

**Reports attached, as presented or made available to the Eydon Parish  
Assembly on Tuesday 20 April 2010:-**

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## **EYDON FIRST WEDNESDAY CLUB**

At the Club's recent A.G.M. the Chairman reported upon a successful year in 2009 with an increasing membership, excellent speakers at the monthly meetings and a healthy set of accounts and balance sheet.

In addition to normal monthly meetings in the Village Hall and special events, club members organised and ran two stalls raising £347 at the Village Fete for the Church and Village Hall. There was an afternoon outing for a Garden Party at 'Takoradi' with the opportunity to view the gardens at 'The Old Rectory' and later in the year a visit to Barn Farm Plants, the garden centre at Wardington. The traditional annual sale in the Spring helped to bolster club funds and assisted with costs for the annual outing in July which was well supported for a trip to the Black Country Living Museum at Dudley which included canal trips and a descent into a coal mine for the venturesome ones. The year concluded with an excellent Christmas lunch and hospitality for 35 members and their guests, at the Red Lion in Culworth.

Club meetings are generally held in the Village Hall on the afternoon of the first Wednesday of the month and visitors are always very welcome to come along to hear speakers and enjoy light refreshments and a chat afterwards. See Eydon Village News for meeting details or contact David Kench (264046).

## **EYDON EDUCATIONAL TRUST FUND (Registered Charity No. 309866)**

### **TRUSTEES REPORT FOR 2009 TO THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**

#### **AIMS AND PURPOSES**

The aims of the Trust are to promote the education of young people under the age of 25 who, or whose parents, live in the parish of Eydon and who are in need of financial assistance. This can be put towards scholarships, bursaries or grants at any school, college, university or place of further education, or it may be to assist with the purchase of clothing, tools, or books or to undertake educational travel, or to prepare to enter any trade or profession upon leaving their place of education. The trustees will be pleased to give advice upon whether or not expenditure might be considered eligible within the terms of the trust and will deal confidentially with any enquiries or applications.

#### **ASSETS AND INCOME**

The original assets of the trust are non-disposable and are invested by the Official Custodian for Charities in the Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF) which is currently managed by CCLA Investment Management Ltd. In recent years the capital growth of the fund has fallen back sharply, but in 2009 the interest from the COIF investment has remained the same as in 2008.

The disposable assets of the trust are wholly held in a National Savings Investment Account, which receives quarterly interest from the investment with COIF, together with annual interest from the Investment Account itself. The interest from the Savings account has been reduced by approximately £30 and overall income has therefore reduced accordingly. Detailed accounts are available from the treasurer (Mr D Kench) who is at the village assembly to answer any questions about the finances of the EETF. We expect to be able to distribute about £250-£300 this year.

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS, GRANTS & PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The Charitable Trust has now seen its Silver Jubilee - during that time 109 grants, totalling over £12,000, have been made to young people from the village to assist them with their education. In 2009 only 2 applications were received and grants totalling £260 were paid towards books and equipment. Due to postal strikes and the Christmas Holidays these will be recorded in the 2010 accounts.

#### **PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION**

The availability and criteria for grants were publicised during the year, both at the Annual Parish Assembly and in the Village Newsletter. In order that grants could be assessed and budgeted for in a fair manner, taking into account the Trust's limited resources, applications were invited and then considered in the autumn following the start of the new academic year.

#### **CHAIR**

Rev'd Tim Oakley  
(Ex-Officio Trustee)  
The Vicarage  
Woodford Halse

#### **HON. SECRETARY**

Joe Ellis  
(Parish Council Nominative Trustee)  
6 Preston Road  
Eydon

#### **HON. TREASURER**

David Kench  
(Co-optative Trustee)  
20 High Street  
Eydon

## 1. ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2009 TO 31 DECEMBER 2009

<b>RECEIPTS</b> (2008)	<b>2009</b>	<b>(2008)</b>	<b>PAYMENTS</b>	<b>2009</b>
Interest COIF (300.00)	387.05	(387.05)	Grants (see footnote)	
Interest NSB	<u>3.28</u>	(33.53)	Excess income over expenditure.	<u>390.33</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£390.33</u></b>	<b>(420.58)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£390.33</u></b>

## 2. GAINS & LOSSES IN 2009:

Valuation of COIF Investment at 31.12.09	8,750.24	
Valuation of COIF Investment at 31.12.08	<u>8,040.58</u>	
Unrealised gain on investment during 2009 ( 2782.79 loss)		709.66
Add excess income over payments during 2009		<u>390.33</u>
<b>Total gain for 2009</b> ( 2662.21 loss)		<b><u>£1,099.99</u></b>

## 3. BALANCE SHEET FOR 1 JANUARY 2009 TO 31 DECEMBER 2009

### ASSETS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009:

National Savings Bank Investment Account	1,448.95	(1058.62)
Charities Official Investment Fund	<u>8,750.24</u>	(8,040.58)
<b>Total Assets at 31.12.09</b>	<b><u>£10,199.19</u></b>	<b>(9,099.20)</b>

### FINANCED BY:

Balance b/f from 31.12.2008	9,099.20	
Plus total gain for 2009	<u>1,099.99</u>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b><u>£10,199.19</u></b>	<b>(9,099.20 )</b>

Chairman	Hon. Secretary	Hon.
Treasurer		
(Ex-Officio Trustee)	(Nominative Trustee)	(Co-Optative
Trustee)		
Rev. Tim Oakley	Joe Ellis	David Kench

**N.B.** Grants totalling £260 were approved in early December 2009 but, due to postal strikes and Christmas mail delays, were not recorded by the Bank until January and will therefore be shown in the 2010 accounts. March 2010.

## **EYDON BOOK GROUP**

This year has seen a couple of new members joining the group which continues to flourish. Books read this year include:

Sue Monk Kid - The Secret Life of Bees, a beautifully written book which interweaves the racial tensions on '60s America with the story of a young white girl dealing with the death of her mother, the loss of whom comes between her and her father, a compelling and thought provoking story which got us all talking. We also read Fanny Flagg - Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle stop café, unlike the film which was ambiguous about the lesbian relationship between Idgie and Ruth the book is not so reticent. The book is really two stories, one about Evelyn, a middle aged housewife and the other the stories told her about the people who lived in her home town by Ninny, a woman in her eighties. It received a mixed reception from group members but also provoked much discussion. David Mitchell's - Black Swan Green, Jonathan Buckley's - So he takes the Dog and Barbara Vine's - The Chimney Sweeper's Boy were also among the books we read this year.

Forth coming titles include the potentially controversial Haruki Murakami's Kafka on the Shore and The Hero's Walk by Anita Rau Badami

Eight years since we started and we are still reading a wide variety of books. Meetings are relaxed, lively and informative, members choosing our reading material from favourite books, recommendations or book reviews. The times and venue for meetings do vary, so please check with Sonia (01327 261059) or Sue (01327 261068) if you would like to come along - you will be most welcome and you could suggest some new authors for us to try.

## **EYDON VILLAGE HALL**

The Village Hall, situated on the High Street serves a valuable purpose as a meeting place for the various village organisations and is also used throughout the year by many residents for private functions. The hall was used last year on more than 150 occasions for events by hirers as diverse as Humpty Dumpty's and the British Legion. Notably twice yearly the hall is turned into a theatre for Eydon Players excellent productions.

The hall is run by a committee made up of elected volunteers and representatives from organisations that use the hall regularly. The hall is now over 80 years old and maintenance is a constant and expensive problem. During 2009, repairs have been made to the window frames and the meeting room re-carpeted. Revenue is raised from hire charges, the annual village fete (shared with the church) and some very successful fund raising events organised by committee members. These have included the Christmas Gift Fayre, Ballroom dancing, a Blues evening and Space Hoppers for the children.

A part time caretaker, committee members and, where necessary, contracted tradesmen carry out maintenance of the Hall. In addition some village residents have given freely of their time and expertise to carry out valuable work, for which the committee are very grateful.

Eydon Village Hall is available for hire for private or public functions; bookings can be made by contacting the Village Hall Secretary: Judith Watson 01327 261220

## **EYDON GARDEN SOCIETY**

In 2009, the Eydon Garden Society sadly lost its Secretary/Treasurer, Chris Yates, who together with Mary Hawes and a few other interested parties founded the Eydon Garden Society about 25 years ago. Sue Yates volunteered to take over and anyone wishing to join the society should contact Sue at 59 High Street.

The Eydon Garden Society organises a seed and compost order for the benefit of its members, who receive a copy of Dobies Catalogue in October each year. By buying as a member of a group, large discounts are available.

In May, the society runs a Bring and Buy Plant Sale outside the village hall to raise funds or to make a donation to charity. Last September, as part of the village fete, the Garden Society ran a very successful Bring and Buy Produce stall which raised £140.

The Fete also included a small Flower and Vegetable Show, which is to be repeated this year under the auspices of the Garden Society. Details will be available at the May Sale.

Judith Watson  
Chairman  
Eydon Garden Society

## **EYDON PLAYERS AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

Founded in 1989 and based at the Village Hall in the High Street, Eydon Players has regularly provided the village with live entertainment. In general, there are two public productions each year; a play or musical in May and the pantomime in early December. These are well supported by the village. In particular, the pantomime is very popular and often sells out. Rehearsals take place at the Village Hall on Monday and Wednesday. Also there is a members' fund-raising/social evening in September, a dinner in January / February and a Garden Party in July. These are open to guests and prospective members.

Drama apart, the Eydon Players have also supported village fêtes, the Millennium celebrations and the 2002 Jubilee by providing entertainment. Donations to children's charities are also made on a regular basis. There is an active social side to the society. Visits are made to other groups' productions and to other events of interest. After rehearsals, there is often an extended "discussion session" at the local hostelry, the Royal Oak.

The Players latest production was the pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk" by Damian Trasler, David Lovesy and Steve Clark, which took place at the beginning of December 2009 and was well supported by the village. The next event is "Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street" by C G Bond. Tickets will be on sale from the middle of April.

New members are always welcome.

Contact: Hon. Secretary: Judith Watson Tel 01327 261220 or go to our web site [www.eydonplayers.com](http://www.eydonplayers.com) for full and up to date information about the society.



## **EYDON CRICKET CLUB REPORT FOR 2009 SEASON**

2009 again saw a young side play some exiting cricket . Many of the team have been playing for several years and are still only in their teens or early 20`s, indeed at Barton Abbey, Ed Hill was the `senior pro` at the age of 20.

While it is great to see such a young and enthusiastic group play their sport, they would all benefit from the addition of an older more experienced player in their midst. To that end we would very much welcome any new-comers to the area who consider themselves to be `cricketers`.

The standard of cricket being played has risen with the maturing of the team and Eydon CC are now seeking stronger fixtures to maintain that standard. Although that does not mean there will not be places in the team for local residents who fancy a game.

For the record, we played 14 fixtures last season, winning 9, losing 4 and drawing 1. In addition Eydon entered 2 teams into the Byfield 6-a-side one of which won the tournament.

This season we are lucky to have `adopted` Barry McRoberts and Bob Taylor as groundsmen, and no doubt we will be as indebted to them as we are to the wonderful ladies who supply the renowned match teas.

We are now looking forward to another successful season.

Bay Harper  
Crockwell Farm  
01327 361358

## **EYDON LADIES**

Our growing membership may reflect the varied and interesting programme we endeavour to produce each year for members and guests. We continue to meet on the third Wednesday of every month, usually in the village hall at 8pm.

One of the highlights of Eydon Ladies year is the harvest supper each October. It is a lively occasion with as many people as we can muster enjoying home cooked food with wine and raising funds for charity. 2009 was a bumper year for this, with the Cold Stream Guards welfare fund benefitting from £500 in total.

Outdoor activities included a visit to the fascinating Broughton Castle, our annual Eydon Ladies Challenge and bbq, a taste of bell ringing in Eydon church and bowling at Byfield bowls club. How energetic and lucky with the weather we were! Plus a delicious Christmas meal at the Red Lion, Culworth.

In February we were folk dancing in the best Kentucky tradition; in March we were cooked for by Divine Dining and in April Peter Unsworth kept us spellbound with an insight of his month volunteering in Nepal accompanied by Caroline Bedford. Coming indoors again in September we tried to practice yoga and in November willow or straw stars and angels were the aim under the guidance of master craftsman Bert Manton.

A full list of meetings for 2010, plus further information of previous years can be found on our web site: [eydon.org.uk](http://eydon.org.uk). Membership is open to all ladies, annual fee £15; contact Sue Russell(262728) or any current member.

## **St NICHOLAS CHURCH, EYDON**

*Rector:*

**The Rev Tim Oakley: 01327 261 477**

*Churchwardens:*

**Robin Whitfield: 01327 263 007**

**Sue Yates: 01327 260 503**

Please visit our Web Site for details of Services and Events:

[www.achurchnearyou.com/eydon](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/eydon)

2009/2010 has been an important time for St Nicholas' church because our Rector, the Reverend Tim Oakley, retires in August 2010. After this, the Church will enter an 'interregnum', which is a period in which a church has no licensed clergy, and so we are reliant, as a Parish, on organising 'Lay-Led' services ('Lay' meaning non-ordained persons, meaning that we will have fewer Communion services, which only Ordained Clergy can lead), and will be seeking retired or visiting clergy to take some services for us. An interregnum can last a few months, or take longer, during which time the PCC will research, advertise, interview and appoint our next Rector. Additionally, with the simultaneous retirement of the Vicar of Byfield, we face the strong probability that we will combine with Byfield, Boddington and Aston-le-Walls, which will take us from a two to a five Parish Benefice. This itself will provide challenges and opportunities for us, not least in continuing to provide regular services in Eydon.

The PCC, Churchwardens and Rector are having a busy time planning for the future, which is involving consultation both with the Parishioners of Eydon, and the Rural Dean (Revd Canon Roger Bellamy) and the Archdeacon (Venerable Christine Allsopp) who will be responsible for many of the key decisions about the way we move to the future. Please attend the Church AGM in the church on Monday, 19th April at 7.30 pm to give your views on what you need from your Church, and advise us how best we can shape the Church to serve the Parish.

Otherwise, Eydon Village Church continues its work to provide outreach and support to as many people in the village as possible in a variety of ways. In 2009 we ran a number of courses including further 'Marriage Preparation' and 'Marriage Courses', which continue to be popular and for which future courses are planned.

The children's Sunday Club continues to thrive under the imaginative leadership of Karen Hamblett, Sam Ellis and their team, with many imaginative themes being studied. Efforts to make the church a welcoming and comfortable place for families includes the availability of toys, musical instruments and children's books, along with a dedicated play area.

The library continues to be a well-used village resource with around 400 books on all subjects being available for free loan, to all ages. Book loan is free and unlimited, and there is something for everyone in the collection.

## Eydon Parish Assembly, Annual Reports 2010

The Church Website now has more than 100 regular hits per month, and we are now able to include more information to visitors than ever before. The site is hosted by the Church of England, and we plan to supplement this excellent resource with our own dedicated site soon, which will include more details on historical as well as Ministerial matters.

With many churches struggling to provide regular Sunday services, we are proud to be able to provide a service of Worship every Sunday, and plan to do everything in our power to maintain this into the Interregnum. 2009 saw continued growth in the relaxed and traditional Christmas Candlelit Carol Service and the Christingle service, as well as Palm Sunday and Easter celebrations.

Details of these different services can be found in the notices in the church porch and on the web site.

2009 saw Barrie Griffin step down after five years hard work as churchwarden, as well as six years as Treasurer. His hard work has been much appreciated by the PCC and the community, and very many thanks go to Barrie for all of his contributions to church matters as churchwarden and beyond

Barrie's place has been take by Sue Yates, who, with her wealth of experience in Church matters including the Worship Team and Sunday Club, combined with her knowledge of village matters and folk has already been of immeasurable help and value. Thanks are extended to Sue for taking on this important role at such a critical time for the Church.

Other village events have included the Village Fete which brings everyone together (whatever the weather!), and is jointly organised on behalf of the Village Hall and St Nicholas' Church. It was once again kindly hosted by Carole and Tim Stamper and their family in Eydon Park. Tim and Carole are hugely supportive of both the Church and the wider community, and we are hugely grateful for their continued expertise and generosity in fete and other matters.

We continue to seek occasional organists for our services. If you would like to play the organ either as a one-off or more then please contact either the Rector, Tim Oakley, or either of the churchwardens, Sue Yates or Robin Whitfield, who, with the help of the PCC and the community, intend to maintain St. Nicholas' Church as an important part of village life and an amenity for all to enjoy.

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT**

Rosie Blanshard, Kevin Lodge and I are continuing our efforts to ensure that Eydon is an unfriendly place - for opportunistic criminals. Please don't hinder our efforts by leaving valuable items such as ipods and sat.navs. visible in your cars as this contributes to making the village a 'soft' target. You know who you are - in the High Street!

Rosie is the NHW representative on the Parish Council; Kevin ensures that information regarding local incidents is provided promptly, to maximise your chances of remembering details of people or vehicles which may be relevant and help with police identification. We encourage everyone to sign up for this information service, preferably by email. Likewise we continue to encourage you all to report any suspicious sightings, as soon as possible; information given to us is passed promptly to the police and may be of use to them in solving crimes in neighbouring areas. We would rather have false alarms than lose valuable information, which may lead directly to an arrest.

Details of how to contact us and join the NHW information service will be in this month's (April) issue of Village News.

Now we have a new opportunity to win the fight against crime. SmartWater Forensic Marking has been a key factor in the police's significant reduction in serious acquisitive crime. You may be aware that it is commonly used to mark the lead on church roofs, including our own St Nicholas'. It is a colourless liquid solution that you simply dab on to the uneven surfaces of your valuables. Each bottle contains a unique forensic 'code' which is registered to the owner's address. This code is stored on a secure database together with the owner's details making them uniquely identifiable. Once dry, SmartWater is virtually impossible to remove and will glow under ultraviolet light – making it easily identifiable by the police. It irrefutably links criminals to the crime scene and property back to its owner. It is used by 95% of UK police forces and there is a 100% conviction rate wherever it has been used as evidence in a court of law.

Any prisoner brought into custody, property either recovered from suspects or handed in, as 'found' property, is checked. Every patrol vehicle and all burglary search kits have a UV kit on board. Secondhand shops and Cash Converters in the area are being issued with UV lamps and are being encouraged to sign agreements to check property before they accept it. Furthermore Trading Standards officers, equipped with UV lamps, are now visiting secondhand shops across the county as part of the Operation Guardian High Visibility days you may have read about in the local press.

Northamptonshire Police strongly support forensic marking as a key part of their crime reduction strategy. Members of Neighbourhood Watch Groups registered on the Community Messaging System are eligible for the reduced price SmartWater kit at £15 plus packaging and postage when bought in amounts of 10 or more.

If you would like to order a kit please let me know on [cbedford2006@btinternet.com](mailto:cbedford2006@btinternet.com) or phone me on 01327 262706. I will repeat these details in the May issue of Village News, and hope that we will be able to place an order for kits at the reduced price very soon.

Caroline Bedford, Eydon Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.