 million people – from food that's simply thrown away.)

Against that backdrop of a rather disregarding, careless, disposable society, sits the rhythmical, cyclical life of our rural village churches. Here we are between 2 traditional festivals which demand a different approach. Lammas, (marked by us on 28th July), is the Feast of the First Loaf, the 'Loaf Mass' (in Gaelic - Lughnasadh). It focuses on the first bread made from the new harvest. Later, into the autumn, on 12th and 13th October, we will mark the end of Harvest, enjoying our East Knoyle Supper and our Harvest Thanksgiving Service.

These celebrations remind us that our daily bread is immensely precious and never to be wasted; it may have been hard won, especially considering all this year's rain, laboured for by our farmers, and something to be relished, not thrown away. As the climate becomes less predictable, and farming more precarious, perhaps we are being forced to remember what previous generations knew all too well - that food should never be taken for granted; that we should be deeply grateful for the good things we enjoy; and that we must be keenly aware of those left without.

Revd Kate McFarlane

(Please do make use of our Foodbank collection box by the door to St Mary's.)
To find out the details of which services are taking place around the Benefice please visit
www.benofbart.org.uk/events/month/

East Knoyle Art Show October 26/27th 2024

A wonderful opportunity to view and purchase from a wide range of East Knoyle's creative community. A proportion of every sale is to be donated to the hall's fabric fund for further improvement of the facilities.

Put the date in your diary.

Children's section to be included for the first time.

Prices to suit all pockets.



Community Coffee Morning

St Mary's, East Knoyle

10.30 - 12.00

4th Tuesday of every month



The Plaster Decoration of St Mary's Church, East Knoyle

Everyone knows that the great architect Sir Christopher Wren was born in East Knoyle but fewer know about his father. Dr Wren, also Christopher, was Rector of St Mary's Church during the turbulent years before and during the English Civil War. It was he who designed the beautiful lime plaster decorations that grace the chancel in the church, the only ones of their kind in England.

On Saturday 15th June Clare Tilbury and Louise Durning of Oxford Brookes University and Lincoln College Oxford gave a most interesting talk on the plasterwork. The event was hosted by the St Mary's Fabric Fund Trust, a registered charity set up to preserve the church buildings.

The plasterwork covers all four walls of the chancel and much of it has survived intact. Possibly because the written panels show texts taken directly from the bible, it was not destroyed by the Parliamentary Puritans as Dr Wren had feared and which was the fate of many religious images and statues. Some of the most interesting and charming sections portray Jacob's dream, in which he saw a ladder going from earth to heaven. In the plasterwork there are two ladders, an upwards ladder showing prayers ascending and a downwards ladder with angels descending in response. Another very striking panel shows 'Everyman' praying towards the images of Christ's ascension on the east side of the chancel arch. Although the plasterwork was described in the Wiltshire county history as 'quaint', its execution was in fact very skilful and remarkably durable. In response to questions, our experts said that they believed the images had never been coloured but had always been in white plaster as they are seen today.

The event was primarily held to raise money for the Fabric Fund to ensure the long-term survival of this ancient and beautiful building. For information on how you can contribute, please email ekstmary@icloud.com



Celebrating Age Wiltshire

Jazz on a summer's day, the East Knoyle way, with tea and cakes, and a good time was had by all.



Women's Royal British Legion

Our June meeting was postponed and we had a short meeting to discuss upcoming events followed by tea and cakes. The next event will have taken place by the time the newsletter is published...a visit to a Chocolatier in Frome. We are also looking forward to September when we will be visiting a silk factory in Whitchurch. Further information from Gill or Helen.

Thank you to all the ladies who participated in the 80th anniversary of D Day at the war memorial.

It was an honour to join the Men's Section for the dedication of their new Standard. A first for many of us it was a very moving service.

Gill Staunton
Secretary



CLAROW

This season's rapid growth presents us with many challenges in keeping the paths open, so it's always useful to keep some secateurs with you when enjoying your walks - a snip here and there will make a difference and help with access. We strive to keep as many of our paths and Common Lands accessible by either responding in a direct 'hands on' approach or highlighting concerns to land owners or WCC.

The Windmill Green has been cut - and you will see areas that have been left untouched to encourage the growth of rare flora. The next mow is now due in September.

Whilst this has been referred to in the past - the season is upon us and therefore important to remind everyone about this plant.

Information provided by Jenny Bennet: Himalayan Balsam is invasive and grows rapidly, forming dense colonies which suppress neighbouring plants by shading them out. This causes impoverishment of surrounding vegetation, killing off native plants and a decrease in biodiversity. It has therefore been listed as an Invasive species on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)-it is illegal to plant it or cause it to grow in the wild.

Unfortunately large stands of HB have established in the woodland at The Green, probably introduced by a utility company working under the power lines. It is threatening stands of native flora such as Bluebells and once it reaches wetter areas, its growth will be even more vigorous. Whilst the CLAROW group try to manage this you can also do your bit! Just pull it up as you walk. **IMPORTANT** - once the plant has developed mature seed pods it is too late to pull in which case leave in situ rather than risk seeds being spread further. (Info kindly supplied by Jenny Bennet).

FP19 Before and After



Ann Ambrose

Knogle Nature

Foxgloves (*Digitalis purpurea*)

You may have noticed in the many places in our woods and commons where ash trees unfortunately have had to be felled, that huge numbers of foxgloves have appeared. This is because some plant seeds, like those of the Foxglove, need light in order to germinate. This is often the case with very small light seeds because if they were buried deeper in soil, the seed would not have enough stored food for the shoot to reach the surface.



Foxgloves and poppies are familiar examples of this, and where soil has been disturbed whole fields can go red with poppies, or our local Woodlands blaze with foxgloves. In gardens, lettuce seeds have to be planted shallowly since they also need light. There may well be other benefits to the species in being so light-dependent: light may imply a space in the area and less competition for the young plant, or that the germination, depending on occasional local disturbance, is phased over the years as an insurance policy. Each Foxglove plant produces thousands of seeds and they have the potential to be viable for decades.

The origin of the Foxglove name is simply the Saxon Old English which is *Foxes glofa*, and has hardly changed over more than a millennium. Foxes were thought to gain their stealth by wearing the flowers on their paws,

The now famous medicine *Digitalis* is derived from the leaves, and is used for heart problems.

This use was investigated in the 18th century by William Withering, who knew of its use as a folk remedy for Dropsy (excess fluid in the body). He found that a leaf extract would indeed increase removal of fluids, and he deduced by experiment that it did this by making the heart beat stronger, which in turn increased the action of the kidneys. It is a very poisonous plant, and a very dangerous drug wrongly used, and many deaths have been caused by it.



The plant has many local names some referring to the childish pastime of squeezing an unopened flower to make a popping sound- the old Wiltshire name of Popping Dock alludes to this. Some children take delight in trapping a bumblebee inside a flower by holding it shut, and frightening themselves by the fearful buzzing.

David Pickering

10 Questions to.....David Pickering

I took a seat in John and David's stunning sitting room to chat to David and was a tad nervous: How was I going to broach the delicate subject Walking Stick making – or is it stick whittling? There followed a fascinating and matter-of-fact chat.

David is a true Wiltshireman. Born in 1937 in Devizes. His mother from Salisbury and his father a soldier who had fought in the Boer War and The First and Second World Wars. He remembers in 1945 burning of an effigy of Hitler on Roundway Hill by the White Horse, outside Devizes. David's father died when he was 15. Soldiers and NCOs didn't get pensions before the War and David described his childhood as happy, though impoverished. He was one of 6 siblings (4 boys, 2 girls) who survived childhood. 4 died in infancy. The family made ends meet, including eating Rook Pie – it is apparently, quite good. Despite or in spite of damaging his eye in a Cricketing accident, he excelled and went to Devizes Grammar School where he became Head Boy.



–
of

Things then became a little dark. Britain's 1950's response to US McCarthy Cold War paranoia (centred on the Blunt Burgess, Maclean, Philby Cambridge spy ring), resulted in the trial of Lord Montague and the then Home Secretary declaring a "new drive against male vice". Gay men and boys were rounded up in market towns across England. David received 18 months of Aversion Therapy and psychological "help". Fortunately, he found a girlfriend (called Sam – confused the Psychiatrist) in Marlborough. David regularly and manfully cycled the 28-mile round-trip from Devizes and tried "very hard" to fall in love. Sam sadly wasn't the one and at 19 David went up to UCL to read botany followed by a year at Oxford studying for a Certificate in Education.

He became a teacher and taught biology and chemistry in Ramsgate 1960-64. In 1964, David moved to run the biology department at Hampton School in Middlesex. He later became Vice Head and retired in 1992. Students included Brian May, Christopher Chesson Bishop of Southwark and he taught dissection to Prof. Neil Mortensen, current President of the Royal College of Surgeons.

In 1965 David was introduced by a friend of his brother, to John and they moved into a flat in Richmond. They kept the flat and in 1978 moved to Milton where they were two chaps "just sharing" a rural retreat. Within minutes of the Civil Partnerships Act 2004 coming into effect, 5th Dec 2005, John and David became Civil Partners in Richmond Register Office. In 2014, John and David settled at their current house in Holloway. In retirement and apart from going teetotal in 2006, David maintains his interest in botany, whittles sticks, watches John garden, works in the Shop and is a member of the Parish Council. Better get on with the Questions.....:

1. **What is your guilty pleasure?** M&S Chocolate eclairs – must be M&S
2. **What is your favourite book?** Complete Diaries of Frances Partridge – 12 Volumes
3. **What has been your favourite holiday?** Any one of the many Venetian holidays
4. **What is your favourite film?** Dr Zhivago starring Omar Sharif, but more importantly, Julie Christie
5. **What is your favourite sport?** "Loath and detest – hates all sport!!"
6. **What was your first job?** Mending motorbikes and bicycles in brother's father in law's shop in Devizes on Saturday mornings
7. **What in your opinion, is the biggest threat facing the world?** Unkindness
8. **What are your hopes for the coming year?** "Sell our Richmond Flat – bit selfish – I know!"
9. **Who would be your top 3 dinner party guests (dead or alive)?**
 - Oscar Wilde
 - President Barack Obama
 - The Revd. Kate McFarlane
10. **And finally, snog, marry, avoid (for clarification – names are chosen by interviewer and sprung on interviewee – you can feel the tension.....):**
 - Sir Ian McKellen – Shakespearian actor, Gandalf, Magneto in X-Men etc....**SNOG**
 - Gareth Thomas - Welsh Rugby player (100 Caps) and third-highest Wales try scorer – **AVOID**
 - Rupert Everett – British actor - **MARRY**

David – it has been a great pleasure. Thank you for a fascinating chat.

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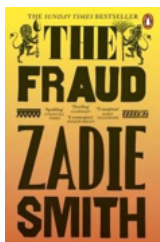
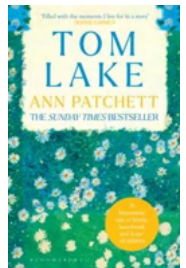


Normal Rules Don't Apply – Kate Atkinson

This playful short story collection is comprised of 11 interlinking tales with Atkinson playing fast and loose with reality, ranging from the mundane to the fantastical in an alternative England. Whether you're already an Atkinson fan or a newcomer to her work, prepare yourself to be swept away by these weird and whimsical modern fairy stories.

Tom Lake – Ann Patchett

An American fruit farm is the setting for a bittersweet tale of heartbreak and hope during the pandemic. A mother slowly reveals the story to her daughters of her early romance with an Oscar winning actor in this gentle but revealing meditation on lost love and destiny. A beautifully told family story, prioritising happiness over misery.

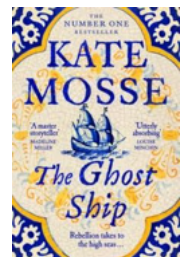


The Fraud – Zadie Smith

Inspired by an extraordinary court case, and featuring a real-life Victorian novelist, Smith's funny, almost flawless new novel examines identity, the notion of truth and 19th-century England and Jamaica in flux. It's classic Zadie Smith with boisterous narrative intelligence; the ear for dialogue and the absence of boring sentences. The novel feels effortless, despite its length and epic themes. The short chapters glide tellingly between decades and scenes.

The Ghost Ship - Kate Mosse

A thrilling page-turner with a story that will sweep you along the Barbary coast the 17th century. A sweeping and epic love story, from France to Amsterdam and the Canary Islands. The Ghost Ship is a novel of adventure and buccaneering, love and revenge, stolen fortunes and hidden secrets on the high seas.



Yellowface - Rebecca F. Kuang

With its totally immersive first-person voice, Yellowface grapples with questions of diversity, racism, and cultural appropriation, as well as the mystery of the stolen manuscript. R.F. Kuang's novel is timely, razor-sharp, and eminently readable.

Hitler, Stalin, Mum and Dad: A Family Memoir of Miraculous Survival - Danny Finkelstein

From the political columnist and commentator, a powerful memoir exploring both his parent's devastating experiences of persecution, resistance and survival. An elegant, moving account of the history of one family, shining a light on the history of the 20th century. If you want to understand Hitler and Stalin, read this book about people whose lives were upended by both of them.



Free Delivery in East Knoyle

East Knoyle Honey Bees - Notes from the Milton Apiary 20

It is mid-July and our bees are in better condition than I had assumed. They have been keeping their heads down as they don't like the rain. This means that they have been eating their stores (our honey) – however I hope it is all going to change. In terms of flora – yes there have been lots of flowers – but most of them like warmer weather to produce lots of nectar. This particularly applies to Lime trees – which we have probably missed.



In the last issue I ranted about people creating “wild bee” nest sites to promote honeybee populations by erecting hollow trees etc in their gardens. My concern is that these unmanaged bees may create a nuisance by swarming (annual, biennial occurrence) and cost our neighbours to have them removed from chimneys, roof spaces etc. The solution for Wild Bee (Free-living Bees) enthusiasts is to ring their wild bee colonies with a series of Swarm Boxes. Like this one (one of mine) at an undisclosed location to the west of the village. I went there this morning, and it is full of bees! They are welcome but do pose a bit of a problem in that I don't know the bees and they may be diseased. They will go to a quarantine apiary and kept under observation.

Game of Drones. At this time of the year, about 10% of the population of a bee colony are drones. They are very expensive for a colony to produce. They emerge from their cells after 24 days (Workers - 21, Queens - 16) and take 12-14 days to mature. In the mean-time they are wondering around the colony raiding the fridge, I mean building up their strength. They germinate from unfertilised eggs (haploid) and have 16 chromosomes (half the chromosomes of their sisters and mother). This means that they share their DNA with their diseased Grandfather – apologies for this getting a bit weird! Drones are very large, stingless, have 10 x more sensory organs than workers and their eyes are twice the size. They are made for just one thing. Scientists (generally male) have been trying to identify other purposes for

drones – with almost no success. Drones live for ~4 months until (1) they successfully mate and always die in the process or (2) are thrown out of the hive in the autumn by their sisters. This is because they are expensive to feed and new, brother, drones can be created in the following year. This throws up one of the great beekeeping mysteries.....



Drone Congregation Areas (DCAs). A virgin queen will fly to a DCA out of range of her local DCA's to avoid her sons. She could fly there on up to 6 occasions and mate with 15-20 drones. DCAs are always in the same spot. 10m – 40m above the ground in a sheltered open glade up to 100m x 100m. Hill forts are quite popular.

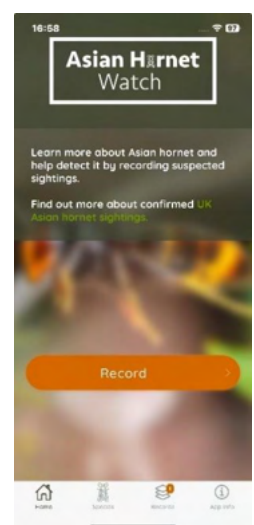
Identifying DCAs is a bit of an art. This is time for citizen science. There are probably 3-5 around East Knoyle. I could wonder around with a fishing rod and some artificial Queen Substance, or you could keep your eyes open for lots of bees flying around (in a comet) chasing queens in quiet glades at about 2pm on sunny afternoons. I think that the slope on the southwestern side of the windmill may be an

option. You may also notice a few dead (and happy) looking drones lying around.

It is a mystery in that, if drones never live beyond a year – how do they know where the DCA is? Theories include: Drones follow topographical features (Hill Forts, the old runway at Green Common has a famous one). Magnetic effect. Drones have large quantities of magnetite in their abdomens and this helps them to navigate. Apparently, DCAs are often on Ley Line intersections. So please help and let me know if you see anything.

ASIAN HORNET – Not much to report. It will get busy again in the autumn. I do hope that you have been able to download the ASIAN HORNET WATCH App. Any Questions, please give me a call.

Tom EK X 246



The Cinephile—Reviews of some recent films



The Dead Don't hurt **** (beautifully judged love story, set in 1860's North America when the West was still wild and dirty)

Vigo Mortensen and Vickie Krieps in the lead roles are just a delight to watch, they are both so restrained and so good. These are real actors acting, not 'stars' playing money games.

Mortensen, extraordinarily, writes, produces, plays one of the leads and writes the music. It is a mammoth achievement.

But the lead is Vickie Krieps who is excellent, playing a strong, noble woman in a man's world.

It's a western, but not with cowboys and Indians, but more an observation of the muddle of immigrants from all parts of the world—in this case Denmark and France—desperately forging their ways in new frontier towns.

It's a beautifully shot, well crafted film, ultimately satisfying, a tough watch and heartbreaking. Worth seeing in the cinema.

Le Chimera **** (Classy, whimsical Italian filmmaking which is a happy reminder of the times of Fellini and Visconti.)

Alice Rohrwacher (of German/Italian descent), is a notable Italian filmmaker who has found her own unique style which is both nostalgic and refreshing and full of ideas. Her previous film: Happy as Lazzaro was testament to this.

The idea for the story is itself wildly idiosyncratic. Weary from time spent inside, Josh O'Connor's character, Arthur, a British Archaeologist, living in Tuscany, tentatively wanders back into his life in the way that ex cons and soldiers who have served their time tend to in the movies. It is reminiscent of De Niro's return home from Vietnam in The Deer Hunter.

Henceforth the story unpeels like an onion shedding layer after layer. It transpires that Arthur's skills in unearthing the past means that he has attracted his own family of tomb raiders, an affable group of desperados, who rely on his ability to find the burial sites, so that they can raid them to sell and pay for the rent and the bread and the beer on their tables.

Josh O'Connor is mesmerizing, (it's a gift of a part), it's hard to imagine that he also plays an ambitious tennis player in Challengers back to back with this, which shows his range. There is also a sweet cameo role from Isabella Rossellini. It's a lovely film with plenty of interesting themes to chew on.

Wilding **** (Very competently made Drama/Doc based on Isabella Tree's best selling book of the same name about her and her husband re-wilding their farm, Knepp, in Sussex.)

Surprisingly, for a documentary about conservation, this film has been in cinemas across London for over a week now.

It is of course about, arguably, the most important subject: restoring the planet so that we have one to live on.

Dramatising their younger days, using actors, is a little awkward, but other wise this is an intriguing story of their inspirational project, with fascinating use of CGI to show what happens under the soil and very pretty photography above the ground.

Isabella is charismatic and her story is infectious.

The Fall Guy ** – silly fun

Love Lies Bleeding ** – unpleasant entertainment

Blackbird, Blackbird, Blackberry **** – Stunning Film from Georgia about middle aged love

Much ado about dying *** – Excellent, moving documentary about a dying actor

Challengers ** – if you like tennis and American stuff

Freud's Last Session *** – worth a watch to see another performance from Hopkins

The Bikeriders ** – surprisingly slow and low-drama motorbike gang film

D Day Commemorations—Alan Entwistle



Flower Arranging Workshop



There is an active group of flower arrangers at St Mary's Church and ten members attended a workshop in the church, where Veronica Platt (pictured) demonstrated new methods of arrangement that are more environmentally friendly.

Foxgloves - Alan Knight



From the Archives

A copy of report regarding Queen Victoria Jubilee Festivities in July 1867 from an earlier edition of the newsletter.

JUBILEE FESTIVITIES (East Knoyle Parish Magazine, July 1867)

The Jubilee is now a thing of the past, but few in Knoyle will ever forget the brightness, or the joy of the celebration of the Queen's 50 years of her reign. All the different committees, each in their several departments, spared neither time nor trouble that there might be enough and to spare for the thirsty and hungry multitudes who were expected to come to be catered for. Both within the Schoolroom and outside, tables were laid with benches, to accommodate between 500 and 600 people. The School Yard on the West side was roofed in by large rick cloths, so that we might be independent of weather. The labour of erecting the tent and laying the tables was given gratuitous, and all worked together most happily and harmoniously. Flags floated from each end of the tent, and both inside the School and the tent there were decorations of evergreens and flags. Plentiful provision of Meat, Cake, Bread, and Tea, had been made before hand; at a raised platform in the school and tent the meat was arranged in the sight of those who were to have their share of it, and at these various members of the Committee took up their posts.

A few minutes before 3, the Knoyle Band, preceded by the Rector, played down to the Church which was filled almost to overflowing by a large and attentive congregation. The Thanksgiving Service was the Special Form drawn up by the Archbishop of Canterbury; the Hymns used were specially prepared for the Jubilee by different writers; the National Anthem with additional verses being the first selected in the service. A Sermon was preached by the Rector on 2 Samuel XXIII. 3, 'The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God'. Shortly before 4 o'clock the whole congregation made its way to the School and Tent, and soon all were seated, to the number of between 600 and 700. They were waited upon by Male and Female Stewards, the Gentlemen decorated by Red, White and Blue Rosettes, the Ladies having in addition White Mob Caps.

During the Dinner the Band played, and those who were unable to find room at the tables passed a pleasant time either in dancing or listening to the Band.

At half-past 6, preceded by the Band, the whole party marched to the Windmill Hill, where Sports were keenly competed for.

The Hill was crowded, not only with our own people but with those from neighbouring Villages.

The Sports were finished by 9.30. The Leg of Mutton was won by W. Tanswell, whose patience and perseverance were rewarded by reaching at last the top of the pole.

At 10 o'clock precisely, in accordance with an agreement made with the Bonfire Committee at Great Malvern, Worcestershire, Three Signal Rockets were sent up, and then the Great Bonfire of 600 faggots, saturated with tar, was kindled by Miss Seymour and Miss Violet Milford; the flames burst forth in a moment, and the whole hill side and the country round was lit up by the flames; they burnt fiercely for half an hour, and then a varied and comprehensive programme of Fireworks was carried out most successfully on a stage which had been erected close to the Windmill, by Mr. Mallett, who with the Rev. J. B. Stack, Messrs. Welch, Jacob and Snook superintended their discharge. All went off very well, and did great credit to Messrs. Brock, the Pyrotechnists of South Norwood, London.

At quarter to 12 the fireworks were over, and the people wended their way homewards thoroughly delighted with the whole arrangements of the day, and none are likely to forget as long as they live the celebration of the Queens Jubilee at East Knoyle.

(All the long races - the mile, the two half miles and the two quarter miles - were won by teetotallers!)



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Share with your community

East Knoyle villagers love reading the newsletter. It is a great way to share information, and to stay connected. Please feel free to send us articles, letters, recipes, reviews, photographs and anything else you'd like to share.

We'd love to hear from you.

eastknoylenewsletter@gmail.com

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, Shaftesbury	01747 865700
Crime	Rural Crime Reporting Line	0800 783 0137
	PCSO Stewart Hunt	101 or 07423765925
Village Shop	Wren's 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



**DEADLINE FOR
September/October 2024
Newsletter
10th September 2024**

(Newsletters are normally distributed around 10 days after the copy deadline)