



## Primary School

Alfreton Road, Little Eaton,  
Derbyshire. DE21 5AB  
01332 831471

17.11.2023

Dear Parents,

It has been another busy week and I have lots of information to share with you. Below you will find a letter from the Children's Commissioner Dame Rachel De Souza inviting you to join in her Big Ambition survey. Also, I have attached the latest edition of the Parish Council newsletter which contains lots of details of local events and some of the upcoming Christmas activities.

Have a lovely weekend,

Paul Schumann

### Children in Need

The children have enjoyed dressing down today for Children in Need and as a result the school has raised £253. Many thanks! I would also like to share Alice's progress from her [sponsored hula hoop](#). At 10am today she had reached a massive £1435!



### Shoe Box Appeal



Many thanks to everyone able to support the shoe box appeal this year. Lots of children across Europe will be thrilled to receive their gifts and I know that the children making up the parcels have really enjoyed doing so.

### Letter to Parents from the Children's Commissioner for England

FAO Mr Paul Schumann,

By now, I hope that you have seen my national campaign The Big Ambition. Please ensure you have shared this survey with the children and parents within your school community.

Children or parents can complete the survey here: [www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition). Further resources are available on our [website](#).

It is really important that the pupils at Little Eaton Primary School have participated in The Big Ambition survey and had their say.

I want to ensure that the voices of all children in the Derby area are fairly represented in the findings so that I can share their views with the most senior members of the country.

I must reiterate that it is vital that all children have their voice heard through this survey because, as Children's Commissioner for England, I have a statutory duty to protect and promote the views and interests of children. The Big Ambition provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell political decision makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election. I will be sharing their responses with Government to ensure that children's voices are heard.

Please share the survey and resources with teachers in your school and encourage them to use it in their lessons. Children can complete the survey in assemblies, form times, PSHE or in other lessons this term. The survey can also be done as homework and parents can assist children who cannot complete the survey themselves (children under 5 and children with Special Educational Needs). This is a great opportunity to teach children about politics and why it is important for them to use their voice. Be sure to check out the lesson plans on my website if you want to teach your pupils more about politics before they fill in the survey!

Please do get in touch if you have any problems. My team is happy to support with the roll out in any way we can.

Yours sincerely,



**Dame Rachel De Souza**  
**Children's Commissioner for England**



### Hidden Talent

It is a real pleasure when a child shares their hobbies and interests with me. This week Raffaella in Year 6 shared that she has been learning about textiles at home and has created three wonderful bags by upcycling fabrics. Well done Raffaella!

### **Landau Forte College's Winter Fair is back, bigger and better!**

**ENTRY – FREE**

Landau Forte College invite you to this exceptional event which will have lots of stalls showcasing a large variety of products. This is a free event, open to the general public.



This is a free event, open to the general public.

The extremely popular Santa's Grotto will return for those magical Christmas moments, with access to crafting tables, where you can help the



elves create a variety of Christmas decorations, write and post your letter to Santa, a snowman hunt, gift and printed photo with the big man himself.

There will be over 50 stalls, to shop and browse from including lots of festive food and drinks to enjoy throughout the day.

Come along and use the money off voucher to get £1.00 off the grotto price

## Upcoming Dates:

November		
December	January	February
7 <sup>th</sup> PTA Christmas disco 8 <sup>th</sup> PTA coffee morning 11 <sup>th</sup> Nativity dress rehearsal 12 <sup>th</sup> KS1 Winter show afternoon 2pm 13 <sup>th</sup> KS1 Winter show afternoon 4.15pm 15 <sup>th</sup> Elfridges Sale 22 <sup>nd</sup> Last day of term	8 <sup>th</sup> Return	15 <sup>th</sup> PTA film night 16 <sup>th</sup> Last day of term 26 <sup>th</sup> School reopens
March	April	May
7 <sup>th</sup> pm Wizard of Oz 8 <sup>th</sup> PTA Mother's Day sale 14 <sup>th</sup> Bikeability Year 4 15 <sup>th</sup> March – 22 <sup>nd</sup> March Bikeability Year 5 M 25 <sup>th</sup> and W 27 <sup>th</sup> – parents evening 28 <sup>th</sup> Easter Bonnet Parade infants (3pm parents able to watch) and Egg Decorating juniors. 28 <sup>th</sup> Last day of term	15 <sup>th</sup> School reopens	6 <sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday WB 13/5 – KS2 SATs week 14 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> Year 4 Lea Green 17 <sup>th</sup> Class Photos M20 <sup>th</sup> -W22 <sup>nd</sup> Year 6 Whitehall Th23 <sup>rd</sup> – music concert 24 <sup>th</sup> Last day of term
June	July	
M 3 <sup>rd</sup> – INSET (report writing) 4 <sup>th</sup> School reopens 14 <sup>th</sup> Father's Day sale pm WB 17/6 – Fitness week 20 <sup>th</sup> Sports day	19 <sup>th</sup> Last day of term	

European Immunization Week  
Prevent. Protect. Thrive.

**NHS**

**MEASLES**

**Don't let your child catch it**  
– get them vaccinated with the MMR vaccine

The number of young people catching measles has risen. It's never too late to be vaccinated. You need two doses of MMR one month apart to be fully protected against measles, mumps and rubella.

It's time to make measles a disease of the past.

If you have symptoms of measles, stay at home and phone your GP or NHS 111 for advice. **STAY AWAY** from GP surgeries and A&E departments – you could spread the illness to others.

**Measles symptoms include:** high fever; sore, red, watery eyes; coughing; aching and feeling generally unwell; a blotchy red brown rash, which usually appears after the initial symptoms.

**i mmunisation**  
the safest way to protect your child

For more information contact your local GP surgery or visit: [www.nhs.uk/mmr](http://www.nhs.uk/mmr)



## Little Eaton Parish Council Update

### Flooding

Last month Storm Babet brought extreme levels of rain to the area and saw both the River Derwent and Bottle Brook reach their highest levels since records began. Unfortunately, whilst the flood defence infrastructure saved much of the village, there were at least twelve homes that suffered flooding. Some of these properties were so badly affected that their occupants have had to find temporary accommodation. Many more properties were within inches of suffering the same fate. There is a general consensus that the village has not seen flooding like this since the Bottle Brook flood defence scheme was implemented in the 1980s.



Thanks go out to Erewash BC who responded to our request for sand bags within hours. We handed out around 200 filled bags. Thank you to Little Eaton Community Cares and all the other volunteers who gave up their time in horrendous conditions to help fill bags and ensure that vulnerable residents were safe.

Little Eaton Village Hall opened its doors as a warm safe space for any residents forced from their homes.

A great community response in very difficult circumstances and at short notice.

Councillor Reid has subsequently attended an urgent meeting with several other key organisations regarding

flooding in the area set up by Pauline Latham MP. The meeting was an opportunity to make sure all the relevant authorities were aware of the extent to which our village was affected and how close the flood defences came to being overwhelmed.

We have established contacts with the Environment Agency and Derbyshire County Council in the hope that we can work together to lessen the impact of future storms.

If you took sandbags that you haven't used we recommend you hang onto them through the coming winter months. Erewash residents are entitled to 10 empty sandbags per household available from Ilkeston Town Hall.

Erewash BC are providing free bulk waste removal for anyone who suffered flooding. Please contact them directly.

Everyone affected by the floods should have received a letter from Pauline Latham MP detailing all the support available, including financial packages. If you were flooded but have not received a letter please contact Pauline's office directly.

It was clear during Storm Babet that not all the drains in the village worked as they should. In some instances they were simply overwhelmed by the volume of rain but others were blocked by leaves and debris.

If you see a drain that is not working as it should please report this via the DCC website. It only takes minutes and they will send a team out to clear the blockage.

These events have clearly highlighted flooding as a real and worrying risk to our village.

Whilst the official responsibility for flooding rests with other agencies the Parish Council will continue to explore all options available to help keep our community safe.

Support is available for homes & businesses affected by flooding.

- Flooded households in affected areas can apply for up to £500 to give cash quickly to help with immediate costs.
  - Households and businesses significantly affected by recent flooding will be eligible for 100% council tax and business rates relief for at least 3 months.
  - Small-to-medium sized businesses in affected areas will be eligible for up to £2,500 from the Business Recovery Grant to help them return quickly to business as usual.
  - Eligible flood-hit property owners will be able to apply for up to £5,000 to help make their homes and businesses more resilient to future flooding via the Property Flood Resilience Repair Grant Scheme.
- Details on these schemes should be available from Erewash BC, Derbyshire CC or DEFRA

### Mill Green Planning Application

Councillor Howard & Reid as well as representatives of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Committee attended the Erewash BC Planning Committee, on Wednesday, 8th November, 2023, 6pm. Many residents, as well as the NP Committee and Parish Council, have been very concerned at the scale of this development and the way the planning application has been used to try and separate the access permission from the scheme application process.

Access is very difficult to the site and adding the proposed 24 houses will cause issues both for traffic and also may have real serious implications for already difficult on-road resident and visitor parking. The scheme as outlined is expected to have a significant impact on flood defence.

It should be noted Erewash are recommending refusal of this planning

# Environmental Action Working Group

## **Air Pollution in the Village**

We have been working with staff and the school council at Little Eaton Primary School to promote the importance of turning car engines off when parked up. The School Council published a leaflet for all children to take home and have been running a poster competition to promote why it is so important to turn engines off.



'Idling' or leaving your engine running while stationary wastes fuel and money and increases the amount of exhaust fumes in the air, with these fumes containing harmful gases which pollute the environment, contribute towards climate change and are linked to health conditions such as respiratory illnesses and lung and heart disease. It's particularly important to reduce idling outside schools and nurseries, and in residential areas. Even if you are only planning to be waiting in your car for a very short time it still makes sense to turn your engine off. It uses less fuel and is also less polluting to turn your engine off and restart it after a minute (or longer) than to leave your engine running.

## **Going electric – DCC survey needs our input**

Derbyshire County Council is reviewing how they can develop a charging infrastructure throughout the county, and has a consultation survey open at the moment until December 31st .

The survey can be found on the Derbyshire County Council website, by searching

Electric Vehicle charging and is open to all residents as well as businesses and visitors.

DCC is also seeking to provide charging options for residents without off-street parking, providing overnight charge through street-light power feeds.

### **This Newsletter is kindly Sponsored by:-**

20Ten Garage Services  
Simon Hunt  
Unit 7, Duffield Road Industrial Estate  
Little Eaton  
Derby DE21 5EG.  
Telephone: 01332 833878  
[mail@20tenracing.co.uk](mailto:mail@20tenracing.co.uk)/[www.20tenracing.co.uk](http://www.20tenracing.co.uk)



## **Little Eaton Village Hall**

The Village Hall has been bustling with activity, setting the stage for some fantastic events. The Village Hall committee has put in considerable effort to ensure the hall's continued success, progress in the period includes:

- Launching new social media channels to promote the hall and boost booking numbers.
- Revamping and refreshing the upper hall and entrance areas.
- Thoroughly cleaning the chairs and stage curtains.
- Clearing out the gutters.
- Creating both a planned and ad hoc maintenance schedule to proactively address hall upkeep.
- Analysing expenses and managing increased costs caused by inflation.
- Implemented a new online booking system which will allow users better visibility of availability and simplify the

overall booking process.

You can visit the Little Eaton Village Hall Online Booking system at: <https://hallbookingonline.com/littleeatonton/> or by using the QR code below. The village hall is primarily operated and overseen by volunteers. If anyone possesses skills in areas such as plumbing, electrical work, carpentry, or any other expertise they'd be willing to contribute from time to time, we encourage you to get in touch so please email: [secretary@littleeatonvillagehall.com](mailto:secretary@littleeatonvillagehall.com)



## **Park Benches**

Little Eaton Parish Council has, over the past year, reviewed the situation in the park regarding memorial benches following numerous requests.

Whilst there may technically be space for additional benches within St Peter's Park there are currently 21 memorial benches on the park and another 5 in the playground area. The parish council has a responsibility to preserve this valuable public space, which is open to all, and strike a balance with infrastructure. As custodians of the park, we have made the very difficult decision not to approve any new applications for memorial benches. We understand this will be disappointing for some residents and the families.

The parish council are currently exploring alternative ways that relatives can commemorate their loved ones within the village. This is an ongoing project and we plan to consult with residents in the near future.



## Little Eaton Local History Society

Little Eaton Local History Society is planning a full programme of meetings for the coming year. We try to offer a mixture of talks by local people about local places and people, together with more general talks about further afield.

In September and October, we



had a talk about a Little Eaton house (The Limes, on Alfreton Road) and the families who lived there and a very interesting talk on how St Pancras station was saved and refurbished.

We maintain an extensive website <https://www.lelhs.org.uk> with a timeline of the history of the village, articles about notable village places and people and archives of photographs and memories of people who have lived and worked here.

Recent additions have covered Little Eaton pubs and breweries and the childhood memories of Lily Farmer who lived here from 1909 to 1915.

Our November talk was from Danny Wells about the Great War and the Little Eaton men who died in it (see <https://www.lelhs.org.uk/topics/war-memorials>).

On 11 December at 7.30pm at the OAP Hall, we will be having an event about Christmas traditions. All members and non members are welcome and we look forward to seeing you then.

### Croft Corner Tree Lights

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, the lights on the tree in Croft Corner were in a pretty poor state and had to be removed for safety reasons. Thanks to some very generous donations from Yassou Greek Kitchen, Big on Bikes, The Queen's Head, Little Eaton Community Cares and John Bush Management Consultancy the Parish Council have secured replacement lights from Lighting Legends, a specialist outdoor lighting supplier. We will be installing the lights over the next few weeks and there will be a "Switching On" ceremony to see in the festive season.



**You would be most welcome to join us at any of our Christmas services at St Paul's this year.**

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December

4.30pm

Christingle

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December

4.30pm

Carol Service

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December

4.30pm

Crib Service

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December Joint family service for Christmas Day

10.00am

### LITTLE EATON PLAYERS

PRESENT  
A MAGICAL FAIRY-TALE PANTOMIME  
BY TOM WHALLEY



ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY  
RICHARD KIRKLAND

PERFORMANCES @ LITTLE EATON VILLAGE HALL  
16TH - 20TH JANUARY 2024  
7PM AND 2PM (SAT)

TICKETS £9.00

AVAILABLE FROM THE 1st DECEMBER 2023  
BOX OFFICE 07979 988874  
[littleeatonplayers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:littleeatonplayers@hotmail.co.uk)

Rehearsals are well underway for the Little Eaton Players next production Cinderella. In the Director's Chair this time out is Richard Kirkland. This will be the first time Richard has directed the Players. So, be sure to get your tickets early for what promises to be a Grand, Opulent, Spectacular Ball! This year's cast (in order of appearance)

Cinderella's Mother - Sue Cope  
Young Cinderella - Charlotte Botham

Fairy Godmother - Rachel Holmes

Vindicta - Rachel Humphries

Cinderella - Neve Smith

Buttons - Kelly Botham

Prince Charming - Kat Adey

Dandini - Catherine Baker

Ugly Sisters - Nick Mothershaw and Rich Kirkland

Featuring the Little Eaton Dance School with Choreography by Julie Law.

Additional Cast

Stacey Murton, Sarah James, Jess Johannesson.

With a Special Guest Appearance from Sue Kirkland.

So from all the Cast and Crew,

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Published quarterly by Little Eaton Parish Council.

Email articles for inclusion to:

[clerk@littleeatonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@littleeatonparishcouncil.org.uk)



# Little Eaton Village Hall Directory

Email: [bookings@littleeatonvillagehall.com](mailto:bookings@littleeatonvillagehall.com)  
or call 07805 053180 to arrange a viewing of  
the facilities.

## Mondays

Thomas Bates Hall  
(Upper hall)

### Pilates Class

09.15am—10.15am  
Suzanne Watson

### Fast Fitness / Fitness Yoga

Fitness Pilates – 5.00 pm—5.45pm  
Fast Fitness - 6.00 pm—6.30pm  
Fast Fitness with weights - 6.45  
pm—7.30pm  
Ailsa Waters **07929 610558**

### Restless Soles

8.00 pm – 10.00 pm

Mixed Appalachian Dance Group  
who dance to Old Time American  
music. Practices on a Monday night  
and performing at various events,  
including folk and morris events,  
throughout the year.

We welcome new dancers and mu-  
sicians to join us.

Sara **07803 137354**  
Fiona **07951 910993**

### Lower Hall

#### The Village Pre-School

9.00am – 12.00  
12.00 – 12.30 Lunch Club  
12.30 – 3.30  
OFSTED No. 206836  
All children welcome from age 2  
years, free 15 hours  
funding for 2, 3 & 4 year olds.  
For more information call  
Sharon Self **07493 925900**  
Free Taster Sessions available.  
Come along and join  
the fun.

[thevillagepre-school@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:thevillagepre-school@hotmail.co.uk)

#### Beaver Scouts

Boys and Girls 6 to 8 years  
5pm – 7pm

Jessica Bennett **07719 467780**  
[jessicabennett118@gmail.com](mailto:jessicabennett118@gmail.com)

#### Table Tennis – Private Club

8.00 pm – 9.30 pm

## Tuesdays

Thomas Bates Hall  
(Upper hall)

### Baby Sensory

9.00 am – 3.00 pm  
Baby development class specially  
designed for babies from birth – 13  
months.

Claire: **07967 485855**  
[derbyeast@babysensory.co.uk](mailto:derbyeast@babysensory.co.uk)

### Tai Chi and Health Qigong

6.30-7.30pm – Beginners/Improvers  
7.45-8.45pm – Improvers/Advanced  
Carol Gascoyne on **07920080443**  
[carol@wildhorsetaichi.com](mailto:carol@wildhorsetaichi.com)

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#### Taekwondo Martial Arts Lessons

Build up your fitness, confidence,  
courtesy, integrity, perseverance,  
and self-control.  
7 pm – 8pm  
8pm – 9 pm

Check out [www.mandm.academy](http://www.mandm.academy)  
Tony Stevenson on **07818 559309**

**Any alterations to this  
Directory to be made to  
the Village Hall  
Committee:  
[bookings@littleeatonvilla  
gehall.com](mailto:bookings@littleeatonvilla<br/>gehall.com)**

## Wednesdays

Thomas Bates Hall  
(Upper hall)

### Little Eaton Gardening Club

Monthly meeting every 1st Wed  
7pm – 9pm (not during Summer)  
Moira Hutchison – 01332 831966

### Little Eaton Women's Institute

Ladies meet on the second  
Wednesday of each Month at 7.30  
pm except August  
President: Lynne Siddons **01332  
834834**

[LittleEatonWI@dfwi.co.uk](mailto:LittleEatonWI@dfwi.co.uk)

### Little Eaton Parish Council

Monthly meeting normally every 4th  
Wednesday  
7.30pm – 9.30pm

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Gill Turner **07925 597348**  
[clerk@littleeatonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@littleeatonparishcouncil.co.uk)

### Lower Hall

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Come along and join  
the fun.

[thevillagepre-school@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:thevillagepre-school@hotmail.co.uk)

#### Pilates Class

6.45 pm – 7.45 pm  
Suzanne Watson

## Newsletter Sponsorship

Would you like to  
advertise in this  
newsletter?

Delivered to 1200  
households in Little  
Eaton.

[clerk@littleeatonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@littleeatonparishcouncil.org.uk)

for more information

# Little Eaton in Bloom

Once again, committee members and helpers have done a wonderful job this Autumn, clearing beds, borders and containers around the village, before adding fresh plants and bulbs to make the village look attractive next Spring.

Every Summer, we have a watering rota which mainly focuses on the area around Croft Corner, with other containers being looked after by volunteers.

This year, we added a rota for dead heading the flowers to keep the plants healthy and productive. Weeding was an added bonus.

We would like to say a huge "Thank you" to two local groups



and one business organisation for funding the cost of this year's compost, plants and bulbs, which was enabled by help from the Parish Council and to everyone who contributed in any way to keeping Little Eaton looking brilliant.

## Friends of Little Eaton Canal



Our monthly work parties have started again to take us through to the spring.



We have wanted to get some youngsters involved for a while, so we invited Little Eaton Beavers to join us to fill the bug hotel with all sorts of recycled materials, twigs and logs to help the bugs over winter.

About 15 turned up and it was great to see them get totally involved for an hour and a good time was had by all. Thanks to the Beavers, we are so glad you came.

We finally have permission to site an interpretation panel on the southern woodland border which will focus on the nature of the area

and complement the historical information that sits at the northern end. We hope this will be in situ by early spring.

We gave a talk recently to Derby Civic Society about the history, our project and the impact of development over the decades that had left the canal hidden and neglected. But with so much rain this year the canal has looked a bit like ... well a canal really. If you haven't seen the image of the old canal compared to a recent picture then go to the Little Eaton Local History Society Facebook page.

Our butterfly survey this year has bucked the national trend with increased numbers – our second best year since we started and for the first time ever the most abundant species was the Gatekeeper. As winter draws closer and nature hunkers down, we look forward to the first snow drops poking their heads above the leaf litter early next year.

If you would like more information, or would like to become more involved in our work, please do let us know. You can also follow us on Facebook. If you would like to donate to us, please get in touch and we will provide you with FLEC's bank details.

Secretary: Sue Stone  
stonesd271@gmail.com

Chair: Brenda Shore  
brendashore@talktalk.net

## Events & Services at the United Reformed Church THIS YEAR IS THE 180th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAPEL



### Sat. 25th Nov. – Christmas Market 11.00 – 2.00 pm

Gifts, Jewellery, Cosmetics & Books on sale along with Home Baking / Marmalades & Pickles. Tombola, Quizzes, Games & Colouring for the children. Hot dogs & burgers served in the schoolroom.

### Sun. 17th Dec. - Service 10.30am

including presentation of cheque to the Derbyshire Blood Bikes.

### Sun. 24th Pet Service

if dry, outside on the extension, if wet, inside.

Bring pets large or small for a Christmas Blessing 2.00pm

Well behaved owners also invited for refreshments.

### Christmas Day Service 10.00am

Sat. 27th Jan. 2024 10 am - 12.00  
- Home-made Soup morning

Sat. 24th Feb. 2024 10am - 12.00  
- Pancakes served with various toppings & fillings

Our services are 10.30am each Sunday unless stated otherwise and we continue our monthly Coffee Mornings for Charity on the last Saturday of each month. Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> Oct & Sat. 25<sup>th</sup> Nov

## Community Speedwatch

Co-ordinated by Councillor Jennison Boyle & Councillor Howard a group of 12 volunteers run 2 Speedwatch sessions per month throughout the year.

If anyone would like to join the group Contact **David Howard on 07823 846537**



We are pleased to announce that the Little Eaton Living Advent Calendar is back again for 2023. All 24 Windows have been allocated and a list of the windows taking part can be seen below. Each window will light up at 6.30pm and the is lit every evening 6.30-10pm until 29th Dec.

1 <sup>st</sup> Dec - The Stone Barn, 6 Vicarage Lane	13 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 1 Vicarage Lane
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec - 37 Barley Close	14 <sup>th</sup> Dec - LE Primary School, Alfreton Rd
3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec - Welwyn, Bermuda Avenue	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 353 Alfreton Road
4 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 16 Station Road	16 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 69 Duffield Road
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 4 Duffield Road	17 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 32 Highfield Road
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 12 The Leys	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 5 Haddon Drive
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 19 Barley Close	19 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 12 Station Road
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec - Quarry Edge, Marley Lane	20 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 12 The Town
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 1 The Town	21 <sup>st</sup> Dec - 3 The Oaks
10 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 2 Croft End	22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec - 146 Alfreton Road
11 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 193 Alfreton Road	23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec - 191 Alfreton Road
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec - The Village Hall, Vicarage Lane	24 <sup>th</sup> Dec - Church View, Barley Close (children opposite entrance to pharmacy)

We'd like to thank all of the residents who have agreed to take part in this annual event and bring us together at this festive time. The Living Advent Calendar is an event organised by Parish Councillors Holmes and Jennison-Boyle.

## The Kitchen Chorus

In September 2019, a small group of friends, most of whom had no musical training or experience, asked me to start a choir. It was more a joke than anything, but I went along with it and invited them to come and have a sing in my kitchen the following week. I set up a keyboard and we bashed through a few pop songs, looking up lyrics on our phones.



They came back the next week with reinforcements, then the next, and by mid-November our light-hearted social experiment-turned-choir was ready to make its public debut. Decked out in full 1980s regalia, 22 sopranos and altos and one valiant bass baritone performed "Africa"; at a friend's fundraiser to a rapturous response and we were on our way. With growing numbers, we decided to move out of the kitchen and into the village hall. Despite the new location, when we all submitted suggestions for a name, nostalgia prevailed and 'The Kitchen Chorus' won the vote. Fast forward four years and the Kitchen Chorus has over 60 members aged between 20

and 70-plus and spanning soprano, alto, tenor, and bass parts. Despite the hiatus caused by the pandemic, the progress of this group of 'non-musicians' has been nothing short of revelatory! We still sing pop songs and show tunes that we learn by ear, but alongside these we are now rehearsing pieces by Mozart and Vivaldi (using the music) for our next concert.

If you are lucky enough to live in Little Eaton, you will know how important our community is to us. Adding the Kitchen Chorus into the mix of groups and societies has offered yet another way to contribute to, and benefit from, the warmth of this village, and singing together has brought a lot of joy to everyone involved. (It has perhaps brought a little less joy to the people they live with, who suffer through the practical homework.)

Some people have joined by invitation, while others have simply turned up, taking the opportunity to make both music and friends; the post-rehearsal trip to the pub has become as important (more important to some!!) as the singing.

This year we are delighted to be giving a village Christmas concert by candlelight at St. Paul's Church. This will take place on Thurs 21st Dec at 7pm and is open to all - audience participation will be encouraged! You are also welcome to join us on any Thursday night at 8pm in the village hall to see whether The Kitchen Chorus is for you. For more information contact Dave on

**07388 338 376.**



## The Village Pre-School Little Eaton



We've had an amazing start to a new term at Little Eaton Preschool. Our older kids have transitioned into their new reception classes amazingly and we want to say thank you to Sharon and all the preschool team for making this possible.



We've started our 'Park Heroes' at preschool and the children have been spending lots of time on the park making bird feeders, nature wands, splashing in lots of puddles and having the most fun in the great

outdoors.

To support our love of the great outdoors we've also been learning about healthy food and snacks and took a trip recently to the local Co-op to buy some strawberries and also practice our safe walking.

We had great fun spooky day at preschool which all the children were very excited for. All the children came in their best spooky costumes and we made lots of special spooky snacks, crafts and games.

To continue with our Autumn theme the children have also been making pumpkin soup, which we were told is very tasty!

Following from spooky day and fall we have the Christmas fayre and lots of Christmas fun at preschool. The Christmas fayre is going to be a huge amount of fun with lots of stalls selling Christmas gifts and produce, lots of crafts for children to enjoy, a range of cakes and hot drinks and a very exciting guest will also be making an appearance, Santa Claus! This will be held on the 2nd December and is free

entry from 2pm till 4:30pm.

See you there!

The Little Eaton Pre-School is situated in the Lower Hall of Little Eaton Village Hall and is open Monday to Friday 8.00am - 12.00 with a 12.00 - 12.30 Lunch Club and an afternoon session 12.30 - 4pm

NEW Breakfast club Monday and Wednesday from 7:30 till 8:30.

All children welcome from age 2 years, free 15 hours funding for 2, 3 & 4 year olds.

For more information call Sharon Self **07493 925900**

Free Taster Sessions available. Come along and join the fun.





Winter 2023

# LITTLE EATON NEWSLETTER

## Calling all budding Percy Throwers or Charlie Dimmocks

The Parish Council are hoping to revive the Village Open Garden Event that was last held by members of Little Eaton in Bloom and The Gardening Club a decade ago. We are at an early stage, and as yet have no date planned, but if any resident would like to be involved either by potentially opening their garden or helping to organise please contact the PC clerk.



Don't be shy, we are not looking for RHS standard showpieces just interesting gardens. Whether your garden is wildlife friendly, great for children, work in progress or a Chelsea-esq masterpiece we want to hear from you!

Contact  
clerk@littleeatonparishcouncil.org.uk  
Ref "Open Gardens"

**Thank You**  
from Little Eaton Parish Council to the volunteers that deliver this Newsletter to all the homes in the Village. The Newsletter is a vital to ensuring we keep residents up to date.  
**THANKS AGAIN**

As the nights draw in we are looking forward to an Autumn / Winter programme of speakers and activities to brighten up our evenings. In September we started our Autumn programme with a talk from Lauren Crowhurst who is an expert on Wills, LPAs and General Estate Planning, then in October we welcomed Rebecca Wagg, a reflexologist who owns her own business 'The Shed' in Horsley Woodhouse. In November we have a packed month with Paul Newsham coming to talk to us about Superstitions, a Christmas Craft evening, the annual Quiz and Chips which is one of our fundraising events to raise money for our charities, this year being Titan Trust. Finally we finish the month with our members Christmas meal at Angelo's Bistro in Duffield.

Back in March we had a 'knit and natter' to knit squares for blankets, these have been lovingly sewn together and crochet edged, our four finished blankets will now be making their journey to Ukraine where they will be donated to those needing extra warmth and comfort this winter.



## Little Eaton WI

Look out for the Remembrance Poppies and the post-box topper again this year which has become a regular sight.

Many thanks to our friends at St. Paul's who have helped us decorate the Lytch-gate this year due to us be shorthanded over half term. Our reading group continues to meet in the Queens Head once a month and keep fit every week in term time, we also have cinema trips, meals out, craft evenings to name a few of the activities we have got up to this year. Any activity you wish to do, we'll do our best to organise it!

**Wednesday 15th November** - Christmas Crafts (members)

**Saturday 18th November** - Quiz and Chips (ticketed event open to all)

**Wednesday 13th December** - Christmas Party and Quiz Night

**Wednesday 10th January** - Local Author Tina Pritchard

**Wednesday 14th February** - The History of YMCA by Peter Posner OBE

We usually meet at 7:30pm in the Village Hall and will be organising lots of events for members and non-members to join in. To find out more keep an eye on the village noticeboards for events, also Little Eaton WI Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/littleeatonwi>)

Visitors are made most welcome to join us and can become a member at any time through the year.

**For information contact;**

**President: Lynne Siddons - 01332 834834,**

**Vice Presidents:**

**Barbara Adams - 01332 832267**

**Sue Tulloch - 01332 832510**

**Email - LittleEatonWI@dfwi.co.uk**