

Dear Residents,

I hope you all had an amazing Christmas holiday and a successful start to 2024. Starting with a positive note, our New Years Eve party held in the Civic Centre alongside a successful Eckington Christmas Market, was a great way to celebrate my favourite time of the year.

At the beginning of spring the cemetery will be blossoming as councillors, volunteers and staff have been planting spring bulbs, and we're doing some test sowing of wildflower seed. Our aim is to make the cemetery more colourful and also support more wildlife.

Looking back towards the end of 2023 it was challenging for our community, with storm Babet causing the flooding of dozens of households and businesses across the parish. However, I cannot be more proud of our residents when I saw the amount of help, support and sympathy by each of you.





Having a strong community makes our parish stand out and I strongly believe the obstacles in life bring us closer together. Let's hope that the upcoming year will be successful for us individually, as well as for our community.

Carolyn Renwick

Parish Council Chair E: carolyn.renwick@btinternet.com P: 07711 765124

ECKINGTON FRIDAY MARKET

Dating back, historically Eckington was always a market town. You may remember the days coming down to the market with your parents spending the afternoon browsing the stalls and visiting local shops.

We are pleased that the revitalised Eckington Friday Market is still popular with our residents and visitors from the wider area, and we are grateful for the support of our regular traders in the recent months, and the volunteers who have been so important in that renewal.

Markets are the heart of our community, important not just for shopping, but also for meeting friends and socialising. At the same time it benefits local shops.

The market will continue to be every Friday, from 9am - 3pm, so come down, meet a friend, grab a coffee or meal and pick up some bargains.

Our traders and local shops offer a wide variety of products such as fresh fruits and vegetables, fish, meat, cheese, cakes, chocolates, household essentials, clothes, gifts & toys, plants and flowers.

We are glad for the support of our regular traders and we are always looking for new traders to join our community.

Every Friday 9am - 3pm Market Street Free Parking

Stall set up is FREE of charge.

To register please email clerk@eckington-pc.gov.uk





ECKINGTON FRIDAY MARKET









DEFIBRILLATORS

Did you know that the correct use of a defibrillator increases the chances of survival of cardiac arrest by 75%? Every second counts and the faster a defibrillator can be successfully applied, the higher the chance of survival.

The Parish Council has funded 5 defibrillators. Our Parish now has over a dozen public defibrillators. We aim to install one at the shops on Ravencar Road.

Current public locations include: Leisure Centre, Civic Centre, One Stop Shop, Miners Welfare, Birk Hill shops, both Co-ops, Green Lawns in Marsh Lane, the Gate Inn in Troway, Sitwell Arms and Renishaw Primary School in Renishaw, the Angel in Spinkhill, the Swan Inn and Ridgeway Sports and Social Club in Ridgeway.

You can find defibrillators around the country on this website www.defibfinder.uk



TOWN CENTRE CCTV

The safety of our residents and businesses is a key priority, and the Parish Council have now installed CCTV cameras covering the majority of Eckington town centre. There is no magic bullet to reduce crime, but the more evidence that is available, the higher the impact.

The main reason for installing CCTV around our town centre is to reduce crime. Criminals will look for easy targets, and the lack of a visible CCTV system is usually something they look for. Although we do not have data about crime prevention, CCTV is often the most effective factor when it comes to prove the crime. It helps identify criminal and suspicious behaviour as well as gathering of evidence in a criminal case. Therefore, there is no denying the positive impact CCTV has had on reducing crimes in different categories.

We encourage residents to be vigilant and report anything suspicious to the police.



WINTER EVENTS



Two minutes of silence were announced by the Last Post player Olly Gains, creating a very special moment.

Also many thanks to all the volunteers who helped organise the event, marshalls who were managing road closures and so on. It was an event to remember!



Remembrance Day

Remembrance Sunday is always an important milestone in our community. On 12th November the parade took place in Eckington, followed by a service in St Peter's and Paul's church. Our local clubs play a key role in the parade and a special mention goes to Air Cadets, Army Cadets, Brownies, Scouts, Beavers and Cubs, all looking splendid as they marched through Eckington.

War Memorials in Eckington, Marsh Lane, Renishaw and Ridgeway were decorated with poppies and wreaths by the local volunteer groups and Councillors.





WINTER EVENTS - CHRISTMAS DINNER AND NYE

Christmas Lunch at Renishaw and Spinkhill Community Hall & Eckington Civic Centre Christmas is about gathering with our family and friends.

At Eckington Civic Centre & Renishaw and Spinkhill Community Hall, hundreds of people gathered together to exchange cards and swap presents, and to enjoy Christmas lunch with friends and family. The kitchens were very busy as over 300 Christmas lunches were served!

The lovely decorated halls with Christmas lights & trees, along with festively dressed tables created a perfect atmosphere. All attendees enjoyed the day and hopefully they will be attending again in future. We would like to thank all our staff who worked very hard to make the day special for each group.

The final day of 2023 brought over 150 people into the Civic Centre to celebrate New Years Eve in style. People of all ages came along, and though it was a seated event, when the music started playing nearly everyone was on their feet dancing along.

Countdown to midnight was done by Music Masters who kept the crowd entertained all night long. Welcoming New Year 2024 could not be better and we wish everyone the very best start!









UPCOMING EVENTS SPRING 2024

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ECKINGTON CIVIC CENTRE

SPRING 2024

February

10th - Murder Mystery Dinner £20

March

2nd - ABBA Tribute Band £15

22nd - Race Agains Time & Guests £7.50

23rd - Gary Peters Spiritualist Medium £10

24th - Tom Jones Tribute £15

29th - Kids Easter Disco & Buffet E10, Adults FREE

April

13th - AC/DC Tribute Band £15

20th - Soul & Motown Night £4 advanced, £5 on the door

May

25th - Take That Tribute Band £15

June

1st - Music Masters Rock'n'roll E10

14th - Drag Night (18+ only) £15

16th - Afternoon Tea with Cliff Richard Tribute £15

22nd - American Diva's Tribute Band £15

LUNCH 13TH FEBRUARY



RENISHAW & SPINKHILL COMMUNITY HALL

13 FEBRUARY FROM 11:30 2-COURSE LUNCH & BINGO

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL: 07888687545 OR 01246 432770



£2 (Residents of Eckington Parish), £5 (Standard).

BOOK NOW, 01346 452770 or Echington Civic Centre 9am 4pm Mon to Fri. For online tickets, visit ticketsource could/live/ocalitic or scan QR code.













CIVIC CENTRE

Monday

12:00 Arrival 12:30 2-course lunch followed by Bingo (optional) 14:30 Closing

Wednesday

12:00-18:30 Lunch club for 'Over 60's' Parish residents only Would you like to become a member? Speak to Anne on Wednesdays

Thursday

12:00 Arrival 12:30 2-course lunch followed by Bingo (optional) 15:00 Closing

Pre-book your lunch one week in advance

Call 01246 432770 In person Monday-Friday at Civic Centre

COMMUNITY PANTRY



Eckington Community Pantry started in 2020 and has supported the people of Eckington Parish through the pandemic, rising energy prices, the cost-of-living crisis, and the recent flooding. Subscribers choose 20 items for £5, from a selection including frozen and chilled food, toiletries, and cleaning products. Some people use it every week, some just when times are particularly hard.

Anyone in financial hardship from the Parish is welcome to sign up. The Pantry is open at Eckington Business Centre on Market Street from 10.30am to 3pm every Wednesday.

The items are supplied by Fareshare, a charity which reduces food waste, and donations from local individuals, schools and businesses, and the money from subscribers, which is used to buy stock. The Pantry is run by staff and volunteers at Eckington Business Centre with support from Eckington Parish Council and Rykneld Homes.

AWARDING RESIDENTS

We would like to pay a special mention to our resident David Cotterill. David has been awarded the Medal of the Order of the British Empire (BEM) in the 2024 New Year Honour List "For services to business and the community in Derbyshire".

David has been very active in our area for decades, being the founder of "Eckington Development Company", sourcing funding and developing the business strategy for two Business Centres in the town centre. David is also an active member of Eckington & District Rotary Club, helping to raise funds for local and regional charitable causes.

His achievements in supporting young adults include being an advisor to Young Enterprise at schools, lecturer and mentor for the UK Government scheme "New Deal for Young People" or the "New Deal 25+". All those were supporting young adults or unemployed adults guiding them in their future career.

David says,
"I believe that no
one person can
achieve anything
of value without
the support of
their family,
colleagues and
the local
community".



STORM BABET FLOODING

Storm Babet was the worst storm in decades, even bigger than the 2007 storm, with over 80 mm of water falling in one day.

Sadly, this led to flooding in several parts of the parish, leaving 40 households temporarily homeless, and ripping through many businesses, as well as flooding storage units of another 200 households and businesses.

Our thoughts are with all those affected, and we are very aware of how long some people's lives will be disrupted.

What was most heartening though was to see our community come together to help those affected, with people going to extraordinary lengths to help their neighbours. There are too many to mention, but it was a whole community effort, with neighbours, friends, families, local businesses, all three councils, the MP and the councillors, all helping in a huge number of different ways - THANK YOU to each and every one of you.

However, it is also clear that many of the problems are long standing, which are now being made worse by ever larger storms. So the work continues, to make the case for a wide variety of improvements to flood protection.







SCAM ALERT



Every week there are fraudulent cases reported when people are duped into giving away their personal and confidential data. This data is often given under the impression the fraudster is someone from a bank, police officer, solicitor and similar trustworthy organisation.

We would like to remind you that those organisations will never ask for personal data or card details. If you receive a suspicious call, do not give your details away but call a legitimate organisation yourself to check if it was really them.

Please also make sure you share this message with friends and family, in particular with any older or potentially vulnerable relatives and neighbours, to ensure they know how to best protect themselves from these types of fraud.

If in doubt, SAY nothing, DO nothing, and ASK someone you trust!

FEELING CONNECTED

A brand new project is aiming to support local communities in order to improve the social life of those feeling lonely and isolated across Chesterfield & North East Derbyshire. The 'Feeling Connected' helps to start and run local groups, projects, and events that bring people together. Support and training is provided as well as easy-to-apply funding. If you are thinking about helping the community and be part of the supportive network visit www.feelingconnected.org.uk.

You might be thinking about setting up a walking group, craft group or coffee morning, they can support you from getting started to being an established group. Alternatively, if you feel lonely or isolated you may find the suitable groups to join in.



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We support community-based groups and activities that reduce loneliness and

07743 514 934 & we'll call you back

isolation. For details and inspiration visit feelingconnected org.uk or text us on

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

To satisfy the demand and needs of the busy working environment there are two new members, Veronika and James, working for Eckington Parish Council.





What is your role?

My role includes communications and marketing, managing social media and our website. I work with Rosanna, Emma and Roz, ensuring our residents know about the huge variety of events we put on. We have something for everyone, so find an event to suit you.

Why did you decide to work for EPC?

My previous experience includes working for both businesses and charities, so working for a parish council seemed to be a good fit for communication with the community. I believe that when we combine forces & effort as a team, we bring many benefits to our town. I loved the interview in a very friendly environment and I am truly thankful for the opportunity the Parish council gave me.

What is your role in the Civic Centre?

I joined the team in February 2023 as a chef. We are now a great team working together on the menus and preparing meals for people in the Parish. I spend most of the days in the kitchen working with Kathy.

Were you always interested in cooking?

Yes, I have always worked in the kitchen, previously for Cancer Research UK in Sheffield. We were looking after people affected by cancer and needing community support. Thinking about it, I enjoy cooking so much that there are hardly any days when I am not cooking meals for guests at the Civic Centre or for my fiancé. We are getting married next year but I will not be cooking on that day!

UP AND COMING EVENTS - BOOK NOW!







