

equipment required.

What support is available to volunteers?

Kent Police helps schemes get started safely by training all new volunteers and pre-approving areas where they will operate.

How to start a Speedwatch scheme

- Find other volunteers in your area who want to tackle speeding. For safety, there must always be at least two people aged 18 and over at the roadside. Usually there are three people in a group, but never more than four.
- Contact Speedwatch Support, they will arrange the necessary safety awareness training and carry out risk assessments at any new sites you want to use. Speedwatch volunteers decide for themselves at which approved sites to operate, how often and for how long. For safety, Speedwatch schemes can only operate during daylight hours.

Local enforcement

Information gathered in relation to speeding vehicles will be used to inform speed enforcement campaigns, educational opportunities and other road safety initiatives in the future including the deployment of safety camera technology. Details of vehicle's and observation will be retained for 12 months and are cross referred to Kent and Sussex records, identifying

- Almost **90%** of speeding vehicles are not detected a second time in Kent by any Speedwatch scheme in the next 12 months.
- Over **80%** of speeding vehicles that generate a first advice letter **do not get** another from Speedwatch in Kent in the next 12 months. The proportion of speeding vehicles which generate four or more letters in a 12 month period is only around 1 in every 2,000.

What's Next

If you would like to volunteer in Eynsford, please get in touch with the parish council on eynsford.pc@tiscali.co.uk. For more general info about Kent Community Speedwatch please contact Alan Watson – Speedwatch Manager - Kent Police
Telephone – 01622 653781 or email csw@kent.pnn.police.uk



Winter News 2018

from
EYNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Welcome to the winter newsletter from Eynsford Parish Council.

I hope you find the newsletter interesting this month. We have articles on trains, a new defibrillator, a new dementia café, a nature reserve and more. We also hope that lots of you will be volunteering for Speed Watch!



We have not included an article about the village hall because a leaflet about the latest progress was recently circulated to all properties in Eynsford.

Do put the date of the Annual Parish Meeting in your diaries - 11th May 2018 in Eynsford Village Hall. Its only a year until the parish council elections, so this may be your last chance to speak to the current councillors (although we do hope that most of them will stay on)!

Don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like further information about anything affecting the village.

Holly Ivaldi, Clerk

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

New Defibrillator at Eynsford Railway Station

Naomi Morgan, Deputy Clerk

After months of work, a new defibrillator is finally installed at Eynsford Station, just outside the front doors. This was purchased through a grant from the British Heart Foundation and funding from the Parish Council. Thank you to Southeastern for assisting with the installation.



So what is AED, who can use them and when should you use one?

What is an AED? AED stands for automated external defibrillator. These devices allow the heart rhythm to be reset if a fast and dangerous arrhythmia is present. As the name implies, these devices are automated and provide instruction and feedback. [Arrhythmias](#) occur when the electrical system in the heart short circuits. Commonly, patients with life-threatening arrhythmias will lose consciousness. Often the only way of re-establishing a normal heart rhythm, and saving a victim's life, is to apply an electrical discharge from an AED.

Does one have to be trained in order to administer the AED? Training to use an AED is available through CPR classes, (Heartstart Gravesham Lifesaving club, 01474 320 587) . It may seem surprising to hear that an AED is an easy tool for most people to operate — even someone with no medical background — but it's true. Using an AED is, by design, simple and easy. In fact, a study performed compared trained sixth graders to EMS providers and found that sixth graders could efficiently and effectively use AEDs.

When should you use an AED? AEDs are used in circumstances when a victim is unresponsive and not breathing. An AED is not a substitute for CPR, but rather to be used in conjunction with it. If a victim is unresponsive, the British Heart foundation guidelines recommend initiating CPR first while at the same time activating an emergency response system. If two witnesses are available, one should perform CPR while the other attempts to locate an AED. CPR is then continued until the AED can be activated and used. AED are safe and will not allow a shock to be given unless the heart's rhythm requires it.



auto pilot, knowing where the bends are, where the children stand in the morning for school etc. – when Speedwatch are out and about the flash of the screen and a hi vis jacket breaks that habitual driving and the driver then checks the speed of what they are doing, wandering if they have been seen and caught.....

Remember – if you see a Speedwatch team out and about – you will be looking for them the next time you travel that way and you will slow down too!

So who operates a Speedwatch scheme?

Schemes can be started by any recognised local community group, like a Parish Council, a Residents' Association or just a small group of concerned residents. Using our website to enter the observations of speeding provides Kent Police with details of vehicles that have been seen committing offences and also allows for immediate feedback to schemes as to what letters are due to be sent, allowing for reporting by parish councils.

In addition to this we also check DVLA for TAX and MOT offences, DVLA are automatically updated via email if a vehicle is seen with to TAX placing them at the date and location for DVLA to follow this up.

Is there a Cost to start up?

Normally yes, but Eynsford Parish Council already have all the

Are you Concerned about Speeding in Eynsford?

Yes? - Community Speedwatch may be able to assist.

What is Speedwatch?

It is a community based scheme that helps volunteers make their local roads safer by reducing speeding without penalising passing drivers. The scheme started in mid Kent in 2006 and went countywide in 2011.

How does Speedwatch work?

A group of two or three police trained volunteers operates at carefully selected roadside sites where speed limits of 20, 30 and 40 miles per hour (mph) are in place. Using a portable speed indication device, they accurately measure the speed of passing vehicles.

Without using photography, the volunteers capture and report the following details of vehicles travelling at or above nationally recommended speed thresholds (25, 35 and 46 mph):

| Registration | Make | Colour | Speed | Time. |
|--------------|------|--------|-------|-------|
|--------------|------|--------|-------|-------|

The details of vehicles reported speeding are stored by Kent Police for 12 months and cross referred to Sussex Speedwatch Observations. A letter of advice will be sent in to the registered owners of vehicles who repeatedly speed and/or drive at more than 50% over the limit. Police officers hand deliver advice letters to frequent offenders or those that exceed the limit by 90%. (Letters are sent on the 2nd observation anywhere in Kent and Sussex. Speedwatch is an education based scheme. No drivers will be directly prosecuted, fined or given penalty points as a direct result of any Speedwatch activity.

Does the scheme work?

In most locations yes it does, why not all? Due to the layout of some locations this may exclude Speedwatch from setting up safely, however happy to review locations.

Are you a habitual driver?

We have all done it when we get in a car and we are driving to work or home wondering what will be happening today, we are listening to music and can end up in a driving bubble... we start to drive on

Training. Given the simplicity and impact, however, AED training should be considered by all. At this year's Annual Parish Meeting, to be held on 11th May 2018, at Eynsford Village Hall, we will, hopefully, be holding AED and CPR training in the Darenth room, throughout the evening. Further details on this will be available in the coming months.

In case of a real incident, call 999 first. The call handler will direct you to the nearest AED device (if appropriate) and instruct you how to access and use it on the casualty. Do not attempt to access the cabinet without calling 999 first.

The Tuesday Club

Molly Copus

In 2009 3 kind hearted senior citizens of Eynsford felt that there was a need for a meeting point for other retired residents of the village and surrounding area. They realised that there were among us, members of both sexes who were often lonely and rarely went out of their house and others who just enjoyed getting out and about, meeting other people. Thus was the birth of the Tuesday Club.

We meet every Tuesday, in the Darenth Room of the village hall where, for a couple of hours between 2 and 4 p.m., we socialise over a cup of tea or coffee and cakes. Some enjoy playing Scrabble and other board games, others enjoy completing jigsaw puzzles. Occasionally we have a quiz. All these activities help to keep the grey cells working.



In the summer we go out and about, normally for lunch, visiting Garden Centres or other places of interest and also a boat trip, for example, on the river Medway. During the Christmas season, one week we go for a lunch at a local pub and, the next week, have a party.

Our founding organisers, together with their team of helpers, are now all 9 years older and are in urgent need of assistance in running the club. We would appreciate any offers of help in any way. Please have a good think and see if you could spare a couple of hours a week to help run the club.

We would also welcome new members of both sexes. We are happy to transport you if you would find it difficult to make your own way to or from the Village Hall.

For further information please contact Ken Baker on 01322 863069 or Molly Copus on 01322 863701.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) - What is it and Why do we need it?

Councillor Theresa Durrant

For those of you who don't already know GDPR is the EU's General Data Protection Regulations, which will be enforceable in May of this year. The new regulations are the EU's response to give individuals more power about how their data is used by organisations, taking into account the ever changing and previously unforeseen ways that our personal data is now being used.

Who is affected?

GDPR affects all organisations within Europe who process personal data, which includes local authorities and Parish Councils and is there to protect all residents within Europe, regardless of where they originated from.

What is the aim of the new legislation?

Many organisations will have a legitimate interest in storing data, but under the new legislation they will need to be more transparent and accountable for the data they store on individuals. For example all organisations will now need to be clearer on the following:

What data are they processing?

How are they processing it?

Who are they sharing data with?

How are they using the data?

The policy is also there to ensure that organisations do not hold

- Creating a nature corridor dissecting the mainline rail line and buffering the m25 motorway- allowing nature to thrive in Better Grazing opportunities across the Sevenoaks area

Some of the key species that will benefit include

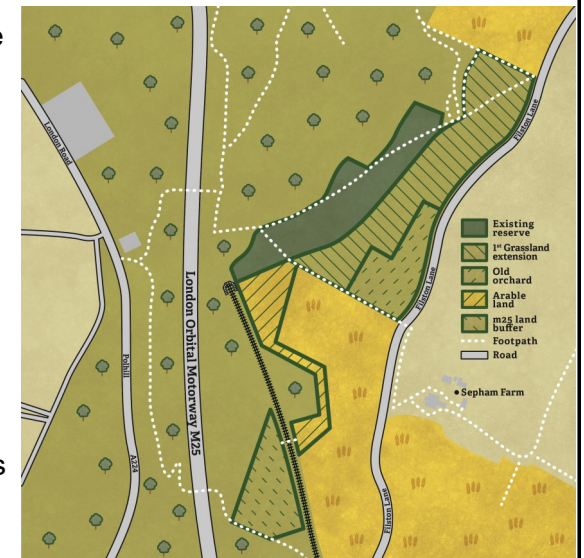
- Protect and extend the space available for iconic species such as the adder and grass snake, the red listed yellowhammer, and the rare Kentish Milkwort
- Improve the habitats for a range of orchids including Bee, man and pyramidal

Improve conditions for butterflies including the small heath, orange tip, small white and brown argus.

Over the coming months you can learn more about this wonderful site, and how you can get involved in writing the next chapter for Polhill. Please follow us on our social media sites, or on our website Kentwildlife.org.uk, or email Sam Campbell at the Trust sam.campbell@kentwildlife.org.uk to find out more about our plans and the site.

The Trust will also be running local roadshows which will give locals the opportunity to come along and ask any questions they may have. Keep an eye out for these, which will be advertised in the coming months.

Visiting Polhill: Polhill Bank is set some distance from the nearest lane, and the best place to park is near the London Furniture Company (TN14 7BG) on the A224. From there, the reserve can be reached by walking over the footbridge and following the footpath to the right. Walking from Sepham Farm (TN14 5JT), turn right up Filston Lane and turn left on to footpath across fields to the reserve.



Nature Reserve at Polhill Bank

Sam Campbell, Kent Wildlife Trust

On your doorstep there lies a magnificent nature reserve, home to an incredible variety of wildlife, and breath-taking landscape and scenery. Some of you may visit it regularly, whilst some may not even be aware of its existence; however the future of the site is of importance to everyone.



Polhill bank is a wonderful piece of chalk grassland in the Darent valley, with stunning views over the Sevenoaks area. It is both a wonderful place to explore and a haven to a range of wildlife. The reserve was created to protect and manage its

chalk grassland and scrub habitats, which have seven species of orchids and special insect life, including some species found nowhere else in the county.

Kent Wildlife Trust has a long history at Polhill, but has been managing the site at its own cost in recent years to keep it in the condition you can find it in now. However this fragile arrangement has given the site no long term security, and its upkeep has only continued because of the hard work of staff and a hardy group of volunteers.

However due to a change in circumstances in 2017, the 4 hectare nature reserve has become available to purchase, along with a large extension which will protect 40 acres overall, for wildlife, for the future. This exciting opportunity, will, if successful, create and connect a continuous bank of chalk grassland habitat over 1km in length and will include the reversion of 1.4ha of arable land.

Purchase of the land would have the following key outcomes:

- Long term security and to current reserve (10 acres) and c.11 acres of arable reversion HLS land.
- New access points to the site, allowing easier and more efficient management
- Restoration of 3.5 acres of current arable land
- Restore management of 4 acres of chalk grassland/scrubland

data on an individual for longer than is necessary and also removes inference that a individual is happy for an organisation to use their data to engage with them in other ways. Although the legislation itself stops short at stating what is a reasonable amount of time to store data, leaving it at the discretion of the organisation.

One of the biggest benefits to individuals is that they will now have more say on what data an organisation can hold, requesting updates or amendments to their data, or to have their data deleted entirely. Although a cautionary note is that a request to delete data is not an automatic right.



How will Eynsford Parish Council meet their data protection obligations?

It is the Parish Council's intention to be fully compliant by time the new regulations come into force on the 24th May 2018. In order to meet these obligations members of the council and the clerks will be attending GDPR workshops over the coming months on how best to manage personal data.

This will also include training for individuals who work and volunteer for the council, including suppliers. There will also be a general review of both the internal IT and storage systems and Data Protection policies. More information will be available on the EPC website in due course.

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

Eynsford Rail Users Group

Councillor Malcolm Richardson

The Parish Council recently organised a meeting with residents to discuss the train service from Eynsford and five residents attended, together with Councillor Malcolm Richardson.



Amongst the number of topics discussed were:

- ◆ Poor timekeeping – it is apparent that Thameslink is now very busy so problems can lead to delays, although it was felt the new 'Class 700' trains may help passenger congestion as they hold more people.
- ◆ Cancellations – lack of early notifications of cancellations can lead to passengers turning up at the station to find train cancelled despite the train company knowing beforehand.
- ◆ Oyster Card – this is only valid to and from Swanley.
- ◆ Ticket pricing – cost, plus wide variance in pricing and ticket machines do not offer the most competitive fares.
- ◆ Future rail services – there are a number of proposals in the pipeline which may lead to a wider service from Eynsford (for instance getting a train to London Bridge) although none of these have yet been confirmed.

The meeting also discussed the Sevenoaks Rail Travellers Association ('SRTA') and whether Eynsford train users would have a greater voice with the train companies if we liaised with the SRTA, or whether it would be better to act on our own.

Subsequently a meeting was held with the SRTA who confirmed that they represent all rail users who use the lines in and around Sevenoaks and that includes all passengers from Eynsford.

SRTA also confirmed that they would be happy for a representative from Eynsford to come along to their committee meetings to put forward the views of residents, with such meetings being held every six to eight weeks (in the evenings).

Come to our Annual Parish Meeting!

On **11th May 2018** we will be holding our Annual Parish Meeting in Eynsford Village Hall. This is your chance to find out what we have been doing over the past year, what we do to support our community, and how we can help you. You can read reports on our work, see our accounts and more. As well as councillors, there will be representatives from other agencies attending who can tell you about the services that they provide to residents of Eynsford. These will range from the police and the highways authority to volunteer organisations.

We will be presenting out Community Award during the evening too - this is an award for a person or group who has made a significant contribution to our community.

If there is anything in particular you would like to find out about at this event, please let us know so that we can prepare the information.

We are also hoping to provide CPR training in the Darenth Room during the evening - it would be great if more of our community would feel equipped to help out in an emergency.

This is a pop-in event with a short formal element. All are welcome to stay for 10 mins or all evening. Light refreshments will be available too.

Follow us Online

Eynsford Parish Council's website is the best place for you to find useful information about the council and it's 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, 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.

Allotment Work Party - Can You Help?

The parish council is hoping to organise a work party to help to tidy the allotment site at Castlefield. Councillor Alan Cooke has written a management plan for the site and is working to improve the condition and to clear shrubs, trees and rubbish impeding the cultivation of plots. The management plan will be sent out to all allotment holders shortly.

All are welcome to come along and help out on **Sunday 18th February any time between 10am - 3pm**, particularly any plot holders who are available.

Get in touch on eynsford.pc@tiscali.co.uk and we will confirm timings etc.



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.

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.

The Council believe this to be a very beneficial proposal – the Council are therefore looking for a resident who would be interested in sitting on the SRTA committee. They don't necessarily have to be a daily commuter although it would be an advantage to have a good knowledge of the railway network and how the infrastructure runs. If you are interested, please contact the Clerks.

Community Policing Volunteers Recruitment

Kent Police is looking for volunteers to play a new role in community policing.

Community Policing Volunteers are being recruited as part of a pilot scheme in the West Division which includes Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells.



The scheme is open to all adults aged 18 or above who are able to commit to 16 hours a month and interested in contributing to their local community as a volunteer.

They will wear a uniform and support their local Community Safety Units by providing additional visibility and an extra point of contact for members of the public, while also improving the communication flow to the police and back to the community.

Applicants will need to successfully pass a standard fitness test and provide a medical certificate to confirm they are in good health to perform an active role.

Volunteers will work as part of a team to reduce crime and improve community safety. They will have a number of duties including supporting police officers; responding to the needs of communities and supporting victims.

They will play a vital role in solving local problems and gathering useful evidence about criminal activity and anti-social behaviour (ASB).

The new role has been established following the Policing and Crime Bill 2017, which has given Chief Constables authority to extend certain powers to volunteers. This includes the power to request the name and address of someone committing ASB, some powers to control traffic, the power to place traffic signs and the power to enter premises to save life and/or prevent serious damage.

Recruitment has just started and closes on 26 January 2018. Interviews for those shortlisted will take place during February and training will start at the end of April which will take place over five weekends over a 10 week period.

Assistant Chief Constable Tony Blaker said: 'We know from talking to many people that there is a strong interest in volunteering to support the police and the community, and this is a fantastic opportunity that we hope will attract people of all ages and backgrounds.

'We have a rich tradition of volunteers in Kent Police with a thriving Special Constabulary, a growing Volunteer Cadet Force and a multitude of people who help in support roles throughout the force.

'This new role will build on that and provide an invaluable service to both the police and the local community.'

Anyone interested in applying to become a Community Policing Volunteer can get further information from our website:

www.kent.police.uk

Eynsford and Farningham Dementia Café

Councillor Ferne Haxby

A new Dementia Café is being set up for local residents of Eynsford and Farningham. This provides an opportunity where those living with dementia can meet, with their carers and friends, to chat, have some refreshments and spend time together.

The Café is supported by Bluebird Care whose carers will be on hand to provide professional and expert care and Carers FIRST, the leading organisation for help to carers. Carers FIRST will be holding a carers group in the Darenth Room at the village hall at the same time so that carers can gain expert advice and information to help them in their role.

The launch date for the Café is:

**9th February
Main Hall, Eynsford Village Hall
10.00am – 12.00pm**

and every 2nd Friday in the month, thereafter (except August)

There is an open invitation to all those living with Dementia to attend and also for their carers. Come along and meet together and enjoy some refreshments and entertainment.

If you require further information, or would like to volunteer to help us in this work, please do not hesitate to contact Ferne Haxby on: 07980820216 or ferne.haxby@yahoo.com

