



ESCAN

Your FREE Community Newsletter



Eatons Community Association - Registered Charity No.1110148

November 2012

ESCA helps local groups

The May Queen Tahlia Keefe and May Princesses Holly Tokens and Jessica Burt came along to the Eatons Community Association AGM and handed out the cheques. The small amount of money raised from the textile bank at Tesco Express was supplemented by a very generous grant from St Neots Town Council. The money this year was given to the Eatons Pre School, Tiddlers and Toddlers, the River Church new group Puddles Stay and Play, the Little Stars group at Eaton Socon Church, Hanover Close Social Group, SNABUS (the new bus group set up to tackle problems with buses in the town), the Sentinels Majorettes, the Trefoil Guild and the under 8s and under 9s football groups in Duloe who take many children from the Eatons.



The money raised from this year's Open Gardens event went to St Marys Church in Eaton Socon who will be using the money to put more notice boards in the hall and outside, for the use of the church and for the local community. And finally some of the money raised at May Day was given to the entertainers who make May Day such a memorable event with their enthusiastic performances.

Bulb Planting

The Eatons Community Association has once again planted bulbs in the Eatons. Last year we planted hundreds of daffodil bulbs along the new pathway to Willow Bridge which looked fantastic in the springtime and this year we planted 1000 bluebell bulbs alongside the path. Several new and past residents helped and even passing dog walkers joined in with the planting. More planting was undertaken on Eaton Ford Green by the Eaton Socon Beaver Scouts and their parents who planted over 800 daffodil bulbs, kindly donated by St Neots Town Council. Thank you to all those who helped and we now wait for a blooming springtime.



Carol Singing around the Christmas Tree

Friday 7th December 6-6.30pm

Join with us in singing carols around our Christmas Tree on Eaton Socon Village Green.

Wrap up warmly, bring a torch and enjoy a warm mince pie after the carols.

Children are very welcome.



Bench by Willow Bridge

If you walk over Willow Bridge you will have seen the new bench placed by ESCA with the very kind help of a local builder. The bench has no back so that you can sit either facing the path or facing the cricket field. So why not take a short rest and enjoy the view.



Lots more news inside.

Deadlines for all contributions
28th February 2013 for inclusion
in the next issue.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Follow us on Twitter: @EatonsCA

ESCA wishes everyone a Happy Christmas
and Best Wishes for the New Year

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Useful Telephone Numbers

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Street Lighting | 0800 253 529 |
| report the number on the lamp-post, the street name and town. | |
| St Neots Town Council | 01480 388911 |
| Police | 01480 456111 |
| Gas Emergency | 0800 111 999 |
| Electricity Emergency | |
| 24 Seven | 0800 783 8838 |
| EME | 0800 056 8090 |
| Water Emergencies | 08457 145 145 |
| Huntingdonshire District Council | |
| General Enquiries | 01480 388388 |
| Out of Hours Emergencies | 01480 434167 |
| Fly Tipping | 01480 388640 |
| Jubilee Hall | 01480 392733 |
| Duloe Village Hall | 07768 303373 |
| St Marys Church Hall Eaton Socon | 01480 212219 |
| Eatons Community Centre | 01480 388911 |
| Doctors Surgeries | |
| Eaton Socon Health Centre | 08444 771802 |
| Cedar House Surgery | 01480 406677 |
| Bushmead School | 01480 375375 |
| Crosshall Infants School | 01480 475980 |
| Crosshall Junior School | 01480 475972 |



Useful Websites

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| ESCA | www.escan.org.uk |
| St Neots Town Council | www.stneots-tc.gov.uk |
| Eaton Socon Health Centre | www.eatonsoconhealthcentre.co.uk |
| Cedar House Surgery | www.cedarhousesurgery.net |
| Cambridgeshire Archives | www.ccan.co.uk |
| Paxton Pits | www.paxton-pits.org.uk |
| Sudbury Meadow | www.sudburymeadow.org.uk |
| St Marys Church | www.eatonsocon.org |
| Everyclick | www.everyclick.com |
| Pightle | www.eatonsoconpightle.org.uk |
| Bushmead School | www.bushmeadprimaryschool.org.uk |
| About my Area | www.aboutmyarea.org.uk/PE19 |
| Duloe, Staploe and Honeydon | www.staploeduloehoneydonparishcouncil.bedsparishes.gov.uk |



Who's Who at ESCA

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Chairman | Sue Jarrett | 01480 216065 |
| Treasurer | Dave Jarrett | 01480 216065 |
| May Day Administrator | Julia Hayward | 01480 210097 |
| Open Gardens | Collette Barnes | 01480 403343 |
| History Co-ordinator | Sue Jarrett | 01480 216065 |
| ESCAN Co-ordinator | Kate Norden | 01480 470039 |

Puddles Stay and Play

- a new group for the under 5s at the Eatons Community Centre
Tues and Thurs 9.30-11.30am

Copy date for the next edition of ESCAN for news, adverts and information – 28th February 2013.

Please send ESCAN letters & Adverts to ESCA, 3 Collingwood Rd, Eaton Socon, St Neots, PE19 8JQ Email – eatonsca@gmail.com

Dates for your diary

St Mary's Eaton Socon

Christmas Services & Events

Nativity Play – Sunday 9th December – 10.30am

Uniformed Organisations Carol Service –
Tuesday 11th December – 6.30pm

Carol Service – Sunday 16th December – 6.30pm

Traditional Carol Service with Bishop of Bedford –
Wednesday 19th December – 2pm

Family Carol Services – Christmas Eve – 3pm & 5pm

Midnight Communion Service – Christmas Eve – 11.30pm

Christmas Day Family Communion Service –
Christmas Day – 10am

Family Christingle Service – Sunday 13th January – 4pm

All enquires, please ring the church office on 352154

Eaton Ford Methodist Church

Christmas Carols at Eaton Ford Church –

Sunday 23rd December – 10.30am

Christmas Eve Holy Communion at the United Reformed Church in St Neots – Monday 24th December – 11.30pm

Christmas Day Service at Berkley Street Methodist Church, Eynesbury – Tuesday 25th December – 10.30am

Service at Berkley Street Methodist Church, Eynesbury –
Sunday 30th December – 10.30am

River Church

Puddles Christmas party – 13th December – 9.30-11.30am

Morning Service – 23rd December – 10.30am

Carol Service – 23rd December – 6pm

Christmas Day – No service, the River Church are hosting a free Christmas Day lunch at Cornerstone Coffee shop in the town for people who live on their own or would find it difficult to cook their own. Starts 12-30. For more information visit the coffee shop or ring 07545175837 to reserve your place. Transport will be provided if needed.

Sunday services are at 10-30 at the Eatons Community Centre, behind the Co-op Store in Eaton Ford, and all are welcome

January 8th 9.30am **'Puddles Stay and Play'** re-opens at the community centre with a Teddy bears picnic. This is for all mums with children under 5. Just turn up, free but donations are accepted

St Marys, Eaton Socon Groundforce Team

If you would like to help to tidy the churchyard the church now has a groundforce team and the next working morning will be on Sat 16th March from 9am – 1pm.

Refreshments are provided, including Bacon & Sausages in rolls, so why not come along, join in and keep our churchyard looking good!

For further info, please contact the church office on 352154



If you are a dog owner please think of others and pick up your dogs mess and dispose of the bag either at home or in a dog bin. We have had complaints that some owners are being particularly unkind and leaving the bags in the bushes or in someone else's garden. Please keep the Eatons clean and tidy.



Stop press news

It is rumoured the the X5 bus will soon be stopping near the George and Dragon.

● Chairman's Spot ●

Yet another year has passed and this year has seen several changes in the Eatons.

New houses have been built on the former Wheatsheaf Public House site, in Bushmead Road, and behind the Scout Hut in Eaton Ford, and three new shops have opened – 'Clarity', a beauty salon in the former Alpha Tiles, 'The Spice Village' take-away in Eaton Ford and 'Queens Fish'Tikka' in the former 'Eaton Spice' shop in Queens Gardens. If you have not visited these shops yet why go and visit them.

Onto ESCA news, we have had many celebrations with our May Day celebrations, Open Gardens, the churches 80th birthday celebrations and of course the Jubilee celebrations in the town. We were also fortunate in being able to take part in a long county wide Big Cycle Race which had a checkpoint in Shakespeare Road before the cyclists crossed Willow Bridge. In the last few weeks we have once again been active planting thousands of bulbs around the Eatons to make the place a better place for our Eatons residents. At our recent AGM we welcomed three new people onto the ESCA committee who will be helping us in the forthcoming exciting year. Sue Cottrell, one of our former long serving committee members and a trustee has moved away but we are fortunate that Chris Duck, a former councillor, has agreed to become a trustee and work hard as a full member of our committee. We send a big Thank You to Sue and wish her well in her new home. One important change in the committee is Kate Norden who has just moved into Eaton Socon and has very kindly offered to take on this newsletter so please support her by sending in articles.

On behalf of the ESCA committee may I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Sue Jarrett, ESCA Chairman

Shape Your Place - A New Community Website

People in Eaton Socon, Eynesbury, St Neots and the surrounding villages have a brand new community website where they can have their say. The award winning www.ShapeYourPlace.org lets people in their local area raise issues, share news and promote local groups and events.

When residents raise issues - the local councils, the police and the fire service will respond within 10 days about how they will resolve them. This website has been developed by Cambridgeshire County Council and can be a great place for you to have your say.

Visitors to ShapeYour Place - St Neots can:

- Promote local groups, events and activities
- Report issues, start campaigns and suggest ideas to improve where they live
- Join in conversations with residents
- Receive answers from local public services

So if you would like to raise an issue or find out more -



1. Go to www.shapeyourplace.org
2. Click on St Neots on the map
3. Click on 'Have Your Say'
4. Fill out the easy form
5. Click out submit and we do the rest. It's that easy!

Your Town Newsletter

In October you should have received the new town council's newsletter – full of information about the town, the councillors and forthcoming events. 'Your Town' will be coming out quarterly so if you did not get your first copy please let the Town Council know – Tel 01480 388911

St Neots Xmas Lights Switch
On Nov 30th 5pm – 9pm
Market Square



St Neots Knitting Group

Meets on the first Tuesday of the month. Evening meeting, all ages welcome. For details please call Angela on 01480 405639

Eatons Photograph competition

Have you started taking photos for our photographic competition to brighten up the Eatons Community Centre. If you have not visited the centre recently it now boasts a wonderful seating area with benches and tables. Shrubs and plants have been added in the garden area and upstairs there are a selection of old photographs showing Eaton Ford and Eaton Socon in the Rosamond Suite.

What more can be done – it has been decided to have some more recent photos of events in the Eatons to brighten up the Centre so get out your cameras and start snapping. All ages can enter and more details will be available soon.

ESCAN Deliveries

Do you want to become one of our kind volunteers who like to have a walk and deliver a few newsletters? We have a growing team of volunteers who deliver and a small team who count and bag the ESCANS, so if you would like to help please let ESCA know. We have a special plea for Chawston Close and Begwary Close which are near Honeydon Avenue. It would be helpful if someone who knows these two roads could help. If you would like to volunteer please contact ESCA.

Meet your councillor

Have you ever wanted to meet your councillor or ask a question about something concerning the town. Well now is your chance at the Eatons Community Centre, The Maltings, behind the Co-op Stores in Eaton Ford – 7.30pm – 8.30pm.

Monday 3rd December
Monday 4th February

Monday 7th January
Monday 4th March

St Neots Players

Its Pantomime season again and this year the St Neots Players are putting on
Sleeping Beauty
at the Priory Centre in St Neots
on 13th – 15th December at 7.30pm
and at 2.30pm on Saturday 15th December.

Ticket prices - £12 (£10 cons)
Tickets from the Box Office online at
www.stneotsplayers.co.uk
Or at the Priory Centre 01480 388922

Help with your Computer

Have you got a computer which you find hard to use or you are getting one for Christmas and you do not know how to log on, send an email, search the net, download your photos or start online shopping. You may not even know how to scroll, use the mouse or press the return button.

There is free friendly help at St Neots library every **Tuesday from 10 till 12:30** and no booking is required. Whether you are a complete novice or an improver the library volunteers are there to help. The library has 8 computers in their upstairs learning suite staffed by two friendly volunteers where you will always be made most welcome. We know that after the last article some Eatons residents went along so don't be shy go and ask!

Plough Monday in Eaton Socon

Where else in the town of St Neots can we bless the plough and hope for a good agricultural year! With most of Eaton Socon Parish still farmed across the county boundary in Bedfordshire we are delighted to host the annual blessing of the plough.



On Monday 7th January 2013, there will be the annual Plough Monday Celebrations in Eaton Socon, beginning at Eaton Socon Church at 7.30pm with the Blessing of the Plough, followed by Molly dancing and singing. Then moving on to local hostelrys for more dancing and refreshment. Audience participation is encouraged so why not come along and join in – a real bit of village fun with a serious side as the plough needs to be blessed for a good harvest. For further information please contact Roger & Patti Pitt on 01234 376278.

Bus Services – your chance to get involved

The St Neots Area Bus Users Society is a young group to represent passengers in and around St Neots and surrounding villages. Two months in and already there are some positive signs – we've got the County Council to survey the location for a permanent bus stop at the Barley Mow, and are working with the Town Council to maintain stocks of pocket timetables at suitable locations. Now, on the horizon is a major consultation for Cambridgeshire Future Transport, a £1.5million fund which could be used to help provide bus services or alternatives such as car-sharing schemes. We'll be formally involved to stick up for our services but to have your say as well, call the CFT team on 0345 045 0675 (local rate).

For more information see our website: <http://www.snabus.org.uk> or contact us at SNABUS, 11 Collingwood Road, Eaton Socon PE19 8JQ.

Problems with buses!

If you are one of the people who have been left stranded with no buses and cannot easily do essential journeys like the dentists, doctors and shopping then there are people who may be able to help you. The St Neots Volunteer Centre have drivers who will come and pick you up and take you to where you need to go. There are conditions attached and a small fee will be requested to cover petrol costs so why not pick up your phone and phone 01480 476047 to find out more. This may be a solution for you, especially if you have mobility problems. Advance notice usually needed. If you are a driver and would like to help others you can also contact the Volunteer Centre. More drivers are always needed.



Other schemes include the Nene and Ouse Valley Dial-a-Ride Community Transport which offer a similar service but require a yearly subscription which will also entitle you to outings arranged by them – Tel 01832 733336 for more information. If you know of any other service to help those who need transport please contact ESCA on 01480 216065 or email eatonsca@gmail.com and we will see what we can find out.

Cleaning up your area

Do not leave it to others but why not take a little time to smarten up your road. We are not asking you to clean up your entire street but why not spend a little time tidying up your garden and perhaps the kerb area in front of your house. A little brush along the pavement after mowing and perhaps clearing a little litter caught in a nearby bush will keep the Eatons tidier and will hopefully encourage others to look after their gardens and roads. We all know how we feel when we see a scruffy street or a tidy street. Let us all be proud of the Eatons.



'Bringing wildlife closer to home'

I have no doubt that the birds, animals and creepy crawlies of Sudbury Meadow are enjoying the fact that most of our meadow remains uncut. We did try! On 3rd October, we had it all planned out. Countryside Services ranger, Matt Hall, brought along the equipment and his Paxton Pits volunteers to cut all the meadow. We hired a skip and all started well. However, the reciprocator cutter was playing up and couldn't cut the tough stems, one of the brush cutters broke down and the vehicle used to transport all the equipment also broke down! We managed to get about two-thirds of the lower meadow cut and completely filled the skip. Still, its supposed to be good practice to leave areas uncut over winter - that's now our excuse!



One plan that did work out was to help St Neots Town Council trial a plant recycling scheme for some of the summer bedding plants. Most of the bedding plants were annuals so would not survive the winter, but various dahlias, Verbena bonariensis and a few borderline rudbeckias along with 3 sacks of geraniums were delivered to Sudbury Meadow for people to collect on 20th October. We were a bit surprised by the rush of keen gardeners in the first 30 minutes! By midday all the dahlias and most of the verbena and rudbeckias had found new homes. The geraniums were not so lucky, but some have since found a home too. Friends of Sudbury Meadow received £101 in donations (not St Neots in Bloom as reported in the News and Crier!) for which we are very grateful. Look out for future plant giveaways.

Many of our green spaces rely on volunteers to survive and Sudbury Meadow is no exception. Do get in touch if you have a few hours to spare and think you might be able to help. The site is open all year round if you want to explore further. If you have still not found Sudbury Meadow then cross the road from the Barley Mow in Eaton Ford and look for the wildlife area just north of 6 Crosshall Road.

Alison Pearson, Chair, Friends of Sudbury Meadow.
01480 374792 www.sudburymeadow.org.uk

Brian's tip of the season

If you would like a free bag of mulch for your garden why not collect up some autumn leaves and let them rot down. If you clear a pathway near your house you will be tidying up the local area and making a difference to your garden.



St. Neots & District Gardening Club

St.Mary's Church Hall, Brook Street, St.Neots, 8pm.

- Jan 24th **An Audio Visual Garden Experience** by Andrew Pearce
- Feb 28th **Pests and Diseases** by Peter Jackson
- Mar 28th **Greenhouse Gardening** by Stephen Moore
- April 25th **Saving Plants from Extinction - the Work of Botanic Gardens** by Sara Oldfield

The Pightle Millennium Green – Eaton Socon



Volunteers at work putting in the new bench watched by the local cows.



Planting bulbs by the volunteers

Autumn is well underway now, and now that the second cutting is finished and done the Pightle itself looks like it is settling down ready for colder times ahead. The berries haven't had the best of years, and sadly this is likely to have an impact on the birds who hope for some as a tasty meal. However, there's plenty of activity going on as we work our way through the various projects that are being funded by our grant from the AmeyCespa Landfill Fund.

We already have two new benches in place. One overlooks the riverbank to the north of the older bench in the Pightle and the other faces our Celebration Trees. We hope you'll take the opportunity to enjoy two of our favourite spots. By the time you read this, our volunteers will have planted up hundreds of native English bulbs – bluebells, aconites, anemones and snowdrops – as well as a wide variety of wild flower seeds ready for a glorious show of colour in 2013. The artwork for our new information boards is now complete and the boards themselves are now being prepared ready for installation before the end of the year; I'm sure you will agree they are a fantastic addition when you see them.

There's also more mundane work going on, with the path leading out to the Cricket Club being smoothed and made less steep, and the kissing gate being reworked to improve access for disabled scooters. It might not be as visible, but it's very important to us that the Pightle can be enjoyed by the whole community. We've also ordered bird-boxes and bat-boxes and will be involving local children in assembling them and putting them up ready for their new residents to move in come the spring.

Finally, you may be aware that the Pightle is host to a collection of Black Poplars; long associated with the area and once cultivated for its wood because of its long, dead-straight trunk, there are as few as 6400 males and 600 females left in the UK. We're delighted to be able to provide a female sapling and this has just been planted near the Willow Bridge, hopefully ensuring our connection with this wonderful species for years to come.

Julia Hayward

Chair – The Pightle Millennium Green Trust

Tel: 0777 3918223 Email: Julia@juliahayward.com

Website: <http://www.eatonsoconpightle.org.uk>

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Tiddlers & Toddlers

Do you know that there's a
children's Group running every
Friday morning?

Term-time at the
Jubilee Hall Eaton Socon

Everyone is welcome

We run from 9:30 – 11:30 am
Nominal charge £2.50 per family
(Includes drink & biscuit)

Come along and try
before you buy!

FIRST VISIT FREE!

Contact Diane on **0777 566 3849**
Or Margaret on **01480 215695**
Benny on **01480 477838**

Pal of the Pightle

The Pightle here in Eaton Socon is enjoyed by many and relies on volunteer help to keep it maintained for the enjoyment of us all. The Pightle is NOT a Council owned facility and therefore has to rely on volunteer help.

We need regular finance to pay for items like grass cutting, maintaining the paths, planting new bulbs and trees as well as the annual insurance that has to be paid.

Can you help by becoming a "Pal of The Pightle"?

A "one off" donation or a small regular monthly contribution would be of great benefit for the long term success of The Pightle.

Please send this off to Mrs Julia Hayward (Chairman of The Pightle Trust) 11 Collingwood Rd, Eaton Socon PE19 8JQ

Dear Chairman Julia,

I would like to become a "Pal Of The Pightle"

- A) Please accept a donation of £_____ as a "one Off" donation to help maintain The Pightle.
- B) I would like to donate £_____ per month to help maintain The Pightle. (Please send me your bank details so I can set up a standing order)

Name.....(surname and initials)

Date.....

Address and Postcode.....

Email.....

Please make any cheques payable to 'The Pightle Millennium Green Trust'.

If you would like to Gift Aid your contribution so that The Pightle trustees can claim back a tax contribution from The Government please read and sign below.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for the current tax year (6 April – 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for the current tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given.

Signed.....

Have you ever wondered what wool can be used for?

Jeannette Cadney, of St Neots Trefoil Guild, a branch of the Girl Guides who support local guiding, collects wool which is very gratefully received by ladies who then spend many hours knitting to help others.

The wool is distributed amongst members of the Girl Guides, including the Trefoil Guild, who make small garments and blankets to go SANGAM in India. Any that is not suitable for knitting is given to local craft groups

SANGAM is one of the four World Association Centres in Pune, India (approx 120 miles south east of Mumbai) and members and staff support various charities in the surrounding area. Each Guiding group that goes there takes as many items that they can fit into their luggage for distribution later. A group in August took the garments and blankets, which had been knitted over many months. The Airline was very generous and each member of the group was allowed two bags.

Jeannette has been to Sangam twice and visited the Family Welfare Centre, which supports up to 60,000 people in three slums. On her second visit she was also able to visit a Leper Colony and see how various organizations had helped them.

Jeannette would like to say a big thank you for all the wool received and send another plea for wool. It will always be well used so if you have some spare wool please let ESCA know and we will pass it on.

Not So Young or Fit? Very Easy Gentle Pilates

Tuesdays 11.30 - 12.30
Wednesdays 9.30 - 10.30
and 10.30 - 11.30

Eatons Centre, Eaton Socon
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St Neots Coffee Pot Memory Cafe

To lose one's memory is a sad and frightening thing – our memories make us who we are. It's not only traumatic for the person concerned, but also for those closest to them, and they can soon find their relationship turning from a spouse, son or daughter to that of a carer. As the memory loss increases, the family can become more isolated and friends may find it difficult to cope with the changed situation.

If you find yourself in this situation why not come along to the St Neots Coffee Pot Memory Café. Run by volunteers who have all experienced someone close to them suffering from memory loss, the group aim to provide support for those embarking on the same journey. Over a cup of tea of coffee and cake there will be a friendly ear and support. This club is supported by the St Neots Rotary Club.

The Memory Café meets on the second Wednesday of the month at Berkley Street Methodist Church in Eynesbury 11am – 12.30am.

Lunch Club – first Thursday of the month at The Eaton Oak meeting at 12 noon for 12.30am

For more information or for a friendly chat please contact
Wendy P (212563), Wendy I (212295), Mary (475920) or Nell (472495)



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Over, Cambridge CB24 5QE

Tel: **01954 231545** or 07824 706969

Opening Hours: Mon – Fri 9.00am to 5.00pm

SPECIAL NOTE: Opening times may vary, please ring to avoid disappointment

www.all-eyes.co.uk

ALL EYES
Spectacle Makers

"St Neots Riders Group"

Free cycle rides of varying lengths for all ages arranged by Sustrans Rangers, though children must be accompanied by adults. 10:30 prompt start from outside the Ambiance Café in the Riverside Park.

The new St Neots cycle map is available from ESCA, the Tourist Info spot at Barretts or Broken Spokes Cycles.

For more information about the Sustrans cycle rides contact Richard Cooper, Volunteer Liaison Ranger email ranger@ridingabike.co.uk or Tel 01480 889171.

Eynesbury & St Neots TIME BANK

Time Banking is a controlled exchange of voluntary work and no money is exchanged – this is all voluntary work. You deposit time in the Bank by giving practical help and support to others, then you withdraw time when you need something doing for yourself by another member. Time can be banked to save up hours for bigger time consuming jobs. Age and ability are no obstacle - All you need is spare time. No money is needed other than for materials – this is VOLUNTARY. The Time Bank offers - full insurance security, access to training, the opportunity to meet other members of the community and becoming involved in community projects and events.

If you are interested in voluntary work and banking the 'hours' spent so you can also benefit, then email: timevolunteers@hotmail.co.uk or Tel: 07590909057 to join or for further details.

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Dates for History Groups

St Neots Local History Association

- Dec 7th **Dining at Christmas through the Ages**, by Fiona Lucroft
 Jan 4th **Postcards of St Neots**, by Rodney Todman
 Feb 1st **AGM and 'More Scenes from Yesterdays Farm'**, by David Bushby
 Mar 1st **Assemblies and Hundreds**, by Dr John Baker
 Apr 5th **Ghosts and Witches of Cambridgeshire**, by Michael Petty

Colmworth & Neighbours History Society

- Dec 2012 no meeting
 Jan 18th **Talk by Laurence Goldman**, Editor of the Dictionary of National Biography
 Feb 15th **The Roman Villa Excavation in Manton Lane, Bedford** by Stephen Cocker
 Mar 22nd **1066 – Health and Safety**, by Dr Stephen Carver

Roxton & District Local History Group

- Dec 6th **A.G.M.** followed by refreshments, wine and coffee
 Feb 7th **Pull Yourself Together Girls - The Spirella Story**, by Josh Tidy curator of the First Garden City Museums
 Mar 7th **Mid-20th Century films of this locality**, by Sue Jarrett
 Apr 4th **Early Education in Bedfordshire – A Group led exploration**, using material from our library and archives.

Coming to Your Area Soon



an article by Cambridgeshire County Council.

Cambridgeshire Future Transport is a public engagement programme involving residents in designing local transport solutions for their area. Over the next three years the Council will be reviewing how subsidised bus services are delivered across the whole county. Budget cuts to transport provision in the county mean that the Council's investment will now need to go further. There will be £1.5 million across the county to run a service, alongside commercial routes, that takes as many people as possible where they want to go, when they want to go.

It may be that the familiar scheduled bus is no longer the best solution for your area. Groups are being encouraged to explore a range of alternatives including: pre-bookable mini buses, like Dial-a-Ride; volunteer car schemes; taxi-card schemes; and car sharing schemes. Changes will only be made after a period of consultation.

Services in your area are **not scheduled for review until Spring next year and any solutions will not be introduced until April 2014.**

Which way should we go?

For more information or to get involved visit our website at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cft join the debate on [facebook.com/CambsFutureTransport](https://www.facebook.com/CambsFutureTransport) or contact the CFT team on 0345 045 0675 or cft@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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Want a Christmas Present with a difference?

Looking for something local as a Christmas present then why not buy a book and learn more about your local area.

All these booklets are available for reference in the St Neots and Huntingdon Reference Libraries and the County Archives offices in Bedford and Huntingdon. They are also available to buy at St Neots Museum. The ESCA books are written by ESCA for anyone with an interest in the Eatons. All profits are used to support ESCA projects within the Eatons and no profits go to Committee members. If you wish to buy these books they can be obtained from "ESCA", 3 Collingwood Road, Eaton Socon, St Neots, Hunts, PE19 8JQ using the form below.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Eaton Socon at Work | £2.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Eaton Socon in Character | £2.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Eatons at War | £2.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Inns and Outs of the Eatons | £3.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The River in the Eatons | £3.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Trails Around the Eatons | £3.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A Year in the Life of the Eatons (1992) | £2.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Church and Churchyard Survey | £7.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Eaton Socon Burials Registers 1813 - 2002 | £6.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Eaton Socon Cemetery 1930 - 2002 | £7.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Recalling the Great Church Fire of 1930 | £3.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | School Admission Register 1910-1969 | £3.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Eaton Socon School Punishment Book | £1.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Ways and Wherefores of the Eatons | £3.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Little End Hamlet | £3.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cross Hall Ford Hamlet - The Osborne Empire | £4.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Maltmans Gardens - (Health Centre Area) | £7.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Eaton Ford - The Millers and the Masons | £7.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cross Hall - The Lost Hamlet of Eaton Ford | £6.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Eaton Socon - The Village Lanes | £8.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Great North Road - Part 1 (Texaco Garage to Nelson Road) | £7.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Great North Road - Part 2 (Nelson Road to Andersons Butchers) | £7.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Great North Road - Part 3 (Wagon & Horses to Bushmead Road) | £7.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Great North Road - Part 4 (Bushmead Road to George & Dragon) | £7.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | To the Glorious Memory – Eaton Socon War Memorial | £9.95 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Eatons Then and Now | £5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Eaton Socon - Limited Edition Glass | £8.99 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Eaton Ford - Limited Edition Glass | £8.99 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Eatons keyrings | £1.00 |

I enclose a cheque for _____ made payable to ESCA.

Name _____

Address _____

Eaton Socon Censuses and Electoral Registers are available on request (Postage and Packing free to Eatons and St Neots residents)



Just a few left of these unique glasses so why not buy one and have a glass of your favourite tipple for Christmas



If you are looking for a stocking filler why not buy one of our unique Eatons keyrings with both village signs for just £1. Only available from ESCA.

The Eatons Then and Now



This photo of Eaton Socon Village Green with the war memorial, houses along the Great North Rd and fields beyond was taken by Dick Bass who lived in Ackerman Street for many years and who was a keen photographer. This shows a time

when Eaton Socon was self sufficient and villagers did not need to venture as far as St Neots for shopping as everything could be bought in the local bakers, butchers, general shops, sweet shops, shoemenders and the local Co-op. But times have changed, the village has grown and the traffic on the roads is certainly different from the quiet scene shown here.

The new Eatons Then and Now book has many old photographs compared with today's photographs and text explains what the reader can see. So why not buy a book for Christmas, sit down after your Christmas lunch and see how the Eatons have altered. Books available from ESCA and the Museum.

Biography of a German PoW in the 2 St Neots Camps by John Slack

If you are interested in finding out more about the life of a prisoner in the WW2 St Neots Prisoner of War Camps then this is the book for you. John has thoroughly researched the camps and the experiences of one of their residents. Find out more about where the camps were and the experience of a prisoner in this small market town. Books available at Waterstones – watch out for the launch.



Success for Local Printers

On Friday 2nd November Eaton Socon printers XLPress was chosen by The Hunts Post Judges as the NEW BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

XLPress based in Foundry Way, Eaton Socon was formed 20 months ago. They now employ 13 local staff, half of which were made redundant at the beginning of 2011.

The Judges said that XLPress stood out in an industry sector where many other businesses are failing.

Fellow Directors, Sam Reid, Tony Smith and Martyn Dunkley say, "It's times like this that you have to remind yourself where we have come from and how much we have achieved in a short space of time. We are so proud of everyone at the company for their service to Customers, dedication to their jobs and just being so good to work with".