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VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



JULY 2026

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Welcome to the
July 2026
edition of the

BE THE REASON
SOMEONE
smiles
TODAY



Eckington Calendar

2nd Thursday Mobile Library
09:45 to 10:00—Upper End, Eckington
10:05 to 10:20—Glenmoor, Eckington
Every Thursday Everyone Welcome 10am-12pm Coffee Morning Eckington Church

July

3rd FOES Summer Fete 3pm-6pm
5th Quiz at The Bell
7th W.I. 'Social at the Local' 11am at the Anchor
7th Bingo 2pm to 4pm sponsored by Worcester Awnings also Lottery
17th Family film afternoon, film starts 3:30pm – doors open 2:30pm. 'The Sheep Detectives' tbc (PG) 2026, 1hr 50. This is a free event, donations kindly accepted. Bar and other refreshments also available. Bring the children (Grandchildren) straight from school.

August

4th Bingo 2pm to 4pm sponsored by Worcester Awnings also Lottery
NO FILM NIGHT

September

1st Bingo 2pm to 4pm sponsored by Worcester Awnings also Lottery
18th Film Night – Hidden Figures, PG, 2016, 2hr 7min (tbc).
Food van – Curry, details to follow.

If you would like to receive a monthly printed copy of this
magazine please email:

eckingtonmag@btinternet.com

Printed copies can also be purchased at Eckington Shop while stocks last

Let us know your event/activity dates by the
20th of the preceding month. email



Church Service Rota for July 2026

Date	Time	Place and Service	Presiding
5 th	09.00am	Besford – Holy Communion	Rev Allison
	10.45am	Bredon – All Age service with Baptism	Rev Sooz
	10.45am	Little Comberton – Holy Communion	Rev Katryn
	6.00pm	Teddington – Evening Worship	Rev Katryn
12 th	09.00am	Bredon's Norton - Holy Communion	Rev Sooz
	9.00am	Bricklehampton – Holy Communion	Rev Katryn
	10.45am	Eckington – Holy Communion	Rev Allison
	10.45am	Bredon – Morning Praise	Angie Godsell
	4.00pm	Overbury – Pet Service	Rev Katryn
	4.00pm	Bredon – WhizzPop	The WhizzPop team led by Rev Allison and Rev Sooz
19 th	9.00am	Eckington – Holy Communion	Reverend Allison
	10.45am	Bredon – Holy Communion	Canon Roger Spiller
	10.45am	Elmley Castle – Holy Communion	Rev Katryn
	3.00pm	Overbury – Messy Church	Rev Katryn
	6.00pm	Beckford - Evensong	Rev Katryn
	6.00pm	Bredon's Norton – Evensong	Lay Led
26 th	9.00am	Great Comberton – Holy Communion	Rev Katryn
	10.45am	Defford – Holy Communion	Rev Allison
	10.45am	Ashton Under Hill – Holy Communion	Rev Katryn
	10.45am	Bredon – Village Worship	Jim McKay
	3.00pm	Elmley Castle – Messy Church	Rev Katryn
	5.00pm	Elmley Castle – Bells Dedication Service	Rev Katryn

Midweek Iona Communion at 10am

15th July – Little Comberton – Rev Katryn

22nd July – Overbury – Rev Katryn

Vicar: Rev Allison Davies

The Vicarage, Drakesbridge Rd,
Eckington

01386 750203

eckingtonvicarage@hotmail.com

Church Warden: Derek Potter

01386 750628

[https://www.achurchnearyou.com/
church/7962/](https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7962/)

*Anyone requiring Holy Communion at
home to please contact Rev. Allison
Davies to arrange.*

Open Church for Private Prayer

The Church is open for
private prayer and quiet reflection:

Every Wednesday 10am—2pm

Sundays 10am-12pm

when there is no service.

Outside of above times if

anyone wishes to go into the church
please contact Allison on 01386 750203

If you have a general inquiry or a specific query about baptisms,
weddings or funerals 01386 748059 or at acbhteam@gmail.com

News from Worcester Diocese

An article from the Dean of Worcester:

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/recognising-different-callings.php>

Get involved in #RECOGNISE Week:

[https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/get-involved-in-recognise-week-to-celebrate-
your-children-and-youth-workers.php](https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/get-involved-in-recognise-week-to-celebrate-your-children-and-youth-workers.php)

Meet Jennie Johnson, Director of the West Midlands Racial Justice Initiative:

[https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/meet-jennie-johnson-director-of-the-west-
midlands-racial-justice-initiative.php](https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/meet-jennie-johnson-director-of-the-west-midlands-racial-justice-initiative.php)

Franciscan peace pilgrimage:

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/franciscan-peace-pilgrimage.php>

Clergy and Church leaders across our diocese are invited to get involved in the national **#RECOGNISE campaign week from 6 -12 July** to thank and celebrate your paid and voluntary children, youth and family (CYF) workers.

You can [Sign up for a FREE pack](#) (while stocks last!) from the national church to aid your celebrations. The pack includes a cake topper, a prayer card, a set of thank you cards and some creative ideas for your event. Signing up will also mean access to the RECOGNISE digital resources, when they are released.



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our website
www.bredonbowlingclub.co.uk

Or contact our Club
Secretary:
Ian Day: 07587 168789

Local yoga classes

Eckington Village Hall

Monday 8:00-8:45am Vinyasa Flow (energetic) £8

Monday 9:15-10:15am Hatha (gentle) £10

Friday 8:00-8.45am Hatha (gentle) £8

First Sunday of the month 5:00-6:15pm Yin & Yoga Nidra (restorative) £12



Book online at www.alchemyyoga.co.uk
scan the QR code or pay on the day
Suitable for all levels
All equipment provided



"Take the first step, your body will thank you"

Welcome to Holy Trinity Church, Eckington

Open Bridges, Open Heart There have been hints of summer popping up everywhere: the smell of freshly cut grass on a warm, sunny day, brighter evenings, and the promise of new life around us.

It has been a long winter, with days of seemingly never-ending rain. I am sure many farmers have wondered whether the soil has been too wet to plant and grow anything, especially as we remember last year's rainfall.

Recently, I had the opportunity to take a photograph of a rainbow resting on the bridge. The sun had made a brief appearance through the clouds after the rain had settled.

I could not help but feel that this particular rainbow was symbolic, as it appeared only days after I had been ordained.

My experience of Bredon on the Hill is that it is surrounded by a community that embraces people.

I am in the place I feel called to at this particular time, as I take on the task of learning how to be a priest.

Part of my calling as a priest is to notice signs of hope, kindness and new life, and to help others see where goodness is growing in our community.

Here, in the place where the question is asked more than once a day, "Is the bridge open?" I found that grace in the form of a rainbow.

There are times when, just like the rain, the storms we face and the worries of life can take over. It is easy to look with less hopeful eyes and imagine that nothing fruitful is growing.

I like to think that the question "Is the bridge open?" is a metaphor, not just for the church to ask, but for the whole community.

Do we have a reputation for being open? Are we ready to welcome the good things that are growing among us?

Summer brings with it much fruit, and it reminds us that not all has withered or faded.

We are also in the season of Open Gardens, when we have the joy of experiencing gardens bursting with imagination and creativity. It is wonderful to see so many people gathered together, sharing not only the beauty of the gardens but also that special sense of community that makes these occasions feel so full of life.

In the church calendar, we have celebrated Easter and are now in a season known as Ordinary Time: a quieter stretch of the year that invites us to notice what is growing in everyday life. But there is nothing ordinary about it.

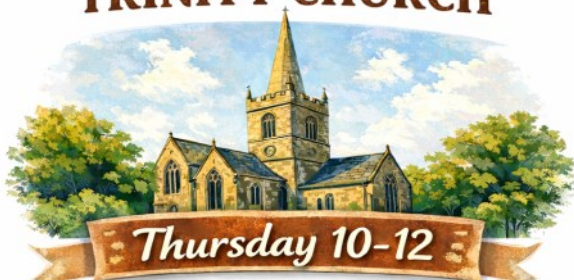
For Christians, it is a season in which we practise what we have learnt from the life of Jesus: compassion, courage, welcome and hope.

So, in this season, I hope that here in this place, at this time, we may keep our eyes open for signs of grace, goodness and hope among us.

May we be a community with an open bridge and open hearts: ready to welcome, ready to hope, and ready to bear fruit. And may each of us, whatever our own beliefs or questions, find light breaking through even after the rain. Blessings, Rev Sooz Magee



Eckington Holy
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Pre-school Daily sessions for children aged 2-4 years Funded places available Warm welcoming pre-school, with an emphasis on outdoor learning and natural resources Encouraging creativity, curiosity and thinking skills	Baby & Toddler Play & Stay Tuesday 10:00-11:30am £3 per family Singing, music and movement activities Sensory play activities Light refreshments for adults and children
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Forest School

Tuesday morning 9am-12pm for children aged 2-4 years

Tree climbing, cooking on camp fires, den building, ropes and pulleys, natural craft activities, using tools and more!

INSPIRATIONAL LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

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The Recreation Centre, Pershore Road, Eckington, WR10 3AJ

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LOAVES AND FISH

*The bible story of the loaves and the fish tells how a small boy decided to share his lunch with Jesus, who then turned it into a feast to feed **5000** people.*

I have been involved with Eckington Open Gardens and Flower Festival for more years than I can remember. This event started over 25 years ago by a few villagers to raise money for Holy Trinity Church.

It clearly costs a considerable amount of money to keep Eckington's historic Parish Church open and the monies raised at this annual event go towards covering some of these costs. The Church Community are, and have always been, extremely grateful to receive these funds.

This event, however, has always been about much more than making money as it draws together our whole community as we work as one huge team to show off our beautiful Village to its best advantage. Over the past few years we have started to share some of our profits from the event with other Village organisations – and hence my reference to the story of the loaves and the fish. You would think that sharing some of the proceeds would mean that there was less left for the Church, but our overall profits have in fact grown; the last two years have seen bigger totals than we have ever seen before.

So.... (drum roll please!) we are delighted to announce that

THE PROFITS FROM THIS YEAR'S

OPEN GARDENS AND FLOWER FESTIVAL ARE

£12,500!

**A NEW
ALL-TIME
RECORD!**

Thank you to the people of Eckington (and many beyond too) for all your hard work and for helping to keep your Parish Church alive.

Let's keep sharing!

Karen Sagar

**On behalf of Eckington Open Gardens
and Flower Festival Committee**

Eckington Village Memorial Hall

VENUE HIRE

Whatever your event,
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LIFE EVENTS

Celebrations, parties,
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Mon	8am-8:45 9:15-10:15 11am-12pm 6:30-7:30pm 8.00-8:45pm	Yoga Yoga Chance to Dance Circuit Training Clubbercise	Hannah Nardini Hannah Nardini Marie Oldaker Will Leighfield Lou Rigby	www.alchemyyoga.co.uk www.alchemyyoga.co.uk 07855 595287 w.j.leighfield@gmail.com
Tues	11am-12pm 7pm to 8pm	Tai Chi Zumba	Tony Johnson Yana Konova	07469 939836
Wed	10:30-11:30am 2:30-3:30pm	Zumba Chance to Dance	Kerry Keenan Marie Oldaker	zumbawithkerry@gmail.com 07855 595287
Thur	11:15-12:15 2pm-4pm 7pm-8pm	Pilates Whilst Drive Pilates	Rachel Gardwood Stephanie Elphick Louise Clines	101pilates.co.uk 07452 940055
Fri	8am-8:45am 10am-11am	Yoga Young @ Heart	Hannah Nardini Lorna Brooks	www.alchemyyoga.co.uk 07904 352642
1st Tue of month	2pm-4pm	Bingo & Lottery Draw	Village Hall	07756 195099
1st Wed of month	7:30pm-9:3pm	Women's Institute	Jenny Doyle	eckingtonwi@gmail.com
3rd Fri of month	7pm start (usually)	Film Night	Village Hall	07756 195099

Eckington Village Hall

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Eckington Village Hall Hire

eckingtonvillagehall@hotmail.com

Bookings: Angela 07756 195099

Lottery update: Lottery winning numbers for June were 24, 63, 82 & 41. Congratulations to all winners.

July Events:

Tuesday 7th - 2pm to 4pm Bingo sponsored by Worcester Awnings. Also, Lottery draw.

Friday 17th – Family film afternoon, film starts 3:30pm – doors open 2:30pm. ‘The Sheep Detectives’ tbc (PG) 2026, 1hr 50. This is a free event, donations kindly accepted. Bar and other refreshments also available. Bring the children (Grandchildren) straight from school.

August Events:

Tuesday 4th - 2pm to 4pm Bingo sponsored by Worcester Awnings. Also, Lottery draw.

No Film Night

September Events:

Tuesday 1st – 2pm to 4pm Bingo sponsored by Worcester Awnings. Lottery will also be drawn.

Friday 18th – Film Night – Hidden Figures, PG, 2016, 2hr 7min (tbc). Food van – Curry, details to follow.

October Events:

Tuesday 6th – 2pm to 4pm Bingo sponsored by Worcester Awnings. Lottery will also be drawn.

Friday 16th – Film Night 7pm – film tbc – food van fish & chips

Future Events:

Christmas Fayre – Saturday 5th December – time to be confirmed. There will be lots of fun activities, refreshments and a special visitor! If you would like to help on the day, please contact us.

Panto this year is **Aladdin** – Monday 28th December at 18:30 and Tuesday 29th December at 14:30



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New Location, Still
based in Eckington. Book
Online!

THANK YOU EVERYONE!



The total from Eckington's red envelope collection for Christian Aid week was a generous **£685.42**, much of it made possible by giftaided contributions which allow us to reclaim tax.

≡ *Thank you everyone for your kind giving.* ≡

♥ Special thanks are due to **John, Sue and Mark** at the village stores for accepting your gifts;

♥ **Laurance's bakery** for giving us a special price for their delicious bread and

♥ **Revills Farm Shop** for issuing discount vouchers to our faithful envelope - deliverers.

Watch out for our **SATURDAY SWAP SHOP** on 17th October!

CHARITY



SIGHTSAVERS

Thank you so much to all those who helped us raise

£280

for **SIGHTSAVERS** through our Coffee Morning and also donation.

Rosemary Hooper and Liz Beacon



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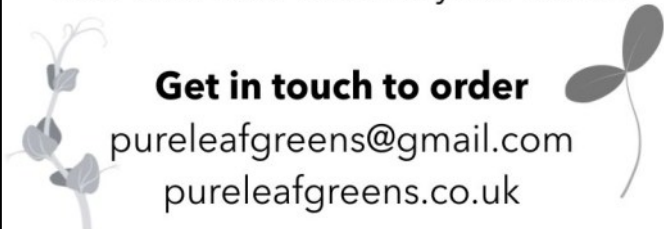
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1/4 page £11
1/2 page £17
Full page £30



Reach potential customers by
advertising in the
Eckington News in 2026

Annual pricing – monthly Issues

1/8 page £40
1/4 page £72
1/2 page £144
Full page £288

We publish in A5 format print and social media (website & facebook)
contact us at eckingtonmag@btinternet.com
www.eckington.info/index.php/village/village-magazine

WYCHAVON PARISH GAMES 2026

EVENT PROGRAMME

Celebrate Community Through Friendly Competition

JUNE 2026

SUNDAY 28		ROUNDERS 9:30 am – 1:30 pm Badsey Community & Sports Club, Brewers Lane WR11 7EU	
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JULY 2026

SUNDAY 5		5 A SIDE FOOTBALL 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Evesham Utd FC	
MONDAY 13		CROSS COUNTRY 7:15 pm – 8:30 pm Hampton Ferry, Evesham	
SATURDAY 18		BELL BOATING 9:45 am – 1:00 pm St George's Field Pershore	
SUNDAY 26		PETANQUE 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Workman Gardens, Waterside, Evesham	

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAY 13		BOWLS 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Evesham Bowls Club	
SATURDAY 26		ANGLING 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Hampton Ferry, Evesham	

OCTOBER 2026

SUNDAY 4		JUNIOR TABLE TENNIS 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm Wallace House, Evesham Oat Street, Evesham	
SUNDAY 11		SENIOR TABLE TENNIS 9:30 am – 1:00 pm Wallace House, Evesham Oat Street, Evesham	

NOVEMBER 2026

FRIDAY 20		PRESENTATION EVENING Bengeworth Club 18 Coronation Street, Evesham, Worcestershire	
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TAKE PART



MAKE FRIENDS



BE PART OF THE COMMUNITY!



Eckington Film Event

Friday 17th July 3:30pm

A witty mystery, for ALL the family.



Doors & Bar open 2:30 pm
Food Van

Eckington Memorial Village Hall
School Lane WR10 3AU

ECKINGTONVILLAGEHALL@HOTMAIL.COM

Our June speaker unexpectedly cancelled short notice and although we do have some reserve speakers it was decided we would turn the evening into a social event. We did the craft of book folding and our members made some amazing hedgehogs and lanterns out of books with carefully folded pages. We then treated all the members to a cream tea which was much appreciated by all.



Our presidents challenge for this meeting was to produce a hand made flower out of any medium, we had some incredible entries including flowers made from Lego, newspaper and fabric.

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 1st July 7.30pm in the village Hall** with Theresa Clarke talking to us about 'Ladies Pockets'. From the 17th to the 19th centuries, tie-on pockets were gathered

bags worn under petticoats and accessed via slits in a woman's overdress. They were highly decorated and used to carry valuables, keys, and sewing tools etc. Theresa has many examples of beautifully designed pockets to show us and tell interesting things about them. Visitors are most welcome, £5 admission includes refreshments.

'The social at the local' for June was held at the Bell and it was really lovely to have some non-members join us for this social gathering. Our next 'Social at the Local' will be held on **Tuesday 7th July 11am at the Anchor**. Just a reminder that this is a get-together for any ladies, you do not have to be a WI member so pop along and join us for a cup of coffee and a good natter.

AS this magazine is going to press we are preparing for a walk and a picnic down by the river and hoping the rain keeps off. We will let you know next month what happened.

If you would like more information about any of the above or generally about W.I. please email us at eckingtonwi@gmail.com You can also check us out on Facebook or visit our website: eckingtonwi.weebly.com.



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Bands in the Park

Bandstand, Abbey Park, Pershore

Sundays 2.30pm - 4.30pm

12th July Tewkesbury Town Band

19th July Band of Gloucestershire Constabulary

26th July BAND-AGE with Griff

2nd August Malvern Hills District Band

9th August Pete Hartley- Violinist

16th August The Nightingales (Trio)



Pershore Abbey

ORGAN RECITALS

JULY DATES

Saturday 11 1900 - 2100
James MacDowall-Scott

Sunday 12 1400 - 1500
Featuring Marion Wilmann, Mezzo Soprano and James MacDowall-Scott

Sunday 26 1400 - 1500
Featuring Michael Jones
Admission: Free with retiring collection

ALL WELCOME   

01386 552071 www.pershoreabbey.org.uk



PERSHORE MIDSUMMER BRASS  **SATURDAY 4TH JULY 2026**

26 BRASS BANDS - 4 VENUES

12 HOURS OF LIVE MUSIC

Enjoy a whole day of contemporary and classical brass band music in Pershore Abbey, beside the river at The Angel Inn, at Number 8, and the Gordon Hartley-Bennett Community Stage in St. Andrew's Garden.



DAY TICKETS £15
free for children under 16 years

Scan the QR code or visit www.pershoremidsummerbrass.org



Music for a Summer's Evening

Saturday, 11th July 7 pm
St Giles Church
3 Church St, Bredon
Tewkesbury GL20 7LF
What Three Words [///exhaling.spits.charmingly](https://www.what3words.com/exhaling.spits.charmingly)
Google Maps <https://maps.app.goo.gl/AjAuoCAEHwRXJP6>

Loose Ends
upper voice and piano trio

The Curious Choir
Cheltenham based community choir
Programme includes Flanders & Swann and Tom Lehrer, foot tapping favourites, and show tunes

Admission Free
Donations for the upkeep of the Church
Refreshments will be provided in the interval

Events Around The Hill

4th July

WORCESTER CITY ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM

City Art Gallery and Museum
Foregate St, Worcester
WR1 1DT, UK

Follow the trail around the Art Gallery and Museum to complete the mission
inspired by summer exhibition

54321!

Family Trail
★ **£1** 10-4pm

Sat 29th August 2 pm

GT COMBERTON FLOWER SHOW
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Flowers & Country Craft*
Fun for all the family!

Bar	Live Music	
Books	Tombola	
Egg Throwing	Produce	
Teas & Cakes	Classic Cars	
Plants	White Elephant	
Family Games	Children's Entertainment	
BBQ	Bottle Casino	
Fun Dog Show	China Smashing	

Children's fancy dress – 'Story Book Character'

Adults £2.50 – Children and Car Park free

www.theflowershow.org.uk

Schedule from Jayne 07929 786632

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26 July 2026 – Illyria – Pirates of Penzance

16 August 2026 – Alfresco Actors – Stiff Upper Lip Jeeves

6 September 2026 – Jenny Wren Productions –
Sherlock Holmes & the Mystery of the Governor's Nose

Jewkesbury Medieval Festival 2026

11th & 12th July

11am – 6pm Saturday

11am – 5pm Sunday

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Living history displays
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Date	Match Info	Result
Weds 20 th May Home	Eckington vs Overbury 20 overs Overbury 117-5 Eckington 119-5 (19 overs) (H.Sagar 31rtd, J.McCracken 22no)	Won by 5 runs
Sun 31 st May Home	Eckington vs Old Georgians 240 overs Old Georgians 186-8 (G.Bunn 4-15, J.Thomas 3-41) Eckington 187-5 (J.Green 51rtd, J.McCracken 50rtd, T.Callow 22)	Won by 5 wickets
Weds 3 rd June Home	Eckington vs Flyford Flavell 20 overs Flyford 89 Eckington 92-1 (J.McCracken 26rtd, J.Green 25rtd, C.Fincher 18no)	Won by 9 wickets
Weds 10 th June	Eckington v Childswickham	Cancelled Rain
Sun 14 th June Home	Eckington vs Woodmancote (40 overs) Woodmancote 168-6 Eckington 171-2 (J.McCracken 103rtd, C.Fincher 52no)	Won by 8 wickets
Tues 16 th June Away	Pershore vs Eckington (20 overs) Pershore 154-8 Eckington 155-6 (H.Sagar 50rtd)	Won by 4 Wickets

Anybody who wishes to play or get involved in any way would be made very welcome.

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The 'fare-free scheme' announced by the government on Thursday, May 21, is part of a wider **£100 MILLION EFFORT** to relieve some of the ongoing cost-of-living pressures crippling families in the UK.



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60 Years Supporting Communities

"Diamonds Are Forever" sang Shirley Bassey in the theme song to the 1971 James Bond film. Just five years earlier, Pershore Rotary had been founded and on Sunday, 10 May the club marked its own diamond milestone with a special 60th anniversary celebration at The Vale Golf Club.

A total of 73 guests attended, including Worcestershire's Lord-Lieutenant, Mrs Beatrice Grant, Rotary district leaders, Pershore Mayor Cllr Julie Hemming, the Rev Canon Claire Lording, community and business representatives, Rotarians and friends from across the region.

Club President Lynne Raymer welcomed guests before a celebratory carvery lunch and anniversary cake-cutting ceremony led by Past District Governor Ken Corrigan.

Reflecting on the club's history since its charter in 1966, Lynne highlighted Pershore Rotary's longstanding commitment to local and international causes. Recent projects have included supporting young people, Pershore Foodbank, St Richard's Hospice, humanitarian aid for Ukraine and Rotary's global campaign to eradicate polio.

Addressing the gathering, Mrs Grant praised volunteers as "the beating heart of this country" and commended Rotary's contribution to communities throughout Worcestershire.

The celebration also raised £420 for Pershore Foodbank through a raffle, while guests received a commemorative book *"The Rotary Club of Pershore 1966–2026: The Diamond Years"* chronicling six decades of service and friendship.

Meanwhile, Evesham Rotarian Dave Foster is making impressive progress on his 700-mile fundraising walk from Land's End

to Berwick-upon-Tweed. With donations already reaching £12,750, he is well on course towards his £20,000 target for ShelterBox, the disaster-relief charity that provides emergency shelter and essential supplies to families affected by disasters and conflict.

Dave arrived in Worcester on Saturday, 30 May where he was greeted by a Rotary flash mob in the Copenhagen St car park by the River Severn. Supporters can follow his journey and make donations to ShelterBox through www.rotaryinthevale.org and via social media @ShelterBoots.

In other local news, Felice and Fiorinda Tocchini of Feli's Bar & Restaurant in Stoulton have been named "Best Italian Restaurant & Cookery School 2025/26" by Prestige Awards Central England. Congratulations to them. The award follows the restaurant's recent involvement with young people from Malvern's Cube Youth Project, who enjoyed a hands-on cookery experience under chef Felice's guidance.

The Feli's team has also been working with Andrew Oliver at Poolbrook Kitchen & Coffee Shop in Malvern on a relaunch of the café's menu. Known for its freshly prepared food, homemade cakes and handcrafted bakes, the independent café is open from 9am to 3pm.

As Pershore Rotary celebrates its diamond anniversary, the club continues to demonstrate the values that have guided it for 60 years: service, community spirit and support for those in need.

For more information, visit www.pershorerotary.club, follow Pershore Rotary on Facebook or contact secretary@pershorerotary.club



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Allotments can be tricky to write about. Each month seems to have a particular list of planting and jobs to do, so writing ahead (in June) may have its pitfalls. Being new to this, I have bought a book 'Allotment Month By Month' by Alan Buckingham which is very useful on that score. For July I should be planting Beetroot, Cabbages, Fennel, Kale, Radishes (winter) and Turnips apparently, and jobs include pinching out the tops of climbing beans and tomato shoots to select from some long lists. With drills of seeds and lines of beans anyone would be forgiven that thinking a military background is a pre-requisite and if everything isn't done 'by the book' there's little point getting the fork out.

However, our weather of course brings some flexibility, and there is the choice of planting seeds in pots first or directly into the soil a month or so later. A pack of Dwarf Beans added 'when the soil has warmed up', which I thought might be a long wait, but I was proved wrong yesterday. I went to plant some Runner Beans, which I thought might have a better chance of survival from a tray (already perhaps 8 cm high), when I could see rain approaching from the Malvern's. Within a couple of minutes there were rumbles of thunder and the beans went in the ground at double quick speed. The main surprise for me was how warm the soil was. Following the heat wave last week I expect, but I have never experienced such warmth. The soil was loose, having had

potatoes growing in it last year, and was warmer than the water I would handwash a jumper in. The daily growth of the courgettes and tomatoes was easily explained.

Weeds are also growing at double quick speed too, and this brings me on to the observation that I'm finding the plot isn't just about the fruit and veg, but is leading me to look up all sorts of associated living things.

I've pulled up Herb Robert, Horsetails (although rampant they don't seem to overly interfere), Ribworts (favoured by some caterpillars as they then become untasty to their predators) and Cleavers.



Birdsong is often ever present when I'm on the plot, with the hedges, brambles and other growth at the bottom, and has included a Greater Spotted Woodpecker this week, and a Red Kite circling above.



A good reason to be outdoors, and I haven't even got started on the insects!

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Eckington Book Club

Flaubert's Parrot, our book for May, is a literary novel by **Julian Barnes**.

Retired doctor, Geoffrey Braithwaite, investigates the life and works of the French novelist Gustave Flaubert. He is especially interested in a stuffed parrot Flaubert used in one of his stories.

If you are not familiar with nineteenth century French literature this book can be challenging, but also rewarding as it is written in a clever and witty way,

The book we are reading for June is a historical novel:

Disobedient
by **Elizabeth Fremantle**

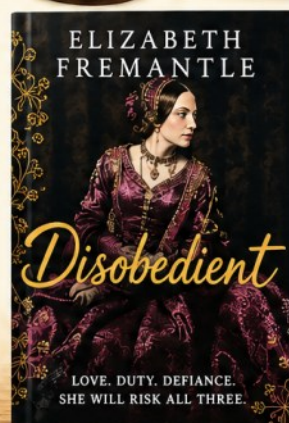


For further information contact
Dominique on 07769 603920



Julian Barnes
WINNER OF THE
MAN BOOKER PRIZE

Flaubert's Parrot



PARISH WALKS JULY 2026

These are led walks in our beautiful countryside. All are welcome, so do come and enjoy it with us.

Please bring appropriate footwear and waterproof. Sorry, no dogs.

*Unless shown otherwise, we meet on Monday evenings at **6.30 for 6.45pm start**.*

*Walks will **be about 4 miles, 2 hours, unless shown otherwise**.*

You may like to make a voluntary donation of 50p per head at the start of each walk which goes to charity.

6th July - Stanton, Buckland and Laverton (led by Sue Burnham)

About 4.5 miles with approx. 6 stiles. Just over a mile of steepish climb, estimated ascent 200 metres. Plenty of view stops to catch our breath. Some of the time we will be on the Cotswold Way, Winchcombe Way and other rights of way going on tracks and paths. Park in free car park in Stanton by the cricket ground and in front of Stanton Village Club WR12 7NE.

13th July - Kempsey (led by Mike & Jenny)

Meet at Kempsey Common car park. 3.5 miles. Take the A38 towards Kempsey. Turn right through Napleton and cross over M5.

20th July - Wickhamford and Murcot (led by Lorraine & Marianne)

4 miles. We walk to Wickhamford and Murcot, mainly flat, 1 stile. Park outside the Wheatsheaf Inn, Badsey WR11 7EJ. Plenty of parking along the road, or in the pub carpark.

27th July - Wyre Piddle (led by Lorraine & Marianne)

Drive through Wyre Piddle on the main road from Pershore until the railway bridge. Park on the road and there is an unused road off to the right and we start our circular walk there. The walk is just under 4 miles and there is a crossing over the railway line (it's over a stile) onto the other side nearing the end of the walk. The pub at Wyre Piddle is the Anchor and a few minutes away from the end of the walk and faces the river for those who would like a drink there.



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Tewkesbury & Bredon Hill Probus Club

The club for retired and semi-retired professional business men

<https://probusclub.net/tewkesbredon/>

June has been a particularly busy month for Probus Club, with three outings to a diverse range of venues.

Earlier this year, members enjoyed a fascinating talk by Martin Robins about the renowned Gloucestershire industrialist, Sir George Dowty. During the 1950s and 1960s, one of Dowty's subsidiary companies developed an innovative turbocraft jet boat. Although the project was not commercially successful and only a small number of boats were sold, a recent event at one of the South Cerney lakes gave our members the opportunity to experience what may be the only surviving example.

Given that the boat is now some 60 years old, its reliability proved somewhat unpredictable. The owner-driver experienced steering problems and on a couple of occasions, the old Ford Zephyr engine "conked out". Nevertheless, most members thoroughly enjoyed the thrill of speeding across the water in this probably unique craft.

Our second visit was to Worcester Cathedral, where we were given a guided tour by highly knowledgeable volunteer

guides. The tour was comprehensive and included a visit to the cathedral library, home to a treasure trove of ancient books and manuscripts, some dating back more than 1,200 years. We also explored the vast and impressive Chapter House, where the monks once assembled each day, and descended into the crypt beneath the cathedral, with its massive pillars supporting the enormous structure above.

A few days later, we set off on another outing, this time to view the A417 Missing Link project near the site of the now-demolished Air Balloon pub at Birdlip, Gloucestershire. This stretch of road has long been notorious for traffic congestion and serious accidents. The project, costing approximately £460 million and employing more than 500 people on site, began in 2023 and is scheduled for completion in Spring 2027.

These were three highly educational and enjoyable visits, each rounded off with a convivial lunch at a local eatery.

Forthcoming Events in July

6 July - Visit to the Fly Fishing experience at Bigwell Fishery

7 July - D-Day Part 1 - The Planning and Preparation (with Neil Meadows)

14 July - D-Day Part 2 - What happened on the day (with Neil Meadows)

21 July - The study of dialects from A to B (with Prof. Clive Upton)

28 July - Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (with Merleen Watson)



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Eckington Directory

Eckington Church

Vicar	Rev Allison Davies	01386 750203	eckingtonvicarage@hotmail.com
Church Warden	Derek Potter	01386 750628	
Administrative Coordinator Bredon Hill Team	Alison Khan	07984 748059	acbhteam@gmail.com
Vicar in the Bredon Hill Group	Rev Katryn Lecl��zio	01386 710394	

Council

Parish Council Chairman	Tim Knight	07810 572223	eckingtonpctimknight@gmail.com
Parish Council Clerk	Lynne Yapp	01386 552233	clerk@eckington-worcs-pc.gov.uk
District Council	Paul Middlebrough	01905 821732	
County Council	Adrian Hardman	01684 773172	
		01386 750666	eckingtonfirstschool.co.uk

Eckington C.O.E. School

Headteacher Sarah Roberts

Secretaries Jenny Smiles
Lorna Gower

Caretaker Robert O'Donoghue 07468763849

Chair of Governors Mrs Joanne Stringer

Friends of Eckington C.O.E F.O.E.S 01386 750666 eckingtonfirstschool.co.uk

Eckington Under-Fives

Chair Jo Stracey 07582 452024

Manager Donna Wilson 07582 452024

Babes & Toddlers Jo Stracey 07582 452024

Eckington Village News Jenny Sheppard 07960975552 eckingtonmag@btinternet.com

Eckington Website Neil Sheppard 07973820469 eckington.info

Village Hall Bookings Angela Townsend 07756 195099 eckingtonvillagehall@hotmail.com

Rec Centre Bookings Sarah Fincher 07954613959

Clubs

Eckington Cricket Club Ian Fincher 07778144422

Bell Ringers Tony Cocks 01386 750654 tony.cocks@anthony-simon.com

Book Club Dominique Chapman 07769 603920

Bredon Bowling Club 01684 772008 bredonbowlingclub.co.uk

Bredon Table Tennis Club bttc.comms@gmail.com

Bredon bridge club

RBL Pershore Phil Sagar 07447 907862 President of Pershore Branch

RBL Pershore Simon Dudfield 07929234898 Chairman of Pershore Branch

Nick Bridges 07940842391 nickjamesbridges@outlook.com

Guides Anne.newbon@btinternet.com

Brownies 1stsevernstokebrownies@gmail.com.

Scouts Photostudiotewkesbury@gmail.com

W.I. Jenny Doyle 07988521024 eckingtonwi@gmail.com

Organisations

Number 8

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Box Office: 01386 555488

8 High Street Pershore WR10 1BG www.number8.org



Foyer Event: Devil Wears Prada 2 (12A)

Fri 10 Jul – 6:30pm

Join us on the red carpet for a Runway themed party, followed by a screening at 7:30pm. As Miranda Priestly (Streep) nears retirement, she reunites with Andy Sachs (Hathaway) to face off against her former assistant-turned rival Emily (Blunt). **Tickets: £9**



Devil Wears Prada 2 (12A)

Mon 13 July – 11.00am & 7.30pm; Tue 14 Jul – 7.30pm

Twenty years after their iconic turns as Miranda, Andy, Emily and Nigel—Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway, Emily Blunt and Stanley Tucci return to the fashionable streets of New York City and the offices of Runway Magazine. **Tickets: £9**



Foyer Event: Sip & Sketch

Thu 23 Jul – 1.00pm-4.00pm

Join us for an informal afternoon sketching a 'still life' whilst socialising and enjoying a cuppa. Whether you're a keen sketcher, like to doodle or just fancy having a go, anyone from an accomplished artist to a complete novice is welcome! **Admission Free**



Hoppers (U)

Tue 21 Jul – 11.00am; Thu 23 Jul 2.00pm (RS)*

In this animated comedy adventure animal-loving college student Mabel transfers her mind into a lifelike robotic beaver to communicate with animals and save their habitat from developers, inadvertently sparking an uprising in the process. **Tickets: £5**



Toy Story 5 (cert tbc)

Tue 28 Jul – 11.00am (RS)* & 7.30pm; Tue 30 Jul – 2.00pm

In their latest adventure, Woody, Buzz, Jessie and the rest of the gang's jobs are challenged when they're introduced to electronics, a new threat to playtime. **Tickets: £9**

**RS is a Relaxed screening*

For further details see www.number8.org

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The Anchor Eckington	01386 750356	anchorinneckington.co.uk
The Bell Eckington	01386 750033	thebelleckington.com

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The Locksmith	01905 570 999	locksmithworcestershireshire.co.uk
Three Counties Chimney Sweep	01684 891005	threecountieschimneysweep.co.uk

Pershore Plus Volunteer Service

Community Transport	01386 554299	pershorevolunteers.org.uk
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Memory Impairment Coffee Morning

At The Bell Eckington
WR10 3AN

The Eckington Community Memory Impairment Group is an informal group, which holds a monthly complimentary Coffee and Cake morning on the third Wednesday of each month.

It is open to anyone who is suffering from dementia, or any level of memory impairment, their carers or family.

People from Defford, Birlingham, Little and Greater Comberton and Bredons Norton are welcome to join in.

Further information is available from Doug 07900312775

**Third Wednesday of the Month
11:30am-1pm**



In support of Admiral Nurses
- specialist dementia nurses

Community COFFEE & CAKE EVENT



at The Bell Eckington



FIRST WEDNESDAY
OF THE MONTH



11AM

Friendly, informal meet up

EVERYONE WELCOME!



In support of
Admiral Nurses
• specialist dementia nurses •



TO ALL LADIES IN ECKINGTON



Just to let you know that WI organise a **COFFEE MORNING** to be held every month just for us to have a really good natter and a laugh.



There is no WI business, it's just a **SOCIAL OCCASION** for all women whether they are WI members or not.



WE CALL IT OUR

'Social at the Local.'



The reason for this is that we **ALTERNATE** from the **ANCHOR** and the **BELL**.



It is always held on
THE SECOND TUESDAY
OF THE MONTH.



ALL WELCOME

Catch up. Chat. Laugh. You're always welcome.

Did you know that ECKINGTON VILLAGE HALL has

BINGO

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every month

a fun
afternoon
from
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with
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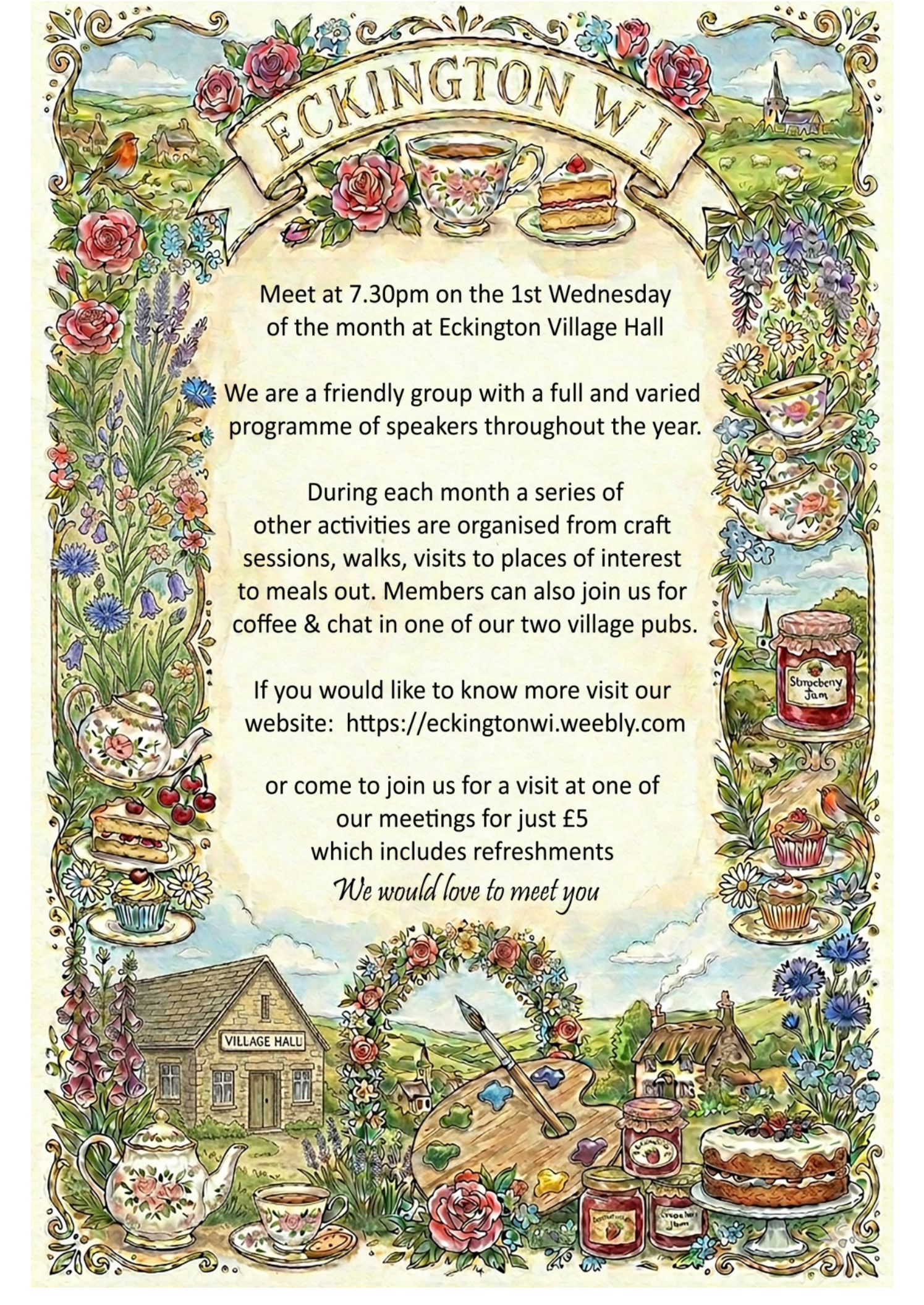


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ECKINGTON WI

Meet at 7.30pm on the 1st Wednesday
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We are a friendly group with a full and varied
programme of speakers throughout the year.

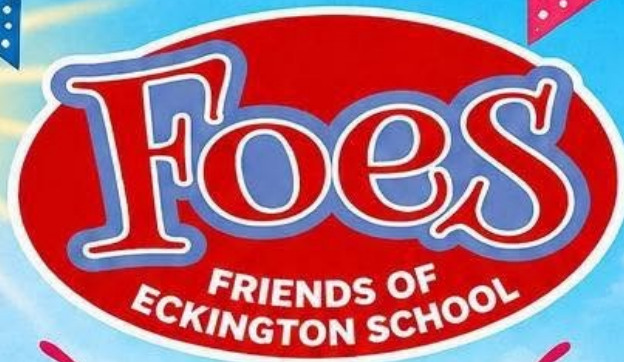
During each month a series of
other activities are organised from craft
sessions, walks, visits to places of interest
to meals out. Members can also join us for
coffee & chat in one of our two village pubs.

If you would like to know more visit our
website: <https://eckingtonwi.weebly.com>

or come to join us for a visit at one of
our meetings for just £5
which includes refreshments

We would love to meet you

VILLAGE HALL



are hosting:

SCHOOL SUMMER FETE

Friday 3rd July

3pm–6pm

at Eckington First School.

Everyone is welcome!

Come and have fun at a variety of stalls with different activities



BOUNCY CASTLE

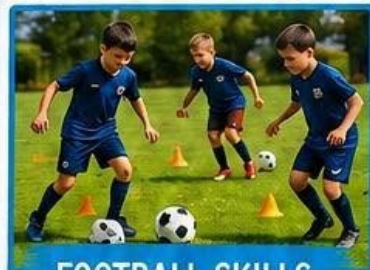
Gifted by
HUGHES **HS** SEALEY



PHOTO BOOTH



FACE PAINTING



FOOTBALL SKILLS



TOMBOLA / RAFFLE



TEA / COFFEE / CAKE



SPONGE PARENTS
IN WOODEN STOCKS



FESTIVE GAMES



A special musical
performance by
the children of
Eckington School



We look forward
to seeing you
there!