BELTANE SPING FAYRE

For the third year running, the Beltane Spring Fayre Group held this wonderful free event in Evington Park on 30th April.

The schedule for the day included a yoga session from Evington’s Yoga group, Maypole dancing with Brian and Rhona, an exhibition of owls and hawks from Kinder Falcons, a May Queen, open mic, music and poetry with the enchanting Evington singer Sam Tyler, Sheila and Merryl from Tangent Poets and musicians from Green Shoots. A variety of stalls included Vista for those with sight difficulties, RECOVERY assistance dogs, and Evington in Bloom with their plants. 19th Leicester Scouts provided space for drumming workshops and the day was filled with an array of talks and workshops by local pagan experts and storytellers. A pop up tea shop for refreshments and a splendid lunch, provided by Friends of Evington, sponsored by Evington Fish, organised and served by volunteers from Friends of Evington, added to the day.

Beltane, the festival of Spring, celebrates the season and the start of summer. The Fayre, open to all, involves local communities for a fun day out. The organisers endeavour to promote understanding between the diverse spiritual communities of Leicester and actively welcome representatives of different faiths or none at their meetings and gatherings.

Lesley Vann and Tony Modinos of The Beltane Spring Fayre Group (Composed of Pagans, people of all faiths and none, who celebrate the seasons) thank Leicester City Council and the Evington community for helping to make this traditional community event such a success. It could not have taken place without the welcome encouragement and hard work of all those involved, special thanks being due to the fine example of the Friends of Evington. Lesley works with Interfaith and the Mayor’s Faith Forum to promote outreach programmes and events such as this Spring Fayre. It is an unfunded not for profit event, totally reliant on the goodwill of participants, volunteers and visitors.
Many things are happening over the summer in Entwine so much to look forward to! The next distribution date for the Echo is September. Please refer to the website evingtonecho.co.uk for important news and more dates for the diary. The website is updated regularly and includes relevant articles and information.

The Echo is still in much need of a voluntary Advertising Manager. The role is an on-going role which involves arranging new adverts and facilitating continuing ones.

The job involves recording information from advertisers. An answerphone would be required to allow messages to be left.

An Excel spreadsheet is filled in with all details of advertisements and taken to the Finance Manager for copy. All details for publication are taken to the Editor on the same day.

The Advertising Manager would work closely with the Graphics and Finance departments, and support is available at all times from the Echo team. A laptop and training would be provided.

For more information please contact Managing Editor, Helen Pettman.

I would like to wish you all an enjoyable and hopefully hot summer.

Faith

BBC RADIO LEICESTER COMES TO PIGGY’S HOLLOW

BBC Radio Leicester presenters Jim Davis and Joanne Maitland travelled over a cobbled street to a very own Helen Pettman, informing them of Piggy’s Hollow, during a programme seeking local gems to be added to the Leicestershire Tourist Trail.

As reported on the 21st of January 2016, they met Evington’s resident expert, Chris Howard, in search of what they called a “magical place”.

Chris described the Manor House that stood on this site in the eighteenth century, once upon a time that belonged to the Gray family of Codnor, in Derbyshire, and stood surrounded by a moat. The Church, visible in the distance, formed part of the parish, which extended for miles up until the 1200’s. “There’s nothing to see, in terms of building, but it’s quite a landmark in itself,” said Chris as he pointed out to the two-struck presenters. “It’s a very popular area for dog walkers, and when they see us working here and ask what we are doing, they are just amazed by the history.”

Jim’s interest in the origins of the name Piggy’s Hollow was expertly quenched as Chris explained. “Piggy’s Hollow goes back to Piggy Wilson, who lived at Claremont, which is at the other side of Cedars pub, by the War Memorial. He farmed pigs along here and was incensed by kids sliding down the banks so he marked the site there.”

Chris’s tale was received with much laughter and cries of disgust from the presenters, as they perhaps imagined the experiences of the poor children finding themselves covered in such mud. “I would love if they could see just how much it would be useful for children to have one of those height measurements on the wall at school.”

Jo Hayward very much enjoyed the opportunity to see some approaching dog walkers talking about whether they knew the graves previously held a moat that housed a Manor House in its midst.

“I had no idea, wow,” replied the dog walker. “I knew there had to be some history behind it. It could have been a moat.”

Chris informed them the house had been there since the 1200’s which was slightly longer than the 125 year old golf course situated nearby.

Jim Davis anticipated the dog walkers would continue with a whole new appreciation of the location. “I suggested signs be put up to inform other walkers of where they were.”

Wendy McDonald, Chair of the West Leicester Philharmonic Choir for 40 years and during his time as Choir Chairman the Choir engaged many world famous conductors including Sir John Barbirolli, Sir Adrian Boult, Sir David Willcocks and Sir John Eliot Gardiner. Tony will be remembered as a kind, generous, and outgoing man who always cared about the well-being of those around him. He was a wonderful son to three children who remained at the family home in a caring role right up to the end of their lives. His tragic death, following a fall at home, has been a shock to everyone.

Bramwell Rudd
Dear Editor,

Congratulations to all concerned for getting the bench outside the library replaced. However there is another bench in a much worse state on Garratt Road, opposite number 101. I have reported it to FixMyStreet but so far the action has been taken by the Osidge and Wigston Borough Council. In my experience the FixMyStreet.com website works and sometimes it doesn’t. Perhaps if several people make the same complaint, there is a chance of something being done.

Ray Phillips

PEOPLE OF EVINGTON YEARS

I am looking to find information on my family tree of those who lived in Evington village. My Grandfather, William Smith, was a boy who lived at 6 Cedar Cottages (the terraced houses opposite the Cedars Restaurant). He lived there with his parents William and Lucy Smith until he got married in 1900 and moved to Cambridge Street, Leicestershire. I understand that William and Lucy attended the little Baptist Chapel on the green and William played the organ occasionally. Walter, my grandfather’s brothers and 2 sisters lived in the village.

Lucy died in 1916 and William died in 1928 and I believe are both buried in the grave yard at St. Denys Church.

This family of Smith originated from the village of Goody and in the 1800’s there was no street names only village names. They lived at No.24 and 27.

If anyone is able to provide me with any information about my family in Evington or contact me please contact me.

Geoff Smith

0116 2208970, email jagemsn@btinternet.com

ACTION ON HEARING LOSS

Action on Hearing Loss are starting our first Hear to Meet in Leicestershire during Deaf Awareness Week from Friday May 24th, between 10.00am – 12.00pm Members of the community are invited to attend the group, and there will be refreshments and talks on offer.

The aim is to bring people together who have deafness, hearing loss or tinnitus – future meetings and activities can then be decided by the group.

At the first session we have the products team attending to demonstrate the technologies. Although the Leicester Ageing Together (LAT) Programme is aimed at people over the age of 50 across Leicester City, we would welcome anyone interested in accessing information, advice and products for themselves, family or friends. We really need to spread the word!

The session will take place at the Evington Village Hall on Church Road, Evington, LE8 0FA.

More sessions will be held on the following dates: May 6th, 27th June, 10th July 1st, 22nd August: 5th, 26th September: 16th, 30th October 24th, 28th.

For more details, visit information@hearingloss.org.uk or call 07436830944.

AGE UK

Age UK Leicestershire and Rutland and Leicester Ageing Together (LAT) will be launching a new project funded by the Lottery Fund, called ‘Anything Goes’, which will be accessible to the people of Evington, as well as Spinney Hills, Belgrave, Thurnlcourt and Wigcliffe.

The project aims to help older people who may be feeling isolated or lonely, and suffering from mental or physical health issues. Those who are experiencing loneliness, or at risk of feeling isolated, as well as disadvantaged and vulnerable older residents, will be able to access the free service.

‘Anything Goes’ brings together and works with small groups of socially isolated people to create a tailored programme of activities designed to help them feel part of their community.

Help will be available to those who wish to make new friends with the opportunity to join new clubs, or to pursue a hobby or interest. The LAT services reported in previous issues of the Evington Echo remain available for services such as homecare, where assistance is provided for domestic - household jobs, food preparation and help with appointments.

A befriending project offers daily weekly phone calls to those who live alone and would like a friendly chat to help them get through the day. It can be something to look forward to and can make a huge difference.

Handy man and gardening services cover aspects such as home security and safety, decorating and any other types of DIY. A little help can indeed go a long way, and make living at home alone easier and much more comfortable.

In addition to this, fully trained respite workers offer valuable support for those that are carers, and are also trained in dementa care to enable them to provide respite for those that care for people with dementia.

Age UK are looking for volunteers that may have a hobby or an interest to share and could help to organise and run activities or social groups. The role would help volunteers gain confidence and a sense of purpose and would provide valuable support in helping older and vulnerable people feel part of their community.

For those that wish to use the service, or would like more information or advice, please call 0116 2992278. The Project Manager, Nikki Miles, can be contacted by telephone on 0116 2992270, or by email at nikki.miles@ageukleics.org.uk

SERVICES AVAILABLE FROM EVINGTON TO ASDA AND TESCO

The Echo was recently informed that The Beaver Bus Company offers a service from Evington to Asda in Oadby, and to Tesco in Hamilton, twice a week. The timetable for the service, available on the company website, can be found below.

SERVICE: ASDA SHOPPER (To Oadby Asda)
MONDAY (except bank holidays)
Main Street Humberstone 10.00am
Stiens Lane, Netherall Road, New Romany Crescent, Bowllen Grove, Thurnlcourt, Uppingham Road, Dakyn Road.
DUGDALE AVENUE 10.30am
Ocean Road, ElmCroft Avenue, Colchester

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Please support our local shops and businesses

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Please send letters to the library, Bennett’s shop or email to evingtonecho@yahoo.co.uk.

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Please mention the Echo when replying to advertisements.
EVINGTON VILLAGE FETE AND SHOW
A date for your diary – Saturday 13th August 2016
The event will be held on the Rectory Farm, Old Thame Road
and will run from 1.00pm to 9.00pm.

The highlight will be the event’s annual flower show, held in the village hall.

A Word from the Chair

The Evington Echo website is hosted by www.goodwordpress.com Page 9
ST DENYS AUCTION
On Saturday 10th June at 10.30pm we will be holding an Auction with a difference.
To raise funds for the church we are inviting everyone who is a part of St Denys Church to offer either some of their time and their talents. Some examples would be: an afternoon gardening; a patchwork quilting lesson; a guided visit to our Arboretum; an introduction to using Microsoft Word; or a lesson in flower arranging; a single lesson; and we are sure that there are many, many more hidden talents at St Denys.
The Time and Auctions. Auction will be followed by a cheese and wine supper, to allow the successful bidders to arrange their time or talent. We will also be raising a glass to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the evening of her official 90th birthday.
Tickets for the Time and Talents Cheese and Wine cost £5.00.
Please come along and see what's on offer. There might be something you have wanted help with but didn't know where to go!
If you would like tickets please contact curate@stdenys.org.uk or admin@stdenys.org.uk.

ST JOSEPH’S CHURCH UPPINGHAM ROAD
Pope Francis launched a humanitarian initiative for the people of Ukraine in the form of a special collection to be taken in all Catholic churches in Europe on Sunday 24th April and here at St Joseph’s the collection was £335 in addition to our normal weekly offering.
On 30th April there is a Day of Reflection and Prayer for Eucharistic Ministers of Leicester and Leicestershire. Our guests spent the day in the Church and Pastoral Centre where they enjoyed an uplifting and definitely contemplative visit.
The big new venture at St Joseph’s is “St Joseph’s Street” with hot and cold food prepared to order from 10.30am to 3.30pm every Tuesday and Wednesday. It is hoped that this will be the somewhere to meet old and new friends in the friendly and calm atmosphere of our Parish Centre. A warm welcome to be offered to all, of any religion and none. The Lourdes garden and other facilities, will be accessible including the Watermead shop and our religious library. Times of services are detailed on our website where there is a useful link for the church opening hours (it’s online)

NEW PRIEST IN CHARGE OF ST PHILIP’S EVINGTON, AND ST PETER’S HIGHLANDS
On the evening of 10th May, in the church of St Peter’s Highlands, a service, presided over by the Assistant Bishop of Leicester, the Rt Revd. Christopher Boyle, celebrated the Licensing and Installation of the Rev’d. Jonathan Surridge as the Priest in Charge of the parishes of St Philip’s, Evington, and St Peter’s Highlands.
In addition to the local clergy, other clergy from the Diocese and the Lord Mayor of Leicester, Councillor Ted Cassidy, representatives of other faiths and local civic dignitaries, each in turn, added their welcome to the Rev’d. Jonathan.
Rev’d Jonathan said that thrilled he is to be joining St Philip’s and St Peter’s at this exciting time in the church’s lives. Both churches have a rich history of welcoming and helping in their communities, regardless of their faiths. On his visits to St Philip’s he has been heartened to see the church building used so actively by so many in the Lord Monarch, and looks forward to being part of this ongoing service of faith, through Jesus Christ, and invites us all to join with him.

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Telephone: 01162733355
Text only mobile - 07758183592
Tel. Leicester: 2128759

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0116 273 4027

ST HELENS CHURCH EVINGTON ROAD
Some news for us all. Bennett’s Shop in the Village has closed. We are sorry to lose this valuable addition to our Village life. If you have anything that you would like to sell and do not have a car the shop owner will be very happy to collect it for you. Thank you for your custom over the years.

Prior to this new appointment Jonathan served for four years as Curate at St Mary’s, Hinckley. Before his calling to the ministry he studied and worked in senior management in the Environmental Services industry.
Rev’d Jonathan is married to Hilary, who is als...
EVINGTON-GROWN GOURMET MASTERCHEF APPLICANT

Twenty three year old Zainab Tarasahomed, of Newhaven Road has lived in Evington all her life. She attended Whitehill Primary School and the City of Leicester College and entered the Masterchef competition last year, narrowly missing out on the live shows.

She started cooking professionally just a few months ago. She has cooked for friends and networks before, and was offered an opportunity to cater for four gourmet evenings at Cafe Blends, which she thoroughly enjoyed.

Zainab’s menus at Cafe Blends have included delicious starters such as handmade beetroot ravioli, chicken Caesar salad croquettes as well as smoked lamb chops with a reduced pomegranate sauce.

“It’s all about knowing which ingredients go together,” Zainab explained, something she got perfectly right when she cooked mains too, peppered steak on a sweet potato purée being just one of them.

Some of the desserts she has made for the gourmet evenings have included coconut infused panna cotta and crème brulee, described as “positively scrumptious” by the Editor of the Echo, who thoroughly enjoyed her three course meal.

Her favourite part of cooking is the presentation, and the thrill of rush, Zainab loves watching cooking programs. In particular she started her cooking a few years ago when she met her housebound for some time.

Zainab got into cooking by watching her mother cook. She helped her and asked to make a meal with a positive ‘yes’ from her mother. The first meal Zainab made was chicken with a butter sauce (Butter Chicken). Her favourite chef is Marco Pierre White but she also likes Gordon Ramsay.

When Zainab applied for Masterchef last year, she cooked spinach and ricotta tortellini with lemon and basil, along with parmesan crisp complete with a little truffle oil. Zainab has also been invited to cater for private parties and her ideal three-course menu would be: Starter: a ravioli dish, Main: pan-fried chicken and for dessert: Panna cotta.

Zainab can be contacted through Instagram at zainabnaeem or her blog link is chefzainab.blogspot.co.uk.

Maryam Panchbhaya, age 10.

OPENING NIGHT AT THE DOVE WITH CELEBRITY ATTENDANCE

After a hectic few weeks having a complete refurbishment. The Dove Public House on Downing Drive opened its doors on Thursday March 24th to a crowd of local guests and two Tigers’ stars for a charity opening night.

Proprietor Dan and the team were pleased to welcome local residents and guests to meet celebrity rugby players Matt Smith and Tom Coft. They signed autographs and enjoyed providing plenty of information in a lively Q and A session.

The team mates share a testimonial year after 10 years with the club and were pleased to be able to visit The Dove and to do something to raise funds for The Matt Hampson Foundation. Over £3500 was raised and goes to the charity which was formed after Matt suffered a spinal injury playing rugby and now helps to support people who have had an accident while taking part in sport.

It was described how plans for the pub are developing for its community use and some local clubs are already starting to hold meetings there. Quiz and music nights are regular events and the restaurant is becoming popular, with a variety of menus.

On warmer evenings during the summer customers will be enjoying their drinks in the pub garden surrounded by flowers growing in the new beds. Joining up with the ‘Evington in Bloom’ campaign Dan has planned a colourful display of hanging baskets to decorate the front of the building. The pub will be viewed by the Royal Horticultural Society East Midlands in Bloom judges in July and for Britain in Bloom during the tour of Evington on August 30th.

Good luck to them for the special category awards for public houses.

FABIO CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

This picture was taken inside Fabio’s hairdressing salon on Saturday 7th May, when many clients came along to celebrate with the owner, Sue Saben, and staff, Nicky Parkinson, Steph Miller, Lyn Hatton and Sharon Soulsby. Sue said, “It has been fun running this hairdressing salon in Evington and I would like to thank the people of Evington and all my loyal clients.

The handbag stall and the raffle inside the shop raised £255 for Loros hospice.