



Floreat Etona

July 2017

Issue 13

Eton Matters

A Golf Course?
In Eton?

Porny School
Founder's Day

The Granary
Was it a Mill?

Naturewatch
*A Peregrine
at College*



Solomon
The Hat Magician

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Chair's Chat

Ros Rivaz
ECA Chair



So what have we been up to since the last issue of Eton Matters? As well as publishing our very popular mini magazine, for which we thank our Editor, Peter and our very many regular and one off authors and advertisers, we have enhanced our communication. The website has now been up and running for close to a year. We have enhanced this by attaching "Shout Out", which enables us to send out a short and sweet update. This tells the recipients what we are all up to in our Eton community. Over the coming weeks we are going to pursue some clever technical work so that all of you who have signed up to receive it actually do so. If you haven't signed up for it, please go to our website and do so, so that you receive our brief once a week or once a fortnight update.

There have been some great events since the last issue, including this year's version of Clean for the Queen, entitled Spring Clean! A College student, Dmitry, has written about it in this issue. Once again our Ward Councillor Malcolm Alexander joined us as did our Mayor, Derek Bishop and very many College boys and staff members. We collected so much rubbish!

We held a pub quiz in The Crown and Cushion and we are all so impressed with Quiz Master Dave. We held a tailoring event with New & Lingwood and learnt so much and held a Pie & Pint event, accompanied by The Beer story at The George. **Continued Page 4.**

I would like to thank the regular and guest contributors and the sponsors of this issue of Eton Matters which without whose generosity we would be unable to produce this mini-mag. The sponsors are: Kavanagh's Budgens, New & Lingwood, Thaxter & Stovell, Makena, Warren Property, J Manley Gallery, Rhubarb and Custard, Vario Press, Beechwood Interiors, Eton Stationers, My Handyman, Eton Cycles, Peter J Martin & Son and Chic 2 Chic. **Peter Eaton, Editor**

Forthcoming Eton Community Association Meetings

All at 6.30pm at the Council Offices, Eton

Everyone welcome

Monday 24 July; Tuesday 12 September; Wednesday 1 November

Eton Community Association and Eton Matters Information

ECA Chair – Ros Rivaz – chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk

ECA Secretary – Katie Broady – secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk

ECA Treasurer – Malcolm Leach – treasurer@etoncommunity.co.uk

EM Editor – Peter Eaton – editor@etoncommunity.co.uk

EM Advertising Manager – advertising@etoncommunity.co.uk

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Chair's Chat

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Our committee has changed and there are further changes to come. During the last months Noorzaman Rashid, a resident and La Stacey, the vicar of St Johns have joined the committee and Ieva Poriete has stepped down, to concentrate on her successful business. Katie has wanted to cease her secretarial duties for some time. The amazing Katie has been secretary for seven years! A new committee member, Jessie Lawrence is joining us and leaping straight into the secretarial role. Thank you Katie; you have been and continue to be amazing! Katie will carry on with organising events, as will Paul Bayley. He has decided to step down from the committee....and keep doing everything that he does for us! Meetings often clash with his extensive commitments, so he has opted for this solution.

We have carried on being the eyes and ears of the community in very many ways, thanks to all of you for involving us and to the committee members for listening and helping where appropriate. Eton Town Council, through Mayor Derek and Town Clerk Bob and the team and RBWM with Malcolm Alexander at the helm for Eton have pushed some key items forward. Thank you guys and gals!





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“Solomon” The Hat Magician

When it was announced that the Eton Community Association was arranging an event with New & Lingwood it reminded me that a relative of mine worked there some time ago.



Solomon photographed in 1937 at 84 behind New & Lingwood

John ‘Solomon’ Harris was my great-great uncle and was a hatter and just one of several of my relatives who either worked directly or for businesses that served College in the latter half of the 19th and first half of the 20th centuries.

Solomon was born in 1852 to John and Maria Harris, the 6th of nine children moving to 3 Eton Square (now demolished) around 1855 from the Odd Fellows Arms, Love Lane, Windsor, (demolished in early 1900s an extension to Victoria Barracks) where his father was a hatter and beer seller (1851 census). His father, also nicknamed Solomon, had his workshop to the rear of the Eton Square house. Solomon became an apprentice to his father at about 13 years old joining his brother Henry and presumably continued to work for him until the early 1880s when he

joined New & Lingwood which had been established in Eton in 1865.

When Solomon joined New and Lingwood it appears his main job was restoring top hats at a time when they were part of the uniform of the College boys. Known as a ‘Lusher’, wearing waistcoat, black tie, apron and a trade mark paper hat of which he made a new one every Monday, he would brush and iron the silk to bring them back as new. From reports from the time it appears the work involved was a lot more than that though, restoring them from being sat on and looking like concertinas or kicked around the playing fields. The boys would sit in his backroom workshop where there were magazines for them to read while waiting for their hats to be ‘lushed’. At the end of term 450 hats would come into his workshop during the holidays for him to ‘lush’ up.

Peter Eaton - Eton Resident



From a copy of the original painting by George Hall Neale

Notoriety came his way in 1926 when George Hall Neale painted a portrait of him (left) which was hung in the National Gallery in that year. At that time there was an article in the London Evening News and he was on the radio news programme 'In Town Tonight'. How he came to be the subject of a painting is really unknown but it may have been something to do with his characterful face. The original painting still hangs in the New & Lingwood's Jermyn Street store but he never saw the original painting, only from the copies taken of it. There are copies in the College archives, on display in New & Lingwood in Eton and I have a copy from which the cover picture is taken.

By all accounts he was a comedic character and well adored by the boys who included many Princes, Dukes,

Lords and those who would become notable in politics among those whose hats he restored. It is reported they paid his expenses to go to Lords for an Eton v Harrow cricket match where he was seen in morning suit, suede gloves and a topper.

He died in January 1940 and was working until 3 days before his death at 87. On his death, obituaries were printed in many of the national papers and I have cuttings of several of them. The obituaries stated how much his talents in restoring top hats were appreciated by the boys, with one notable quotation from Prince Henry, 3rd son of King George V, later becoming Duke of Gloucester (pictured right), who said about Solomon's magic in restoring top hats during his time at Eton from 1913 "Solomon spared me many a flogging".



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Town & Gown

Rev. Stephen Gray - Conduct - Eton College



In such a busy bit of Berkshire, the High Street of Eton is a calm enclave with its diverse range of shops and houses, strong sense of community and relatively few cars. It compares well to the more rural Bradfield College from which I moved with my family less than a year ago. A large boarding school can seem like a closed world to some, but the way that the boys and staff are spread about the northern end of the town of Eton reminds us all that we are part of a locale larger than an individual boarding house or academic department.

College Chapel is at the heart of the Eton College community, both physically and spiritually. Although boys spend their first two years attending Lower Chapel, they are always aware of the soaring perpendicular architecture of College Chapel and have

pointed out to them the stone in Keate's Lane that marks the end of the even larger and more majestic building planned by Henry VI, had not the Wars of the Roses intervened. Living in Eton makes us all aware of the varied history of our nation.

If the worship in the two Eton chapels can be beneficial for the soul, then the many sporting opportunities that Eton offers are good for the body, as well as developing character. I have been lucky to participate in many sports with varying degrees of success. Cricket was my great passion as a boy growing up in Eastbourne, but I was most successful at hockey, playing in the national league. However, it was a great privilege to lead a Church of England cricket XI to victory against a Vatican team recently. I have run the original marathon course and participated in four triathlons; Eton boys have so many opportunities to pursue similar sporting ambitions. However, for every victor in sport, there has to be a runner-up and for some boys the latter lesson can be more instructive. My life has seen many twists and turns; I have worked as a lowly curate sweeping leaves from the drives of parishioners and now find myself in the magnificent surroundings of Eton as the Conduct, or senior chaplain.

The boys of Eton, by gaining a place at school so heavily over-subscribed, have already succeeded where other boys did not. Learning to make the most of their opportunities and being aware of the failings of others will make them valuable members of not only the Eton community, but of society at large.

Kids' Play - Summer in Eton

Bligh Henshilwood – Aged 10



Eton comes to life in the summer because there are some many fun things to do outside. I enjoy going to the cricket nets at the College with my Dad and my dog Harry. I usually bowl and Harry makes a great fielder! Afterwards sometimes I'm allowed to visit the ice cream shop by the bridge but have to dodge the tourists on the way asking for selfies! My friends and I love playing on the many playing fields in Eton, usually cross bar challenge and dizzy penalties which is exciting and very funny. When it gets really hot we visit Fellows Eton to cool down for swim or water pistol fight! My Dad and I love paddle boarding on the Thames from there. You get to see so much wildlife and usually not many people. The Brocas, Great Park and Cookham are favourite spots for my Mum and Dad, for us to take Harry for a walk usually followed by a bite to eat at

one of the many great pubs. When my Grandparents visit they love to walk into Windsor to watch the soldiers marching, they would do it every day if they could regardless of the weather! Me I hope for sun all summer long to do all these things I love doing in Eton.

Eton Pre-School

Sue Clifford - Manager

No, not new teachers for Eton College but six incredibly cute ducklings! We recently spent ten days watching six eggs hatch and grow in to some very fluffy ducklings at Eton Pre-School.

The eggs and all the equipment were supplied by a farm in Kent and the children had a fantastic time watching and handling them. They experienced them emerging from their shells and learning how to do what ducklings do, culminating in the ducklings swimming and diving in a pool in the garden. It was an amazing experience for all involved, there was lots of learning going on although I'm not sure if the children or the parents were more excited....we did seem to get an awful lot more visitors while the ducklings were with us!

I'm afraid the ducklings have gone back to the farm but you are still welcome to visit us. You will find us just behind Eton Sports or contact us at www.etonpreschool.org



Kids' Play - Henry's Walk Home

Henry Brewis - Age 4

I like walking home from school. I walk over the bridge to Eton. Sometimes we race to the shiny bollards at the end, sometimes we watch the boats and the swans and geese and ducks. When we get to Eton, I like talking to the shopkeepers and walking on all the steps and walls.

There is a new jewellery shop next to the bridge. I like looking at the jewels and talking to the lady. She is very friendly.

Sometimes we have drinks and snacks at Costa on the way home. Lemon tart is very delicious. Mummy lets me share her hot chocolate.

I always say hello to Emma. Her shop is called Lily Chic. One day, she let me pretend to be for sale in the window.



Karen is my friend. She has a green shop. It is a deli (Tastes). We buy cheese and Karen lets me peep in her store room.

I like to wave at Aaron and Emma in Thaxter and Stovell. I get my hair cut there. There is a picture of David Bowie. He sings Ch-ch-ch-changes.

I say hello to Amy and her dogs at Wolf and Leo.

The Eton travel agency has flags in the window. I like to name them. The ladies are very nice. I like to talk to them.

I like to walk on the wall (on Eton Square) and jump off at the end. If I am on the other side of the road, I like to jump off the little bollard by the art gallery.

I love Natalie's flower shop (Luxe flowers). I smell the roses and look at the beautiful colours.

I say hello to Heather in the fudge shop and I always ask her what fudge she is making today.

Douglas has a pharmacy called Reid. It used to be blue but now it is black. I saw it being painted.

My friend Sangita works at Budgens. I like to say hello to her every day.

I like to wave at everyone in Tudors. My uncle buys milkshakes there.

David and Nolan work at Tom Brown Tailors. They are my friends. Mummy takes dresses to be dry cleaned.



Eton within the Borough

Malcolm Alexander
RBWM Councillor for Eton and Castle

May 23rd and, rightly, electioneering has ceased for the moment due to last night's atrocity in Manchester. It will resume, and by the time Eton Matters is published the outcome will be known. Will the polls get it right? Will it be a straight win or another coalition? Answers on June 9th. Politically it's been quite a year. Less than twelve months ago we had the EU Referendum followed by the leadership contest, a month ago a local bi election in West Windsor, and now the biggie – the General Election. Bit of a surprise for many, but unlike Brenda from Bristol ('whaat, another election?!') in our house, weirdly, we find it all quite exciting.

Back to base, and what is going on at street level. You may have noticed our street cleaning staff have been issued with some very bright high-viz work wear. In April they transferred over to the newly appointed highways contractor Volker Highways who will now be responsible for all 350 miles of roads in the Royal Borough, together with street cleaning and approx 15,000 street lights. As you read this the installation of new LED lights will be well on the way to completion in and around Eton. Street lighting is important and perhaps we take our all-night illumination for granted. Not all Local Authorities provide this night long service; certainly in my last authority (Hertfordshire) it was lights out at midnight.

Recently Ros Rivaz, Paul Roach (Town Centre Manager) and I spent some time looking at a number of issues which need addressing in Eton. An action list has been prepared and I will be working with Ros to ensure that as many as possible are put in place. Tireless Ros – what would we do without her?

The Garden in Bloom package awaits collection; yes, it's that time of year again, and I can't pretend it's not a pleasure. The judging this year will take place in July and the winner and runner up will be awarded medals and vouchers plus there will be certificates of merits for several other plots. I will also do my best to ensure they have some well-deserved publicity in the Royal Borough newspaper.

I will just add that Humphrey Lyttelton was born on this day (23 May) 96 years ago in Eton. I will not sully this respectable magazine with any of his famous I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue double entendres, but suffice to say the programme was huge fun.

I need to sign off now – our new Mayor is waiting in the wings and we must be there tonight, to wish him well.

I hope the weather is kind over the next few months, and you all enjoy sunny days and warm evenings. The barbeque beckons.

Contact by email: cll.alexander@rbwm.gov.uk or phone 01753 850389

A Golf Course? In Eton

Nicola Carey - Secretary

Many reading this may not be aware that one even exists and many who have heard about it, may assume it is only for use by College boys and employees. Walk down Common Lane, past Eton College Security and Buildings Department, out across Eton Great Common towards the railway line and you will find the golf course. Yes, it does exist for the use of the College boys and employees of the College but not solely for them. There is also a small private members' club that plays there by kind permission of the College. Local residents and those from further afield may apply to join subject to payment of a very reasonable annual subscription.



The 5th Green

So, what is the course like? It is a very pretty, 9-hole course but don't be fooled, it is a good test of golf for players of all standards. The fairways are narrow and, for the most part, tree lined; the greens are relatively small;

and there is the complication that the Willow Brook meanders through it creating a water hazard on all the par 3 holes. But that aside, there is the added benefit that the course is CONGU registered, so members may obtain and maintain a handicap which is recognised throughout the world.

The club is very friendly and is always pleased to welcome new members. There are regular in-house competitions during the summer months as well as matches against other clubs in the area including a recently added fixture against the Royal Household Golf Club. The club team is rarely beaten in matches at home!

Each year the Club Captain nominates a charity (or sometimes two) to support and in recent years significant sums have been donated to charities including Parkinson's UK, the Alexander Devine Children's Hospice, which has been supported for several years as well as the British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research and this year SANDS (the still birth and neo natal death charity).

The Club is open to both men and ladies. If you are interested in finding out more, please email the Club Secretary, Nicola Carey at secretary.ecgc@gmail.com for information about fees and the application process.

In His Presence

La Stacey

Vicar, St. John the Evangelist Church



What's on your spiritual shopping list? Would a basket of Wisdom and Understanding, Counsel and Power, Knowledge and Delight do you? Those are classically the gifts of God's Spirit - those 6 gifts, along with something called 'the fear of the Lord'. (Check out Isaiah 11 verses 1-3 if you want to see where this list comes from.) How about translating that last one as 'deep respect'? The Bishop came on Pentecost Sunday and prayed for some members of the congregation to be confirmed by God's Spirit. The basket of gifts comes as part of the package. It seems like a good package for those representing us in parliament to have too. May they be given wisdom and understanding, counsel and power, knowledge and delight as they govern us in a context of deep respect for all.

We are trying to have Eton church open on Saturday afternoons during the summer. Do let me know if you are able to volunteer for a couple of hours on a Saturday afternoon to church-sit. I like to have 3 people on duty to share the load. There is an 'Eton Walkway' stop at the church telling something of the history and when the weather is good we get quite a stream of visitors through to see the spectacular window and spend a moment in peace. Amid all the hustle of commerce, there are still moments when we know that not everything we need is for sale. The more essential items are available as gift.

With summer blessings.

Eton Resident Helps with a Commonwealth Walkway in Nigeria



Following working with the ECA on the successful installation of the Eton Walkway, with thanks to Eton resident, Brian Voakes, (standing far left), The Outdoor Trust's CEO, Jim Walker, (seated right) has been able to secure the 'go-ahead' for a walkway in Lagos, Nigeria from the Oba (King) of Lagos as part of the Commonwealth Walkway Projectl.

A full-page advertisement for New & Lingwood. A man with dark hair and light eyes is the central figure, wearing a blue and white plaid blazer over a white turtleneck and bright pink trousers. He is leaning on the back of a yellow and black striped chair. The background features a large potted plant on the left and a vase of blue and white flowers on the right, with a piano partially visible. The text 'NEW & LINGWOOD' is overlaid in a large, white, serif font, and 'Flourishing Since 1865' is in a smaller, white, script font below it. At the bottom, the brand's logo and two addresses are listed, followed by the website URL.

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Diary

July

24th 18.30 – Eton Community Association – Eton Council Offices

30th ECA Summer Walk to Dorney - see ECA web site for details

Sept

12th 18.30 – Eton Community Association – Eton Council Offices

Nov

1st 18.30 – Eton Community Association – Eton Council Offices

Regular Events

Eton College Museums – Every Sunday – 14.30-17.00 –Free entry

Eton Town Council Meeting – 19.30 - First Thursday of Month - Eton Council Offices

Churches (regular services)

St. John the Evangelist, Eton (C of E) Services

1st & 3rd Wednesdays 10.00 – Communion (said)

4th Sundays 18.15 – Worship Workshop
(Sundays – 9.30 & 11.00 Services - St. John the Baptist, Eton Wick)

Our Lady of Sorrows (Catholic) Service – Sundays – 09.30

Apostolic Fellowship of Christ – Baldwin Institute

Sunday School – Sundays – 15.00; Bible Lectures – 2nd & 4th Sundays – 18.30

Library Mon – 14.00-17.00; Tues – 10.00-13.00 & 14.00-17.00;

Fri – 14.00-19.00; Sat – 10.00-13.00 – **Library Diary see page 19**

Council Office – Eton Tues-Fri – 08.00-12.00

Diamond Walker to Dog Walker Noorzaman Rashid speaks to Aimee Fleet of Wolf & Leo Advertisement Feature



Curiosity killed the cat but not me! A dog lover, but “dogless”, walking in to Wolf and Leo at number 100 on the High Street, I received a warm welcome from Aimee Fleet the proprietor and her two beautiful dogs Mable and Ralph. An Eton resident since 2013 Aimee took over the shop last year. Young and energetic she has created a brand that is “country and quality made British” from bespoke made collars to tweed woven baskets.

Not so many years ago Aimee was a “diamond walker” in Mayfair working for one of the oldest diamond companies in the country transporting diamonds with her dog Ralph on foot to customers like Harrods. Pop in and find out a lot more about Aimee and her partner photographer Richard and you’ll get your dog photographed and posted on the shop wall.

Aimee plans to organise a number of communal dog walks starting at the Brocas for Eton residents and customers followed by treats for the dogs and their owners in her shop. Visit her Facebook page for details: @wolfandleoshop

Useful Numbers

Churches	St John the Evangelist (Vicar)	01753 852268
	Our Lady of Sorrows, Eton Court	01753 542862
Community Warden	Phil Griffiths	01628 685636
Council Offices, Eton		01753 860377
Councillor (RBWM)	Malcolm Alexander	01753 850389
Emergency	Fire/Ambulance/Police	999
Eton College		01753 370100
Eton Community Association	Chair	07734 073117
	Secretary	01753 863377
	Treasurer	01753 865647
Library	Eton	01753 860506
	24 hr renewal line	0303 123 0035
Eton Porny School		01753 861995
Eton Pre-School		01753 850842
Healthcare	Fast Medical Help, Non-Emergency (NHS)	111
Doctors	South Meadow Surgery (24 hr line)	01753 833777
	(appointments)	01753 832332
Hospitals	King Edward VII Outpatients, Windsor	01753 860441
	Prince Charles Eye Unit, KE VII Casualty	01753 636359
	Wexham Park Hospital	01753 633000
	Wexham Park A& E	01753 634017
	Upton Hospital, nr Slough – Walk-in unit	01753 821441
	Heatherwood & St. Marks Minor Injuries units	01753 877805
	Heatherwood Hospital	01344 623333
	St. Marks Outpatients	01628 632012
Natural History Museum	Eton (curator)	01753 370602
Police	Crime in Progress	999
	Non-Emergency	101
River Authority	Environment Agency (gen. enquiries)	03708 506 506
	Floodline	0345 988 1188
Royal Borough Of Windsor And Maidenhead	(customer care)	01628 683800
	24 hour line for key services – report illicit actions, late night noise, dangerous structures, etc.	01753 853517
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Taking Council

Bob Austen

Town Clerk, Eton Town Council



For my article this issue I have been asked to paint a picture of what Eton Town Council does for the community and who the various Eton members are.

In England there are over 9,000 parish/town councils. They are the tier of local government closest to the people and it is essential that they maintain a close relationship with their local communities. The public are encouraged to be observers at council meetings which in Eton are held monthly on the first Thursday evening. Details of meetings are posted on the Council Offices noticeboard and on the Council website www.etoncouncil.org.uk

Duties of parish/town councils vary according to what delegated functions they have absorbed from their county/district/borough council. In Eton some of our main duties are as follows:

- Allotments – Eton Town Council allotments are in Eton Wick
- Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces – South Meadow Lane, Eton; Haywards Mead, Eton Wick; Stockdales Road, Eton Wick; Bell Lane, Eton Wick

In addition, the Council has taken responsibility for creating and maintaining the floral display areas at Jubilee Square and Watermans Arms;

- Providing and maintaining play equipment at the three recreation grounds
- Providing facilities for meetings of community groups in the Council Chamber
- Litter and dog fouling in streets and open spaces
- Planning applications – the right to comment to Borough Council and engage support from local Borough councillors
- Ensure that Eton receives the full support of the Borough Council in terms of roads and pavements maintenance, street lighting, refuse collection, street cleaning, car and cycle parking, footpaths and cycle paths and other Borough Council functions
- Work closely with Thames Valley Police and the local community warden in notifying crimes and misdemeanours
- Work closely with Eton Community Association and Eton College in preserving and promoting the rich heritage of Eton

The Town Council offices are at 102 High Street, Eton where I am based and I am always pleased to help local residents if they have any problems or just need some advice.

Your Eton councillors are as follows:

Derek Bishop (Mayor), Mike Blightman, Michael Cadwallader, George Fussey, Douglas Hill, Malcolm Leach and Duncan Reed. Their contact details are on the website.

The Great British Spring Clean

Dmitry Lubyako - Eton College Student

On Sunday 11th March, a total of 27 volunteers, including ten boys and one teacher from the College, took part in the Great British Spring Clean. A lot of litter had accumulated in Eton, not only on the streets but also on the Brocas and South Meadow, and we made a big effort to remove it. The weather could hardly have been worse; it rained for the whole morning. Despite this, we collected about 20 large bags of litter: from cans and bottles to a car battery, a toaster, and lengths of metal wire.



It was easy to underestimate how time-consuming this would be: in about forty minutes, our group of three covered just a 150-metre stretch on the edge of South Meadow. We had to stop because we had filled up all our litter bags. I walked back to the Eton town council building covered in mud, with a bent, rusty pipe found on South Meadow over my shoulders!

Flying the Flag

Stephen Gosnell - ECA Committee

Every year, our great community comes together to put the flags up in the High Street. We aim to achieve it before Eton College's June 4th celebrations for Founder's Day, which fell this year on June 17th. Ideally, "dressing" the High Street before Windsor Royal Horse Show, is our aim. One of the delights of helping with this task is chatting to the number of people who stop and ask what the flags are being put there for. Their assumption that a Royal walkabout is imminent is always their assumption and desire! Perhaps we will be fortunate enough for this to be a reality one day!

Thank you to the team of volunteers and those who offered but were unable to make the action date this year!



Messing About on the River

Derek Ledger - Eton Resident

Every year from about Easter onwards the Thames comes alive and both private and rental boats start to appear. The cruisers of the wealthy that parade up and down the river provide much interest to people on the banks and those standing on the bridge, much to the gratification of the yachting capped skippers. I confess that I have a certain interest myself but not so much for the boats themselves but for the names that they have been given. Some seem to be frivolous; others with humour intended and yet more named after wives, sweethearts or perhaps even mistresses.

For those who enjoy a drink or two we have 'A Wee Dram' or 'Cheers' and 'Whiskey Galore' to name but three. Skippers who like a play on words favour 'Nauti Boy' 'Lazy Daze' and various other language corruptions such as 'astidiots', 'Passing Wind' and "Fantasea".

The small rental motor and rowing boats provide much entertainment as they scurry all over the river and sometimes get in the way of the serious skippers of private boats who give them dark looks at best or perhaps even a blast of horn if they feel threatened.



The large river passenger ships of the cruising companies generally give plenty of warning of their approach to ensure that they have an easy passage under the central arch of the bridge even if it means having to lower the top deck roofing to do so. The larger private cruisers unfamiliar with the bridge, the central arch of which has the least clearance on this part of the river, frequently make several approaches before plucking up courage to make an attempt to pass through. Most are successful but a few end up with loud scraping noises as the radio aerials or awning frames scrape along the underside of the bridge.

The many canoe and kayak enthusiasts that one sees in summer evenings seem to be happily scooting along at a great pace as they go downstream but look somewhat haggard and forlorn on their return against the current. A few give up the struggle near the bridge and haul their craft out of the water and retire to the nearest pub for refreshment.

There is always something to look at on the river and one is kept amused and in rapture of the antics of both human and bird life on the water.

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Porny School

Katherine Russell
Head Teacher

For this issue I have given over my column to two of my Year 4 pupils, Aisha and Marcus, to tell you about their Founder's Day celebration.

AN EXCITING DAY IN THE LIFE OF ETON PORNY

By Aisha and Marcus

On Friday the 21st of April, Eton Porny celebrated their 204th anniversary with the Year 4's Founder's Day performance. We shared information about Antoine Pyron du Matre who was born in Caen in Normandy. He moved to Eton in 1754 and became the French Master at Eton College. He eventually changed his name to Mark Anthony Porny. The performance included hymns sung at the school for many years, facts about the school's historic past and presentations about the school's future.



The school has changed so much over the years. We learnt that in the past boys did woodwork and girls did needlework. Boys learnt how to play football. The girls spent more time dancing, and performed a May Pole dance annually.

The service lasted about 25 minutes and was attended by parents, friends and family. Also a gentleman called Bill, who attended our school in 1935, came to watch. At the end of the performance he talked to all of us about the school in the 1930s and our hopes and dreams. We were fascinated by Bill's stories and were really interested in learning even more about our school in the past.

On the same day, six children participated in a filming experience for Eton Walkway. The children were asked many questions about the school's past. This was to go into a website about the Eton Walkway, documenting the sights of Eton. The children involved said "The filming was a different experience. I have never felt like that before!" and "It was a fascinating and interesting experience. It was fun being in the spotlight. For a bonus- we got extra break time!"

We all thoroughly enjoyed the experience and will remember the day for many years!

The Granary - Was it a mill?

Ron Lewandowski - Eton Architect

Immediately behind Tom Brown tailors and close to Baldwin's Shore is a small simple two storey yellow stock building known as The Granary.

The building is in the ownership of The Baldwin's Bridge Trust had had an unspecified use as storage and a garage and was in poor repair until 2006 when it was converted into offices for a local printer.

At that time the then Conservation Officer, Liz Long, made the following comments about it: *'The two storey out building at the rear of 1 High Street is a small brick built structure that is, at present, being used in part as a garage. It appears rather neglected and would benefit from repair/decoration of the windows and doors. The building occupies a prominent position within the Conservation Area viewed from Barnes Pool Bridge and of its type is a good example. The traditional position of the doors on the first floor level and presence of brackets above those doors indicate that the first floor of the building must originally have been a storeroom or granary.'*



The use as offices enabled the building to be properly repaired and maintained and it is now tenanted by a company called Icon.

Latterly there has been some interest in trying to find out why it was called The Granary with some thought that it might have been a granary related to a possible mill at Barnes Pool. In my opinion the 'granary' being constructed of weathered London stock brickwork is too new for

there not to be any currently traceable evidence of the mill nearby. I would be interested to learn of any evidence to the contrary.....

Berkshire Archaeology's Historic Environment Record states '**Eton Mill No. 2**' in the location of Barnes Pool. The source of this information is given as the publication '**Canals. Navigable Streams, Mills and Wharves Between Cookham and Datchet**' by Michael Bayley, a privately published document, dated 8 March 2001. Page 23 states: '**ETON MILL NO. 2 – was by Baldwins Bridge and I can remember it working. It was fed by a leet across the Brocas down South Meadow Lane**'. Unfortunately Michael Bayley died in 2013. Does anyone in the town know if this is the Granary? Email me: editor@etoncommunity.co.uk



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On the Beat

Sgt. Hedley Gabriel - Central Windsor Neighbourhood Police Team

The Central Windsor Neighbourhood Team is dedicated to serving the community of Windsor and Eton to the best of our ability; supporting local needs and tackling those issues of most concern to residents and businesses.

Over the last year we have looked to target emerging issues such as careless cycling and noise and anti-social behaviour associated with the night time economy as well as ASB on the Brocas. We do take these matters very seriously and we will continue to work hard to tackle them. As always we encourage the community to remain vigilant and to report any incidents of concern either on 101 or 999.

We are also keen to strengthen our links with the community of Eton by assisting in the setting up of a Neighbourhood Watch group. Such groups enable a direct line of communication between the police and businesses/residents as well as offering a joined up approach in the prevention of crime. We would welcome contact from any member of the community willing to co-ordinate such a group.

And now for some news! As of 1st June a new policing model will come into operation in the Royal Borough. The change will allow greater engagement opportunities by having a Geographic Team covering Windsor town centre, Eton and Eton Wick, as well as having two dedicated problem solving teams for Windsor and Maidenhead. We firmly believe that this change will immeasurably benefit communities around the borough and will allow far more engagement and visibility from your local team

PC Pete Bullett



I am pleased to say that the structure of your local Geographic team will not change greatly with PCSO's David Bullock, Liz Davidson and Ryan Jones remaining a key part of your local policing team complimented by the arrival of PC Pete Bullett and headed up by myself and your police Inspector Louise Warbrick.

We look forward to continuing to work alongside the businesses and residents of Eton to keep your community safe.

You can contact the local team via email at: windsorcentralnhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or by calling 101 and asking for any of the aforementioned officers.

Eton Matters - We Need Your Stories

To keep this mini-magazine going we need your stories of your interests, your families association with Eton past or present, the history of your home or street or your observations around Eton. Email: editor@etoncommunity.co.uk

Bookworm

Information and Book Reviews from your Library

Karen Usher and Vicki Wilson (right)

Eton Library Supervisors



We always look forward to the summer holidays when children visit Eton Library to take part in the national Summer Reading Challenge. There are regular customers, already voracious readers, who race through six library books. But there are also those who find the challenge very hard and are encouraged to read by the incentives awarded for each book completed.

This year the theme is Animal Agents and Tony Ross's illustrations will feature a variety of clever creatures, specially trained to use their skills and natural instincts to unravel mysteries. You may be familiar with his work if your children have read *The Little Princess*, *Horrid Henry* or more recent David Walliams books.

The Kate Greenaway Medal is a British literary award that annually recognises "distinguished illustration in a book for children". Jim Kay won in 2012 for his dark, powerful images in *A Monster Calls*, the harrowing tale of a boy repeatedly visited by a tree-shaped giant while his mother is dying.

The 2017 winner is announced in June and the shortlist includes Chris Riddell, the current Children's Laureate. Each Laureate promotes a particular aspect of children's books and Riddell's focus has been to use the immediacy and universality of illustration to bring people together and lead them all into the wonderful world of books and reading, whilst championing creativity in schools and beyond.

As a child Chris admired the work of John Tenniel (*Alice in Wonderland*) and E. H. Shepard (*The Wind in the Willows* and *Winnie the Pooh*). We all have fond memories of stories we read as children but equally the pictures linger too. Books with engaging illustrations spark a child's imagination. That's when they can fall in love with reading.

Eton Library: Tel: 01753 860506/857933

**Open: Mon – 14.00-17.00; Tues – 10.00-13.00 & 14.00-17.00;
Fri – 14.00-19.00; Sat – 10.00-13.00**

Under 5s Storytime: 2.30-4.00pm Every Friday term times

**Eton Book Group: 6.00-7.00pm Fridays every 4 weeks.
Check with library for exact dates**

**IT volunteer, Alex, Tuesday mornings for help using your computer.
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**Community Warden: 1st Tuesday every month 11.00am-12.00noon
for help with community issues**

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Naturewatch - A Peregrine at College

George Fussey – Curator, Eton College Natural History Museum

The Museum has just hosted its annual Secret Life of Birds Family Learning Event for Windsor schools. Always a sell-out, it's one of my favourite events mostly because, to round off the day, we hire a local falconer to come and fly hawks and falcons around the splendid new McCrum Yard. The children love the spectacle, the chance to get up close to these superbly adapted animals. By the end of the event the children are all able to tell the difference between a hawk and a falcon. Hawks have broad wings without sharp tips, designed for manoeuvrability and kill prey with their talons. Falcons, on the other hand, have narrow wing-tips designed for extreme speed and they generally catch prey with their talons whilst in flight and then kill the prey with their beaks.



The Peregrine Falcon has the distinction of being the fastest recorded animal on the planet, reaching speeds of over 200 mph in the vertical dive (or 'stoop'). It usually tries to hit one wing of its prey so as not to harm itself on impact. In recent months we have enjoyed sightings of a Peregrine on the south-side of College Chapel. Boys and Masters have also recovered the scant remains of Ring-Necked Parakeets which it has caught. Given that the Parakeets can displace native species from nesting sites and compete with them for food, some local ornithologists are not unhappy to see the Parakeet population under threat!

However, for much of the twentieth century, the Peregrine population has itself been taking a tumble. After the onset of the Second World War, large numbers of Peregrines were killed because they were thought to pose a threat to the military use of homing pigeons with the

result that their population was reduced by nearly 50% by 1944. Peregrine populations next suffered in the 50s and 60s from the widespread use of organochlorine pesticides such as DDT. So, all in all, we should take the College Chapel falcon as a welcome sign of recovery.

Photo courtesy of Mark Fielker.

The Eton College Natural History Museum in South Meadow Lane is open to the public every Sunday, from 2.30pm until 5pm. It is Berkshire's only dedicated Natural History Museum and is a family-friendly museum with over 16,000 objects. It has numerous displays featuring the wildlife of the Thames Valley. Contact us: g.fussey@etoncollege.org.uk or by phone on 01753 370602 or visit www.etonnhm.com

Vitality Move Supports Alexander Devine

Amy Fraser - Marketing and Communications at Human Race

Alexander Devine, the official charity to switch on the Eton Town Christmas lights in 2016, teams up with Olympic legend Dame Jessica Ennis-Hill for her brand new-running festival VitalityMove at the Great Windsor Park on 17th September.

The Alexander Devine Children's Hospice has won the hearts of Berkshire residents through endless support to hundreds of children with life-threatening conditions and their families. Jessica Ennis-Hill dreams of sharing her passion of fitness and running with the local families and residents of Berkshire, and is therefore delighted to support such a remarkable charity in the local area.



Jessica believes that running is a natural activity that everyone can get involved in and has teamed up with Vitality to create a new concept, fusing her passion for music and running. The event gives family and friends the chance to spend the day in stunning surroundings, and take on loads of sporting challenges, including a choice of runs from one mile to 10k. The whole day out is completely free for children, so it's going to be a huge day out. Jessica,

who is currently expecting her second child, is planning to run the music miles with her son Reggie.

Not to be mistaken for your standard running event, VitalityMove is a full day out that gives you both a challenge to complete and plenty of rewards for your trouble. For those who fancy a challenge, there's a stunning 5k and 10k run around the unmistakable Great Windsor Park, or for a more relaxed VitalityMove, a one mile with a feel-good party vibe, including dancers and performers around the route. The perfect way to exercise without even noticing it! There's also a Sports Zone packed with hands-on activities from Segway to netball to try out, and maybe get competitive with your friends and family.



Get active with family and friends, Join Jessica Ennis-Hill at the Great Windsor Park on Sunday 17th September! Book your tickets fast at www.vitalitymove.co.uk and support your local children's hospice charity Alexander Devine.

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