

Free Family Fun Day - 9th August 2019

We are delighted to be providing a free family fun day this summer in partnership with Sevenoaks District Council.

It will take place on Friday 9th August at Anthony Roper Primary School and will run from 10am to 2pm.

As well as sports and crafts provided by Imago for Sevenoaks District Council, we are providing a drop-in circus skills workshop and a bouncy castle.

This is a free event and everyone is welcome. There will be some refreshments available and you are also welcome to bring a picnic.

Please stay with your children, and sorry, but no dogs are allowed in the school grounds.



We look forward to welcoming you - come and say hello to us, we will be serving the refreshments!

Thank you also to Farningham Parish Council for helping to fund the event, and to Anthony Roper Primary School for providing the venue.

**For a large print newsletter call
01322 865320**



Summer News 2019

from
EYNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Welcome to the Summer newsletter from Eynsford Parish Council.

Isn't the village looking lovely at the moment? Thank you to Eynsford in Bloom as well as all the residents and businesses that help to keep it looking so good! Thank you also to those who pick up litter left by others.

In this issue you will meet our new Chairperson and our new District Councillor! Also, find out more about the village hall project - please take the time to fill in the questionnaire enclosed. Also useful information on how to be more eco-friendly is provided.

Put the 9th August in your diary - Eynsford's Free Family Fun Day! A great free activity that will keep you and your children happy!

Keep up to date with our news via our facebook page and website. We are very happy to receive your views and ideas for how to make life better for everyone in Eynsford.

Have a great summer.
Holly Ivaldi, Clerk

Eynsford Parish Council, Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford DA4 0AY; 01322 865320; info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk
Find 'Eynsford Parish Council' on Facebook and Twitter.
www.eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk



Meet our New Chairperson: Theresa Durrant

Holly Ivaldi & Theresa Durrant

How long have you been on the parish council and what has been your experience so far?

- I have been serving on the parish council since 2014 and it's fair to say I had a steep learning curve initially.

Fortunately when I joined there were a number of long serving councillors to learn from, including our most recent Chairperson, Sarah Boyle, who helped me get up to speed with the processes and powers that a parish council has. Given that the council is made up of volunteers that in some cases also have full-time jobs, I think they all do an amazing job. Everything they do, every decision they make is about making our community a better place. Aside from the frustrations of 'red-tape' at times, it is an amazing opportunity to give back to the community and on the whole the experience has been most enjoyable.



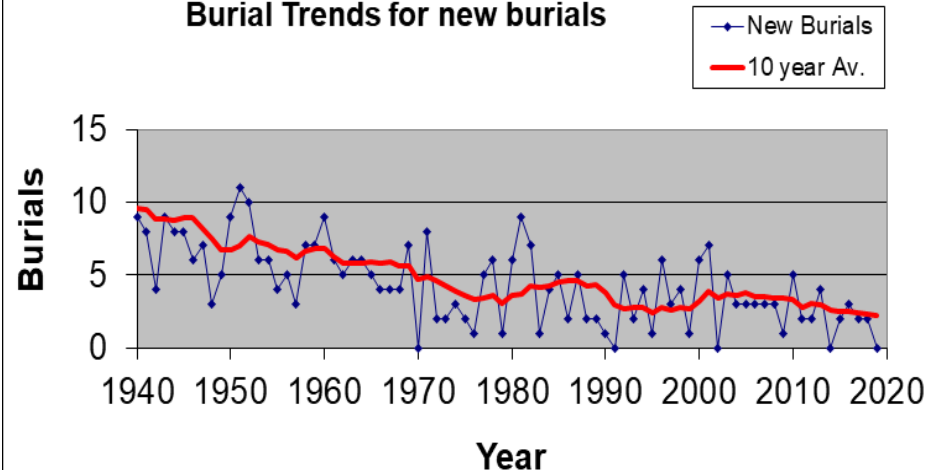
Do you have any ambitions or plans for the next year as Chairperson?

- Firstly, I want to make sure I do a good job, as Chairperson. It's important to me that residents have faith in the council and continues to do so. I am also keen to see the Village Hall project enter its next phase. I know that a number of people have already invested a huge amount of effort and time on this project, knowing that they are unlikely to directly benefit from a new hall. They have been driven and inspired to preserve the community spirit for future generations, by creating a hub that will be accessible for all.

What do you like most about Eynsford?

- I think it is the people that make Eynsford great. It is a 'community' in the true sense of the word.

Burial Trends for new burials



Photocopying Service

Did you know that you can use our photocopier in the office for a small charge? This is less expensive than using your home printer! A reduced price is offered to local clubs and societies. Contact the office for details.

Follow us Online

Eynsford Parish Council's website is the best place for you to find useful information about the council and its services. There are also areas dedicated to the village and community groups with the option for you to add your own events for listing. Have a look at www.eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk



We are also on **Facebook** and **Twitter** (search for Eynsford Parish Council) where we post up to date news and share useful information. We love to hear your views and to see your pictures too. Do follow us to keep up to date! Let us know what you think and what other kind of information you would like us to share.



Closure of St Martin's Churchyard

Cllr Malcolm Richardson

The Parish Council have received a notification from the Parochial Church Council that they have (reluctantly) applied to the Ministry of Justice for an 'Order in Council' to discontinue burials at St Martin's Church due to the fact that there are no unused burial spaces in the churchyard.

The historical burial registers show that from 1538, there have been nearly 6,000 burials, and the current churchyard has some 660 identifiable graves. This is over an area larger than the historical churchyard as the eastern sector near the Rectory was extended in the early part of the 20th Century, but unfortunately it is not possible to extend it any more.

There are exceptions (subject to conditions):

- Burial may be allowed in any vault or walled grave
- Burial may be allowed in an existing earthen grave where the body of a family member lies, assuming the existing grave has been dug deep enough to accommodate another coffin.
- Burial may be allowed in a plot where no previous interment has taken place but where the plot has already been reserved.

Demand for new spaces has steadily fallen since the 1940s (see graph), almost certainly due to increasing demand for cremations, partly due to the much higher costs of burial compared to cremation. In this respect there have been no new burials in St Martin's this year.

The churchyard however will still be open for cremations in the Rose Garden.

Following its closure, the PCC have the option of passing responsibility for maintenance to the Parish Council who in turn can pass it on to Sevenoaks District Council.

St Martin's Church, and its beautiful churchyard, is an iconic village landmark, much loved by local residents whether they are regular church-goers or not. Once closed, and no matter who becomes responsible for the maintenance, both the PCC and the PC will strive to ensure that the churchyard is still maintained to a sufficiently high standard, reflecting the Church's standing in the eyes of the community.

What do you think are the most pressing issues in our local area?

- There are quite a few issues that spring to mind such as; making sure Eynsford is a safe place to live, parking issues, reducing speed, traffic congestion, maintaining public transport, preserving and enhancing the open green spaces and river ways, and of course preserving housing stock to cater for first time buyers.

Please could you tell me about your job/work?

- I co-own an award winning IT recruitment business in Dartford, that places people across the UK and Europe. Now in it's tenth year we are fortunate to have a wonderful team of people working for us, who all come from the local area. I also provide Business Performance and Mindset Coaching Services to individuals and business owners, who want to grow their own businesses.

What do you like to do for fun (if you have any spare time)?

- Spare time is precious, so I like to fill every minute, where possible. When I am not working or serving on the council, I enjoy taking part in endurance challenges for charities or local causes, volunteering, Pilates, running, hiking, scrambling, painting, photography, being a tourist, and supporting our local establishments of course!!

Parish Council Surgery & Meetings

The Parish Council surgery is held on the last Saturday of each month between 9am and 11am. Come along to the Parish Office to speak to a councillor about your concerns.

Our main meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of the month and we have committee meetings on the first Monday of the month. All meetings are open to the public and start at 8pm. Full details can be found on noticeboards and our website. We break for public questions at around 9pm.

Do pop in when the office is open to pick up bin bags, look at leaflets and magazines in the office and to ask any questions or raise any concerns! We also offer a photocopying service for a small charge.

Normal opening hours are 8.30 - 2.30 Monday and Wednesday, 9.00 - 3.00 Tuesday and Thursday.

Highways Improvement Plan

Malcolm Richardson, Chair – Highways and Transport

Kent County Council is asking Parish and Town Councils to prepare a 'Highways Improvement Plan'. The aim is to give Councils the opportunity to put forward what they see as road improvement schemes based on their knowledge of road conditions in their area, and to decide which community priorities they want to take forward. The Parish Council is currently in the process of preparing a 'HIP' but are keen to hear the views of residents with suggestions as to how the roads in Eynsford might be improved or changed.

KCC point out that they do not 'have a pot of funding for Parishes' but they believe that it will be useful to have Parish Councils put forward a formal plan listing desired road improvements rather than making requests for changes on a piecemeal basis. A 'HIP' however does give Parish Council and residents a greater voice in prioritising road safety measures.

It is apparent that not all requests are likely to be funded, either because such requests may contravene highway byelaws or because the priority attributed to a scheme may not justify the cost of its implementation. However it does give the opportunity for Kent Highways to discuss the problems and provide technical advice for the best way to implement improvements and provide an estimate as to costs. This may allow a Parish Council to fund more minor works if KCC deem that such works are not a high priority from their point of view, but would make a discernible difference to the community if implemented.

The Council have already discussed many options with KCC and these will also be included in the 'HIP'. These include (amongst others) yellow lines outside the Five Bells to cure a restriction to road space, a 20mph limit through the village, new parking facilities at the layby to the south of the station, yellow lines from the school toward the Castle Hotel to stop double parking during school drop off times, and a pedestrian crossing near to the station.

The Parish Council would welcome further comments from residents – email: info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk

residents of Eynsford or Farningham, play 11-a-side fixtures on a Sunday morning at Harrow Meadow against vets teams from Kent and South East London and 7-a-side training games on a Thursday evening at Dartford FC. Socialising is just as important as playing – the team enjoy post-match drinks in the Five Bells and hold regular events at club sponsors The Palace of India in Farningham.

Victory in Europe Celebrations: 8-10 May 2020

Cllr Ferne Haxby

Over the weekend of 8th - 10th May 2020, the Nation is taking time to remember 75 years ago, when war ended with the guns falling silent over Europe. A time which saw the demise of six years of tremendous courage, determination, sacrifice and endurance that affected so many families, villages and communities; some celebrated the return of loved ones, others mourned their loss but also there were those that were still in conflict in other parts of the world.

Celebrations will be taking place both here and internationally across the whole weekend in 2020, with Friday 8th May being designated by the Government as a Bank Holiday.

Various groups/organisations within the village will be planning celebrations over the weekend and on Sunday 10th May, the Churches will be coming together, with all the village invited to hold a service at the War Memorial in Eynsford to give thanks to the end of the War and also to remember those that gave their lives. The uniformed sections of Scouts and Guiding will be marching from Anthony Roper School with all welcome to congregate at the Memorial for 11.00am with the band of the DVYM. There will be tea and refreshments at the Baptist Church afterwards.

Watch out during the year for more information on the celebrations and memorial service in the village during the year and join in to remember and celebrate those that fought and endured to allow us to enjoy the freedom we have today.



Riverside Wanderers FC - 2018/19 Season Review

Graham Begg, Treasurer, Riverside Wanderers FC

The 2018/19 season, officially the club's 10th, ended on 25th May with a 1-4 home defeat to Whitstable Vets, a long season compounded by injuries to some key players finally took its toll. Whilst the club couldn't quite surpass the record breaking 2017/18 season, the team, under new management and captaincy, registered a respectable set of statistics - P28, W16, D4, L8, GF84, GA61, GD23.



Post season events in June included a well attended Annual General Meeting and Awards Evening followed by the club's annual Family Fun Day, which this year returned to The Five Bells where the families of club members and friends enjoyed a sunny Saturday afternoon, socialising and playing games with the many children present whilst enjoying a BBQ courtesy of Normans.

Away from the pitch, Riverside Wanderers continued its support of the local community and charitable organisations with monetary donations being presented to 1st Eynsford & Farningham Scout Group, Eynsford & Farningham Dementia Cafe, Ellenor Hospice and Cancer Research. But that wasn't the end of our charitable work as on Sunday 9th June the Wanderers travelled by coach to Hayes Lane, home of Bromley FC, where we were hosted by Kent Galaxy in the Camp CanDo Charity Cup in aid of Cancer Research. Riverside Wanderers succumbed to a narrow 2-1 defeat but it was a great day, superbly organised by our own Kris Ruffell and supported from the stands by a number of villagers which was nice to see and greatly appreciated. Most importantly, the efforts of both teams and all involved resulted in an amazing £4,600 being raised for Cancer Research - well done Kris!

Now for a well deserved break ahead of the new season starting in early September.

About Riverside Wanderers FC: Established in 2008, Riverside Wanderers FC is a Kent FA affiliated veterans football team which provides the opportunity for local over 35-year olds to play football. The current squad of 22 players, aged between 35 and 62 and mainly

Meet your District Councillor: Alan Cheeseman

Born and bred in a Northfleet council house, I am very aware of the sacrifices that parents make for their children – and that thought has *never* left me. I spent a lifetime in the advertising industry, working my way up from tea boy to senior director in some of the largest ad agencies in the world. I retired aged 70 in 2016, and felt that it was about time '*Le Grand Fromage*' put something back. And here I am!



The District Council election campaign leading up to May 2nd this year was, to say the least, demanding! All that nonsense in Parliament made it very difficult for us local campaigners to get Sevenoaks District Council's successes communicated but, in the end, we did it. So, I must immediately say "*thank you*" to everyone who supported me.

I have been appointed to the *People & Places Advisory Committee*, the *Development & Conservation Advisory Committee* and the *Development Control Committee*. I am also one of the Council's representatives on *Action with Communities in Rural Kent*. The Development Control Committee is one of the 'senior' committees and I am very honoured to have been appointed. This position involves me in general planning activities but, importantly, keeps me in touch with the Local Plan discussions, including *Pedham Place*, when it returns from consideration by Highways England and Kent Highways.

Traffic

I am currently organising a comprehensive traffic survey for Eynsford, with Roger Gough (KCC) and in conjunction with our Parish Council. It will probably take the best part of a year to compile, and I would appreciate any evidential input from villagers to add to my report.

School funding

In November I organised a meeting for Anthony Roper parents in the village hall. Sir *Michael Fallon MP* addressed the meeting on the

National Funding Formula and *Roger Gough*, KCC Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education, explained how funding works locally. I continue to keep parents informed as and when I get information.

Fly tipping

I have met with *Richard Wilson*, SDC Chief Officer for Environmental & Operational Services to ascertain the current position on charges at the KCC tips operated by SDC. Richard assured me that SDC has been lobbying vigorously against the KCC charges for many months now, but to no avail – so far. I have joined with Richard and his team to put greater pressure on KCC to review this short-sighted decision.

So, that's all from me for now. Don't forget, as always...*I'm listening!*
I can be contacted at cllr.cheeseman@sevenoaks.gov.uk or t: 07840 844 545

Castlefield Allotments

Holly Ivaldi, Clerk

The parish council rents out 39 allotment garden plots at Castlefield (behind the High Street) to local residents. There are allotment holders of all ages and there is a great community feeling amongst some of them. At the moment lots of

crops are growing well including beans and peas, sweetcorn, globe artichokes, potatoes and carrots, lettuces, and soft fruit such as raspberries, black currants and rhubarb. Many plots also include some flowers and herbs which are great for insects and pollinators. For those with not much garden space of their own, the allotments provide room to grow plenty of fruit and veg, get some exercise, and to meet others.



Recycling is then the last option before incineration or landfill. It is a great way to take unwanted material such as plastic or paper and turn it into brand new product. Did you know that some of our polyester clothing is made from recycled plastic bottles or glass can be made into new glass bottles, insulation or used within road surfaces!



So, what can you recycle in Sevenoaks? All boroughs have slightly different schemes so here a list:

- Plastics – most plastics that can hold their own shape, e.g. yoghurt pots, ice-cream tubs, shampoo/washing up/drink bottles, meat trays can be recycled as long as they are not BLACK plastic. Give them a quick rinse first. If possible try to avoid black plastic altogether even if that means buying slightly different produce. When the recycling is sorted it goes to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and the one that Sevenoaks District uses will reject black plastic so it will probably end up being incinerated rather than recycled... JUST remember: no plastic bags, cling film or crisp packets are wanted – these contaminate the collections and MUST be left out, or all your recycling could be rejected.
- Paper & cardboard - Any paper, newspaper, cardboard (clean with no food waste) cereal packets, letters (with windows) should be recycled. These are turned into new writing paper or even recycled toilet paper! Don't forget to look out and buy recycled products to 'close the loop'. There is no point recycling if no-one wants or needs it!
- Cans – all aluminium and steel cans can be recycled. They are separated at the MRF, baled and sent to factories to be made into new products – perhaps a new can or it can even become part of a train, car or aeroplane!
- Cartons – these are sent to a special recycling facility that are able to separate the paper from the film plastic. The paper is then recycled.
- Glass – this needs to be taken to one of the 35 mini recycling sites, our closest one is in the layby just as you leave the village going toward Sevenoaks on the left-hand side. You can also recycle your clothes here too.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Going Green in Eynsford!

Cllr Andrea Cornwell

Many people think only about recycling when considering what to do with their waste but there are actually two more important things we should think about; reducing and reusing.

By making less rubbish in the first place you have not used up valuable raw materials or had to find ways to dispose of them. The best examples of reducing and reusing are to have a reusable water bottle/ packed lunch box – just think, you could save over 200 pieces of rubbish by not buying water in a disposable bottle every day!

Food waste is a big problem as it takes a lot of energy and resources to make food for us. Although we can't yet recycle food waste in Eynsford (unless we home compost) it is much better to reduce it. Food waste costs the average family £700 per year! The main reason people waste food is because they either prepare serve and cook too much or it goes out of date. There are 5 key ways we can reduce this:

1. Write a simple meal planner – this will help you to write a good shopping list to take with you and help you to avoid buying unwanted food or spur of the moment changes!
2. Understand the dates on food – USE BY is the main safety date you should follow. It is mainly found on meat, fish and dairy products. Best before is just a QUALITY date. You can still eat the food after this date as long as you use your senses and check its ok.
3. Storing food to make it last longer – Almost all food can be frozen. If you find you often don't get around to eating the last few slices of bread then freeze some when you first buy it. Hard cheese (ideally grated), mozzarella, cream/yoghurt (in ice cube trays), meat, fish, even eggs (out of their shells) can be frozen!
4. Get your portion sizes right – these help us to eat more healthily to. The recommended daily amount (for an adults) is: cereal 40g; uncooked rice 75g; uncooked pasta 100g. To find out more portion sizes visit <https://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/portion-planner>.
5. Lastly using up leftovers rather than throwing them away is a great way of getting a bit creative – stir fries, soups, quesadilla, curries, stews are examples of how you can use food in your fridge in a recipe.

According to the Allotment Society, allotment gardening can; help to reduce social isolation and loneliness; increase environmental awareness; improve mental wellbeing; provide new skills and a sense of achievement; be a healthy activity; and of course, provide you with fresh, local and seasonal produce!

The parish council is working on a programme of work to keep the main path clear, to cut back overgrown trees and shrubs and to remove rubbish. Many plot holders have their own composting areas too. The council provides water to the site via water troughs.

We keep a waiting list for people who would like an allotment plot. The waiting time varies from a couple of month to a couple of years depending on movement.

We carry out an inspection of the plots once or twice a year to ensure that plots are being kept well cultivated and we contact those whose plots have been neglected, and sadly, sometimes have to give notice.



If you would be interested in taking on an allotment plot, do get in touch at info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk or call 01322 865320.

NEW VILLAGE HALL at HARROW MEADOW

Update to Eynsford Community July 2019

Cllr Alan Cooke



Since the last update in April, a further meeting has been held with the architects to go through a list of items that are necessary to support the planning applications of the existing hall site and the new site on Harrow Meadow. There is still a need for the committee to carry out a public consultation in order to dispose of the existing village hall for housing and for the Parish Council to allow the construction of a new hall on Harrow Meadow. A date for this consultation will be

announced shortly.

There are also a number of statements and reports required from consultants to support the planning application as the new hall is to be built on 'green belt land'.

It is proposed to construct a terrace of three houses on the existing site and consultation with the adjoining neighbours will be undertaken in the next few weeks. The proceeds from the sale of the existing hall site will help fund the new hall on Harrow Meadow.

The committee is also seeking the support from the community on the two proposals and therefore would be grateful if you could spare five minutes to complete the questionnaire which is enclosed with this news letter and return it to any one of the addresses listed below. You can also complete it on line at <http://eynsfordvh.com/wp/have-your-say/>

It is hoped that the planning applications can be made in August 2019 and that an approval may be given by November. This would allow an 18 month period to raise the necessary funds, which may include a public works loan, for construction to start mid to late 2021.

The architect has produced a coloured copy of the elevations drawing and site and floor plans. Although these are still preliminary, as we are still to resolve the kitchen layout and ventilation requirements, these drawing are to be displayed in the foyer of the existing village hall. So do take time out to have a look.

A number of residents have asked about car parking. The intension is to have 3 disabled spaces along with 30 other spaces. The car park will be controlled and used for visitors using the hall as well as those using the sport field and play area. No overnight parking will be allowed.

The car park is to have a tarmac finish with paved footpaths around the perimeter of the hall. Careful consideration will be given to the landscaping in this area to soften the impact of the car park on the surrounding area.

The construction of a hall on Harrow Meadow would include an improved, repositioned football pitch, and would leave the children's playground untouched.

Have your say on plans for the village hall and complete the enclosed questionnaire! Please return paper copies to one of the following:

- 49 Eynsford Rise.
- 20 St Martins Drive.
- 68 Pollyhaugh.
- 63 Saddlers Park
- Violet Cottage, Station Road
- 12 Parsonage Bank
- The Old Manse, High Street
- 6 Alton Cottages
- Parish Council Offices, Priory Lane.

