

FREE FAMILY FUN DAYS

Friday 7th August &
Friday 21st August 2015

10.30am – 1.30pm

Anthony Roper Primary School,
High Street, Eynsford

Bouncy castle, sports, games, crafts

Refreshments Available, or Bring a Picnic
Children must be supervised by an appropriate adult.

Provided by Eynsford Parish Council, with support from
Farningham Parish Council & Anthony Roper Primary School



Summer News 2015

from
EYNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Welcome to the Summer newsletter from Eynsford Parish Council.



We hope you enjoy this issue. Don't forget our Free Family Fun Days which will be run on 7th & 21st August during the summer holidays! Also included in this newsletter is the chance to find out about your two new councillors, who were co-opted at our main meeting in June. There is also advice on dealing with TPOs and information about fire safety.

As the days get warmer, Eynsford will see a rise in visitors, but we do ask that everyone is mindful of the wildlife we have living amongst us, including the beautiful swans and the friendly ducks at the ford.

Naomi Morgan - Deputy Clerk

Eynsford Parish Council, Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford DA4 0AY; 01322 865320; eynsford.pc@tiscali.co.uk
Find 'Eynsford Parish Council' on Facebook.
www.eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk

Meet Your New Councillor

Cllr Ferne Haxby

I am looking forward to being a parish councillor for Eynsford and 'getting my hands dirty' to improve the experience for residents living in the village.



I have been acquainted with Eynsford for approximately 40 years and over the years have been involved with scouting and guiding (Tawny Owl and Venture Scout Leader for 17 years), Riverside Players (treading the boards for nearly 20 years) and seen my daughter, Kirstie, go through Antony Roper Primary School to Tonbridge Grammar School for Girls and University. The draw back to the village continues with her as she also now resides and contributes to village life!

I work full time for the local NHS working with local Clinical Commissioning Groups around service design and review. My specialty is very much community based as I work with the public to consult and gain feedback to fulfil the NHS statutory obligations. Previous experience has seen me heading NHS complaints for Kent from a Primary Care Trust perspective, managing teams of complaint officers so listening to and understanding the public voice is very much my world.

Eynsford and its population is very important to me, especially our status as a village and after the joy it has brought me throughout my life, I would like to have the opportunity to ensuring its future for the next generations and I look forward to meeting and working with people across the whole village.

You do not need to give notice of work on a tree in a conservation area less than 7.5 centimetres in diameter, measured 1.5 metres above the ground (or 10 centimetres if thinning to help the growth of other trees).

Again failure to follow these procedures may leave you liable.



Further Help

To find out if a tree is subject to a TPO or if your house is in the Conservation Area, contact SDC on 01732 227000. Alternatively maps showing the Conservation Area in Eynsford and showing all trees subject to TPOs are available in the Parish Office in Priory Lane (01322 865320).

For advice on work to trees, contact the Arboricultural Association, who assisted with this article, on 01242 522152 or www.trees.org.net.

Cleaner Wanted

We are looking for a regular cleaner for the Harrow Meadow Changing Rooms. If you would be interested in this position, please contact the Parish Office for further details.

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

Planning Guidance on Work to Trees

Cllr Malcolm Richardson

Before undertaking any work to a tree in your garden, you must check to see whether it is subject to a Tree Preservation Order or if your house is in a Conservation Area. In some cases, if you prune or cut down a tree without consent, you may be liable to a fine or prosecution.

Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)

TPOs are administered by Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) and are made to protect trees that bring significant amenity benefit to the local area.



All types of tree, but not hedges, bushes or shrubs can be protected, and a TPO can protect anything from a single tree to all trees within a defined area or woodland. Any species can be protected, but no species is automatically protected by a Tree Preservation Order.

A TPO is a written order, which in general, makes it a criminal offence to cut down, top, lop, uproot, wilfully damage or wilfully destroy a tree protected by that order, without permission from SDC. Anyone found guilty of such an offence is liable.

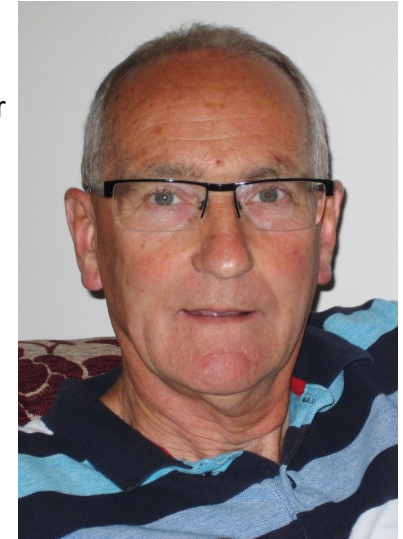
Conservation Areas

Much of Eynsford is within a Conservation Area. Normal TPO procedures apply if a tree in a Conservation Area is already protected by a TPO. However if a tree in a Conservation Area is not covered by a TPO, you have to give written notice to SDC (by letter, email or on a form from SDC) of any proposed work, describing what you want to do, at least six weeks before the work starts. This is called a 'section 211 notice' and it gives the LPA an opportunity to consider protecting the tree with a TPO.

Meet Your New Councillor

Cllr Alan Cooke

I can remember visiting Eynsford with my parents, then as a teenager on my motor bike, and later to see friends who lived in the village. When we moved from SE9, Eynsford seemed the right place to live and have now been here for 15 years.



Whilst travelling and working in London as a structural engineer, involved in the design of a number of large hospital developments, including Darent Valley, as well as the redesign of centre court at Wimbledon to accommodate the retractable roof, I took for granted the work undertaken by all the various groups who make the village what it is today.

More recently I have been involved with three Garden Safaris, attended The Gardeners Club shows and lent a hand with keeping the station area tidy for the BKV. I am amazed to see how many people participate behind the scenes for the enjoyment of all of the residents. To this end, having recently retired, I felt it time to give something back to the community and represent the different aspects of village life.

I have always been a keen sportsman and became a qualified FA coach. I coached both boy and girl junior teams as well as senior sides. I now spend some of my leisure time playing golf, latterly at Austin Lodge and now at Redlibetts. I am delighted to be part of the Parish Council team and keen to promote and improve the sporting facilities available to all participants and to all ages in the village.

Reducing School Run Congestion

Alison Carter, School Run Safety Campaign

The School Run Safety Campaign (SRSC) is delighted that the first “match” has been made in the new “Drive Buddy” parking scheme in Eynsford. But we desperately need more driveways please!

We would be very grateful if any more residents near the school, who have vacant driveways, could lend the space to parents during the school run. The aim is to reduce the number of cars parking on the pavements and roadside near the Anthony Roper Primary School. Pavement parking is dangerous to pedestrians and causes heavy congestion at peak times.

We would be particularly grateful for anyone who may have a vacant driveway up Priory lane or on the High Street. We would match you with a parent who would welcome the space and we would ask for both parties to make a mutually acceptable arrangement. It might be that the driveway is only available on certain days of the week. Or the space could be used at pick up time but not drop off, for example.



The SRSC has been working for the past three years to make the school run safer for everyone. The group is made up of parents, teachers, local councillors and the community safety team.

Nearly half (42%) of children at the Anthony Roper Primary School don't live in Eynsford and Farningham and therefore have to drive to school. While local businesses such as The Castle & the Eynsford Riverside Club very kindly let parents use their car park during the school run, we're still looking for new



- Blocked flues and chimneys can prevent carbon monoxide (CO) escaping, allowing it to reach dangerous levels. It's a poisonous gas that has no smell or taste. Breathing it in can make you unwell, and it can kill. Fit a CO detector and have your chimney regularly swept to ensure the proper flow of gases from your property.

Follow these simple steps to protect your home and your family from chimney fires:

- Have your chimney swept at least once a year – more frequently if you burn wood
- Make sure the appliance receives enough air to allow the fuel to burn properly
- Only burn suitable fuels
- Do not overload the grate/appliance
- Maintain your appliance in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions
- Use a fire or spark guard to prevent accidental fires
- Inspect your chimney breast, particularly the roof space. Make sure that it is sound and that the sparks or fumes cannot escape through cracks or broken bricks.
- Avoid storing items in the roof space close to your chimney
- Consider having a carbon monoxide detector fitted as an additional safeguard against the build up of poisonous fumes.
- Make sure you fit, and regularly test, a smoke alarm. It is the single most important piece of safety equipment in any home .



Chimneys & Open Fires

Jo Harfleet, Kent Fire & Rescue Service

It can be comforting to curl up in front of a warm, cosy, crackling fire on cold winter nights. But, before you light your open fire or log burning stove this year, it's vital you know it's in good working order and fit for the winter ahead or you could be putting your family and home at risk.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service is reminding homeowners not to wait until the weather starts to cool down to think about getting their chimneys swept and inspected but to phone the Institute of Chimney Sweeps on 01622 670333 or visit their website at www.instituteofchimneysweeps.com to find a certified chimney sweep who will make sure your chimney and flue are properly cleaned and maintained. A clean chimney can help prevent fires and structural damage to your property.

Whether you use an open fire, wood or log burning stove or other 'real flame' appliance it's vital that they are properly maintained and regularly cleaned otherwise it can dramatically increase your risk of having a fire. Chimneys can turn into blazing furnaces when they catch fire, causing thousands of pounds worth of damage, putting your home at risk and your family's lives in danger.

Keep it clean:

- Regular cleaning of your chimney and flue will eliminate the build up of soot and clear obstructions such as bird or animal nests, leaves and debris
- It is not sufficient to use a vacuum cleaner and you should ensure your chimney flue is inspected regularly to prevent a fire breaking out
- Do not overload the grate or build fires too high
- Dispose of ash appropriately



ideas to get more cars off the pavements.

Kent County Council is investigating putting timed yellow lines along the Alton Cottages side of the main road. If that scheme goes ahead the Scouts say they will let parents park in their car park under a managed scheme. The SRSC is currently working on a proposal for a School Bus, which will be given to the school's Governing body to consider.

In the meantime, if you think you could help with tackling congestion near the school by lending your driveway please email eynsfordschoolrun@yahoo.co.uk. Thank You.

Citizens Advice Bureau

At Sevenoaks and Swanley Bureaux we help over 3,000 people every year with problems such as benefits, debt, employment, consumer and other legal issues. Typical problems include people facing eviction from their home, what to do in the event of a relationship breakdown, how to deal with credit card or payday loan debts, or what to do when your employer won't pay you what you are due. Our free, independent, confidential and impartial advice is available for everyone by phone or in person and our advice is delivered primarily by highly trained volunteers drawn from the local community.



If you require advice and information, Swanley Citizens Advice Bureau currently operates a drop in session every Monday, Thursday and Friday between 10.00-14.00 at 16 High Street, Swanley, Kent, BR8 8BG and runs a drop in session West Kingsdown every first and third Tuesday of the month between 9.30-12.30 at The Pavilion, Gamecock Meadow, West Kingsdown, TN15 6BZ. If you would like to speak to us on the telephone, please call 01322 473176 and leave a message. For more information about our service, please visit our Citizens Advice website at: www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Most of the advice in our bureau is delivered by highly trained volunteers supported by experienced staff members. We always welcome new volunteers to join us and many people use their experience volunteering with the CAB as a stepping stone to paid employment. You don't need any particular qualifications to volunteer with the CAB and can undertake a number of different roles with us. These include being a receptionist, undertaking shorter diagnostic interviews called 'gateway assessments', helping with our campaigns work, and becoming a full generalist adviser.

A generalist adviser can take up to a year to complete training but it is a highly rewarding job as you can work on the more complex cases and see clients over a period of time. Good literacy and numeracy skills are welcomed as we record all our interviews to check on the quality of our work, and help people to write letters or understand bills. Our volunteers tell us that they find it highly worthwhile to help those in need in the community and to work in such a supportive environment. If you are interested in volunteering, please submit a volunteer information request form available on: www.citizensadvice.org.uk/volunteering



T: 01732 373 832

M: 0771 263 1452

Twitter: @advice2gether

Website: www.advicetogether.org.uk

Parish Council Surgery

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.

Lullingstone Parkrun

Cllr Philip Ward



Parkrun was founded to encourage participation in grass roots sport. Since the first events at Bushy Park in 2004, parkrun has grown to more than 1 million participants in over 10 countries worldwide.

So what is parkrun? Parkrun is a 5km run – through parkland - where the emphasis is on taking part; it's you against the clock, for your own enjoyment whatever your pace. Each run starts at 9am every Saturday morning and is completely free to enter.

When you register you are given a barcode so every run you complete is recorded along with your times.

In April of this year, local resident Giles Wolfe established Lullingstone parkrun set in Lullingstone Country Park. Looking out over the Darent Valley and Lullingstone Castle certainly makes it a special event in the parkrun family.

For more information and to register (free) go to <http://www.parkrun.org.uk/lullingstone/>

