



October 2026

60p

FREE by email (details below)

FOLLOW US

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The Hilltop Newsletter



BUSSAGE WITH EASTCOMBE,
CHALFORD AND
FRANCE LYNCH

HARVEST SERVICE AND LUNCH

SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER
BUSSAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

11AM SERVICE
FOLLOWED BY LUNCH
(AT APPROXIMATELY 12PM)

PLEASE EMAIL ANY ENQUIRIES TO
BUSSAGECHURCHWARDEN@GMAIL.COM



Carol Lambert unveiled the plaque to her late husband, Alex

A FITTING TRIBUTE

More than 40 people had an enjoyable evening at September's Hilltop Film Club.

Before the film, Carol Lambert unveiled a Community Support Plaque to celebrate the positive contribution her husband Alex made to the running of Eastcombe Village Hall and the community. As the plaque says:

'He helped to make Eastcombe what it is today'.

The next Hilltop Film Club takes place on Saturday 17th October and promises to be another great community event. All are welcome.



DOUBLE (DECKER) TROUBLE!

There was an unscheduled stop for a double decker bus at Eastcombe on 9th September.

It appears that the driver took a wrong turn, branching off the main road and arriving in the centre of Eastcombe.

The driver attempted to circumnavigate the green, but found the corners rather too tight, resulting in damage to the bus and a parked car before the bus was able to make its way back to the main road.

Photographs courtesy of Gordon Braint.



Chalford Parish Local History Group

LOCAL HISTORY EXHIBITION DROP IN

Photos, Maps, Books, Stories, Research

Sat. 3 Oct. 2-4.30pm
+ Refreshments

France Lynch Church Rooms
Everyone welcome **Free!**

HILLTOP GARDENING CLUB AUTUMN SHOW

The 40th annual Hilltop Gardening Show on Saturday 12th September showcased the efforts of a long, hot summer, with a fantastic display of fruit, vegetables, flowers, photographs, baking and preserves.

Photographs courtesy of Alison Braint.

NEW-TO-EASTCOMBE COFFEE MORNING

New to the village? Fancy meeting other newcomers (plus some of us who have been around a while!)?

Come to The Lamb Inn on Saturday 3rd October, 10-11.30am.

Enjoy coffee & home-made cake & discover all the village activities on offer.

For more details contact cissions52@gmail.com

For a FREE digital copy of the newsletter every month, contact adminhilltopnewsletter@gmail.com.

Printed copies, 60p each, available from **Eastcombe Stores & Post Office, Frith Community Café & Chalford Sports & Social Club.**

Please send items for the November newsletter to eastcombenewsletter@btinternet.com

BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL NEWS: EASTCOMBE WARD

www.bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk/ Contact the Clerk: admin@bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk

Trees, Trees, Trees – Prior to the last PC meeting, John Parker who is the Chief Executive Officer for the Arboricultural Association gave a short presentation on trees. The talk covered topics such as the impact of climate change, pests and diseases, replanting with native vs non-native species and tree preservation orders. The talk was well attended by members of the public and it was agreed that John should be invited back at a future date to give a more detailed presentation and to give more time for questions etc. This will be arranged by the PC but will not coincide with a PC meeting. Details of the venue and time will be made available once they are confirmed.

Village Green – Improved Access: Following the successful application for several grants from GCC, the Ancient Parish of Bisley, the National Lottery and the Eastcombe Village Group we now have sufficient funds for this project to proceed. We have engaged a local contractor and it is hoped that this work will be completed by the end of September.

Gloucestershire Bleed Kit Partnership: At the September meeting, Lewis Whitter from Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service gave a talk about the new initiative to promote the installation of 'Bleed Kits' throughout the county. So far 22 kits have been installed within Gloucestershire and its hoped to install over 150 within the year. They are not just for knife crime but for any serious bleeds. In addition, Stroud Town Council are to install a knife amnesty bin shortly to support this initiative. The bleed kits can be installed into existing defibrillator units and prices range from £45-£55 (lower quality) to £85 (recommended). The Parish Council will get more information and take this forward for discussion and possible approval at a future meeting. Any thoughts or comments on this subject are welcomed.

Housing Needs Survey: We have received the Draft Report for the Housing Needs Survey which was conducted earlier this year. The report has been read by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and this resulted in the raising of several queries with the report's author. We are expecting the final report within the next few weeks and this will be published on our website.

Parish Council Vacancy: There is still a vacancy in the Eastcombe Ward for a Parish Councillor. If you would like to find out more about the role of a Parish Councillor, please contact either myself or the clerk.

Next Meeting: Bisley Village Hall on Wednesday 7th October, at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

Mike: mike.eccott@bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk

CHALFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Chalford Parish Centre, 50 Gerald's Way,
GL6 8FJ; 01453 887204 info@chalford-glos.gov.uk
www.chalford-glos.gov.uk. [Facebook](#).



Cowcombe Hill: We have been advised of an important change to the planned works on A419 Cowcombe Hill. The main works have now been deferred until November 2027, shortly after the cattle come in off the common. **There will, however, be a temporary closure from Tuesday 29th September to Friday 9th October 2026 for geotechnical testing to be carried out.**

Allotments: We have allotment plots available! If you've ever thought about taking on a plot, now is the time to get involved and reap the many benefits that allotmenting has to offer, from growing fresh fruit and vegetables to enjoying regular outdoor exercise. It's a fantastic way to relax, unwind, and improve your mental wellbeing. Allotments also foster a sense of community, as plot holders share tips, tools and harvests with each other. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or a complete beginner, taking on an allotment is a rewarding and sustainable way to enjoy the outdoors and grow your own produce. If you are interested or would like to find out more, please contact Karen on (01453) 887204 or email assistantclerk@chalford-glos.gov.uk



Fix my Street: Reminder to residents to use the following link www.fixmystreet.com to report or view local problems with potholes, roads, footpaths, verges and street lighting. The more information you give and the more reports logged helps strengthen the case for action.

The emergency contact number is 08000 514 514

EASTCOMBE WI



At our July meeting, a welcome from Jackie was followed by our speaker Phil Collins, who took us on a history tour of Sudeley Castle in Winchcombe. Phil started doing Punch and Judy shows in the grounds but now is a guide at the castle. It is the only privately owned house with its own chapel, with a Queen of England buried there.

Occupied from medieval times, the castle was an abbey until the Tudor era. It was given as a Manor House by Ethelred and passed to John de Sudeley who built it into a castle with a moat, a tithe barn and a chapel. The castle was taken by Edward VI during the Wars of the Roses and then owned by Richard III, then Henry VIII, who passed to his last wife Katherine Parr, who is buried in the chapel. Following the dissolution of the monasteries, stones from the abbey were used in houses in the town of Winchcombe. The Civil war saw the castle reduced to ruins by Cromwell's forces.

Bought in 1837 by two gentlemen, Sudeley was transformed by money from the Dent Gloves family. Emma Dent married a Brocklehurst, the first High Sheriff and an uncle of Queen Camilla, the second Queen to be associated with Sudeley. In WW2, Sudeley housed national paintings and staff, and was a prisoner of war camp.

Now owned by an American lady, Sudeley covers 1200 acres, has a farm and elephants made from Latana wood as a conservation project.

After much applause our business meeting ended our evening.

Next meeting: Tuesday 20th October, 7.15pm, Eastcombe Village Hall



EASTCOMBE PRIMARY SCHOOL

I have had the warmest of welcomes as the new Headteacher of Eastcombe Primary School and I'm blessed with truly great teachers and support staff. I may have the privilege of leading one of the county's smallest primary schools but what I'm learning very quickly is how that brings bespoke support for each and every child.

We've been eagerly reviewing our school motto: Aim High, Believe and Achieve and everyone is setting themselves targets for the year ahead. I've spotted a Year 2 pupil determined to go up two book bands and a Year 5 pupil wanting to know ALL her times tables. I admire their ambitions but now starts the hard work.

Already pupils have been enjoying swimming each week and our Year 5&6 have been on an extraordinary trip where they not only dressed as evacuees but saved us from a spy who had infiltrated the train – who said role play wasn't positive?! Immersing themselves in their History theme of WWII not only supported their historical understanding but supports detailed writing back in the classroom.

I'll be developing our use of Facebook to share lots more wonderful learning and achievements so do please keep an eye out – just got to get the login details first!

This is the season when parents of 3 and 4 year olds start the mission of finding a school that suits their child... If you're looking for a warm, friendly and supportive primary school for your child why not come along for a tour? I can share all the wonderful provision with you as well as my plans for the coming years. You might even get to meet our school dog, Pretzel!

We're also on the look out for additional governors, so if you are passionate to see youngsters achieve their potential and have time to spare for monthly meetings drop us an email: admin@eastcombe.gloucs.sch.uk

Mrs Folker, headteacher

DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

Local Government Reorganisation: We thought we knew the future of local government in Gloucestershire: The Government told us in July that a single unitary council would replace the current county, district and borough councils, including Stroud District Council. Elections to the new council would take place in May 2027 and, after a year of 'shadowing', in April 2028 the new authority would take over and replace all existing councils. Millions of pounds and countless officer hours have been spent preparing for this transition. On September 7th, the Government (now under new management), told us to halt the work while they reconsider. So now, we don't know what will become of SDC and the rest, and what authority will provide all the services that we and GCC have provided to residents – and will continue to provide, at least until 2028. By the time you read this, a decision may have been made (again) and we will know. To learn more please see the website futuregloucestershire.org.uk

Youth Action Plan: Community Services and Licensing Committee in September adopted a plan to work with Stroud Community Youth Action Network, The Door, Family Action, and other local organisations to 'support children and young people aged 11-25 to be happy, healthy, safe, included and empowered to enable them to develop and strive to be the best they can be'. Details can be seen in the committee papers on stroud.gov.uk

Public Drinking: The Committee also approved renewal of Public Safety Protection Orders prohibiting drinking alcohol in the centres of Stroud and Dursley. These are used by council officers and police, as much to offer help to those drinking in the street as to 'enforce', and were widely supported in a public consultation over the summer.

Please don't hesitate to contact me about anything district council-related:

Martin Brown:

cllr.martin.brown@stroud.gov.uk 01452 770878



CHALFORD MARKET

CRAFTY & DELICIOUS @ CHALFORD

Sunday 4th October

Sunday 1st November

Sunday 6th December

EASTCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

Having secured a 35-year lease we are seeking two key roles to help take the Village Hall forward for the future.

VACANCIES:

We are looking for a Trustee to support us in stewarding the affairs of the Village Hall.

We are also in need of a Secretary to the trustees and committee.

This is a key post, but not onerous in its scope.

The role of Secretary involves recording and compiling meeting minutes (3 times a year) which we are now looking to undertake through an 'app' recording the meeting which then converts to text file and produces the minutes for review prior to issue. Taking ownership of this function is the main requirement.

Further duties will involve supporting the trustees with a small amount of file keeping - again electronically and maintaining information for statutory compliance, in conjunction with both the Chair and Finance trustees.

If any of these challenges excite you, or for further information, please contact:

07958761507 or cliftoncolin@gmail.com

Colin Clifton: Chair Eastcombe Village Hall

CHALFORD PARISH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Our next monthly meeting will be on **Wednesday 21 October at 7.30pm in the France Lynch Church Rooms**. Well-known local historian and author, Howard Beard, will be telling us about **'Bisley's Edwardian Photographer - Frederick Major.'**

Frederick Major was one of two Edwardian photographers based in Bisley. His patch was mainly the village itself and surrounding parishes, plus Stroud. He was active up until at least the end of World War One. Especially notable was his excellent coverage of the Great Snow of 1916.

Admission £2 on the door (cash only please), all welcome.

A reminder that on Saturday 3 October we will be holding our first **Local History Exhibition and drop-in afternoon**, hoping to emulate the success of similar events held by the Eastcombe Group. Come along to France Lynch Church Rooms between 2 and 4.30pm for displays of photos, maps and our research into graveyards, schools, and the building of the Manor Farm Estate, along with much more. See poster on the front page.

Help us to identify photos from the SNJ archives (among others) and share your memories of growing up in the Parish in the 50s, 60s and 70s for our next book.

Tea, coffee, and cake will be available and admission is free.

Visit www.chalfordparishlocalhistorygroup.org.uk/.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT JOINING
EASTCOMBE WI?

TRY US—YOU MAY BE SURPRISED!

WE MEET THE THIRD TUESDAY IN THE MONTH
7.15PM AT EASTCOMBE VILLAGE HALL



allsorts
For families who have children
with additional needs
2026 DESIGNATED CHARITY



OUR REGULAR EVENTS ARE:

Guest speakers at our monthly meeting, plus a raffle
Monthly Lunch Club
Book Club
Scrabble & Craft Afternoon
Trips—Missing Link, Chavenage House (others in the pipeline)



TRY US!



For further information contact

Jackie Harris, President 07840 244803 email jaquieboyd@hotmail.com
or
Jean Buxton, Secretary 07817 441363 email jeanabuxton@hotmail.co.uk

COOKERY CORNER

Tricia Dunbar shares her recipe for
AZTEC STEW

A delicious, satisfying meal for vegetarians and non-vegetarians alike. The recipe is from a course at Woodruffs I attended many years ago. Complete on its own, this dish doesn't need rice or anything else.



INGREDIENTS:

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 medium onions, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 small red, orange or yellow pepper, diced
- 1 sweet potato, peeled & chopped
- 1 chilli, seeded & finely chopped *or* 2 teaspoon chilli powder
- 2 teaspoon oregano
- 2 teaspoon cumin
- 1 teaspoon coriander
- 1 tin chopped tomatoes
- 500 ml vegetable stock
- 1 tin black beans or 100g dry beans, soaked & cooked
- Tin sweetcorn, drained (fresh or frozen)
- Juice of 1 lime
- Salt and pepper

To garnish

- Sour cream (or plain yoghurt) & coriander tortilla chips (I use the cheapest Sainsbury's brand which I prefer to the strong flavours of other brands).

METHOD:

1. In a soup pot, over medium heat, heat oil and add onions. Cook until onions are translucent.
2. Add garlic, red pepper, sweet potato and chili, cook for 5 minutes.
3. Add spices and heat for a minute or two then add the tomatoes, stock, black beans, sweetcorn and stock. Cover and bring to a boil, reduce to a simmer and cook for 30 minutes.
4. Remove from heat. Add lime juice (don't stint as it really lifts the flavours) and add salt and pepper. Taste and adjust seasonings.
5. Ladle into soup bowl and garnish with broken tortilla chips, sour cream and coriander.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Eastcombe WI Meeting
Tuesday 20 October 2026
From 7.15pm—9.00pm
Eastcombe Village Hall

A Celebration of Gloucestershire

A musical slide show highlighting
all that is best in Gloucestershire
and surrounding areas

Speaker: Martin Fry
Visitors always welcome

For further information contact

Jean Buxton 07817 441363 email jeanabuxton@hotmail.co.uk
or
Jackie Harris 07840 244803 email jaquieboyd@hotmail.com



Eastcombe Baptist Chapel

A service is held at 10.30am on Sundays at the chapel in Dr Crouch's Road, Eastcombe.

EASTCOMBE VILLAGE GROUP

Newcomers Coffee Morning: This will be at The Lamb Inn on Saturday 3 October from 10am to 11.30am. All those who have moved into Eastcombe recently are warmly invited to join us for coffee and cake. We look forward to meeting you and letting you know more about events and activities within the village.

Photographic Competition: This attracted a variety of entries showing the special character of Eastcombe. Thanks to all who entered and to Colin for organising the event.

Wine Tasting, Eastcombe Village Hall, Saturday 24 October, 7.30pm: The details of our wine tasting have been circulated to those on the EVG mailing list. Tickets will cost £15 per person.

Meeting on 28 September: We discussed events for the next few months, including the October wine tasting and the village quiz early in 2027, plus a Christmas event with Eastcombe Primary School, lighting the Christmas tree on the Green early in December.

Wine Walk 2027: We are looking for hosts for next year's event which is likely to be held on Sunday 25 July 2027. If you could help please contact me.

Peter Scott: peterhscott@btinternet.com

Join the EVG mailing list: contact cissions52@gmail.com

Follow us on [Facebook](#).

INTERESTED IN LOCAL HISTORY?

Join the **Eastcombe & Bismore Local History Group** on Facebook.



BISLEY BENEFICE: Local Church Services in October



Visitors are always welcome. Services this month are:

Sunday 4th October:

- 8am: Holy Communion, St John the Baptist, France Lynch
- 9:30am: Holy Communion, St John the Baptist, France Lynch

Sunday 11th October:

- 8am: Holy Communion, St John the Baptist, France Lynch
- 11am: Harvest Festival, followed by bring & share lunch, Bussage Primary School. **See poster on Page 1.**

Sunday 18th October:

- 8am: Holy Communion: St John the Baptist, France Lynch
- 9:30am: Morning Worship - St Michael & All Angels, Bussage

Sunday 25th October:

- 8am: Holy Communion, St John the Baptist, France Lynch

For full details of other services in the Benefice please visit facebook.com/BisleyBeneficeandFriends/ or sign up to our mailing list: pewslipsbisley@hotmail.com

For weddings, funerals and baptisms please contact Revd Kim Trinder at vicar@bisleybenefice.org.uk

EASTCOMBE PHOTO COMPETITION



The Eastcombe Photo competition concluded on September 15th. Entries were judged shortly after this.

The winning entry will be selected to become a highly prized, unique legacy of Eastcombe village. It is intended that it will be made into a limited edition 'Wentworth' jigsaw puzzle. (these puzzles are very desirable and command a high resale value).

All the entries will be displayed in the Lamb Inn and Eastcombe Village Hall from late September, including the winning entry.

Pre-orders will be taken from late September through October with delivery intended in time for the puzzles to be given as Christmas presents.

Make sure you don't miss out on this unique opportunity and get your pre-order in as soon as possible – ordering details will be available alongside the display of the winning photo at The Lamb Inn and Eastcombe Village Hall.



**Never bin batteries
or electricals**



A COMMUNITY EFFORT for REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Members of Chalford Sports & Social Club's *Make It* Craft Group and France Lynch WI have lovingly knitted and crocheted poppies to mark Remembrance Sunday. Their work will be proudly displayed at the Club.

Join us on **Sunday 8th November at 3pm** for a service led by **Revd Kim Trinder**, followed by tea and cake.

A moment to remember, reflect and come together as a community. All are welcome.

Chalford Sports & Social Club, Highfield Way, France Lynch, GL6 8LZ.

SAVE THE DATE



FRITHWOOD SURGERY PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

The results of the national NHS GP Patient Survey have recently been published and the PPG was delighted to learn that Frithwood Surgery is at the top of the list for overall performance in Gloucestershire. An amazing 96% of Frithwood patients contacted by the NHS GP-Patient Survey said their overall experience of the surgery was 'good' compared with the Gloucestershire average of 81% and 77% nationally. Dr Will Nattrass told the PPG "We are over the moon with the results of this survey and believe it reflects on the dedication of the entire team, including those who work upstairs whom patients don't see." You can read the entire survey by visiting: gp-patient.co.uk/patientexperience/results?code=L84016

Our PPG Health Walks have been very enjoyable over the summer, with different routes explored and new friends made. The gentle walks take place every Wednesday morning, starting at 10am from Frithwood Surgery. The current plan is for the walks to continue until at least the end of November, weather conditions permitting, and everyone is welcome to come along. There is no need to book, just turn up appropriately dressed for the weather conditions.

The PPG will be hosting a Christmas party for Frithwood patients aged over 75 on Saturday 12th December. It would be a perfect event for those patients who find it difficult to get out and about so please think whether you have a friend, family member or neighbour who would really enjoy this opportunity. Numbers will be limited, due to space and budget, so patients will need to reserve a place which will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Booking forms will be available at the surgery from early October.

EASTCOMBE SWIFT COLONY: *an UPDATE*

Eastcombe's Swifts were a little late arriving this year with the first birds reported on 8th May. Most of the colony had departed by the end of July but a singleton was reported on 12th August over the Baptist Chapel— probably an adult that had stayed on to feed a late fledgling.

It was an encouraging to see all seven known nest sites in use by breeding pairs again, and two more boxes on the Baptist Chapel also occupied, probably by prospecting pairs looking to breed in 2027. Groups of birds were also seen showing an interest in nest boxes erected two years ago by BisCAN on Wells Road.

Numbers counted in 'screaming parties' was well up on last year with several good counts, the maximum being a reliable report of 25–30 on 2nd July, halfway between Eastcombe Stores and the crossroads; this is about double the maximum seen together in Eastcombe last year.

Thomas Keble School erected seven double nest boxes on the sports hall this spring, which, together with 10 Swift bricks built into the new teaching block, gives 24 more desirable residences for our Swifts; hopefully the school will have positive news regarding take-up next year!

Tony Perry

Community Coffee Mornings
Fridays 10-12

Books Jigsaws
Village info
Plants & gardening

All items available for a donation to CSSC Renovation fund

 CSSC
Chalford Sports & Social Club

SAVE THE DATE

Eastcombe & Bismore Local History Group

Scenes & Happenings

a slideshow of NEW (old) photos

Saturday 14th November

2pm, Eastcombe Village Hall

Refreshments Free admission
ALL WELCOME!

SAVE THE DATE

THOMAS KEBLE FIREWORKS

Monday 2nd November - 6pm

Family Ticket (2 Adult & 2 Child)	Adult Advance £7
Advance £20	Adult on the gate £9
On the gate £24	Child Advance £6
	Child on the gate £8

SWEETS HOT DOGS BURGERS SNACKS HOT DRINKS



<https://www.ticketsource.com/thomas-keble-ptd>



THE LITTLE FREE ART GALLERY, BUSSAGE

🍂 Autumn has arrived at The Little Free Art Gallery, Bussage! 🍁

We have a lovely seasonal display of creativity to brighten up the Hilltop, with everything from watercolours and photography to crochet and 3D paper sculptures.

Our shelves are ready for some new creations! So, if you've been making something, why not bring it along? You might even discover a little treasure to take home. 🍁

Our mission is simple: **Spread Joy and Celebrate Creativity** — and everyone is welcome to be part of it!

★ Take a piece of art!

★ Leave a piece of art!

★ Or just take a look around!

📍 Find us: The Avenue, Bussage ✨ What3Words: ///dates.barn.hawks Google Maps: [Click here](#)

Come along, share your creativity and help keep our little gallery thriving! ♥



Stroud Area Alzheimer Café

Our monthly café is held from 2-4pm in the Education Suite at Longfield Community Hospice, Burleigh Lane, Minchinhampton, GL5 2PQ. There are plenty of free parking spaces available.

Who is it for?

The café is for all who have concerns about memory problems and any form of dementia, together with their partners, family, friends and care givers. It is also for health professionals, charities and other organisations involved in this area of care.

The purpose

To enjoy being out together and to meet people who are all in the same boat, where we can share and discuss issues in a relaxed and safe environment.

What is provided?

A welcoming Café serving tea, coffee, sandwiches and cakes with live musical entertainment and song in a dementia friendly atmosphere. We also include a short guest performance, presentation or discussion each month relevant to those living with dementia. There are opportunities to share feelings and give and receive support and information.

Need transport?

If you can't easily get there or can't share a car, transport is available with Nailsworth Rotarians and other volunteer drivers. Phone Café Host, Richard Burt on 07970 713032 or email Richard.burt54@gmail.com

Enquiries and information

Contact Richard, or you can find our latest news and information by searching for 'Stroud Area Alzheimer Café' on Facebook and scrolling down.

Thanks to all our volunteer helpers and musicians.

Do join us! You will be very welcome.



CREATING A RESILIENT GARDEN

With hot summers and wet winters set to become the norm, here are a few pointers on how to make your garden more resilient...

- Improve your soil to increase water retention and drainage – add as much organic matter as possible, a thick mulch when the soil is saturated is ideal.
- Make your own compost (as much as possible!).
- Cover your soil with new plants in hot weather. Use drought tolerant plants which suit your soil and aspect - but don't go mad – remember new plants will need watering in hot spells for a year or two.
- Create shaded areas by planting trees and shrubs.
- Store rainwater – install water butts and consider larger tanks for rainwater collection, perhaps as part of a building project.

The Eastcombe Gardener

SAVE THE DATE



Back by Popular Demand

Curry + Quiz Night

Saturday 14th November 2026

Oakridge Village Hall

Start 7.00pm

Licensed Bar

Tickets £15

Tickets available from:

Paul Hunt paulhunt284@gmail.com 07814 621700

John Hughes mail@jmhughes.plus.com 07810 123511

Organised by Bisley-with-Lypiatt Twinning Association

CHARLEA COMMUNITY GARDENS

Welcome to Charlea Community Gardens

A vibrant 3-acre community space in Brimscombe, balancing nature conservation with a peaceful place for everyone to explore, learn, and connect.

- **Community Growing:** Shared vegetable beds and fruit trees where we grow and harvest together.
- **Livestock Clubs:** Join a team to care for the Charlea Chickens or help raise our free-range Gloucester Old Spot pigs.
- **Charlea Green Gym:** Friendly, drop-in volunteering sessions throughout the year for garden maintenance. Keep fit, meet your neighbours, and care for wildlife habitats.
- **Space to Gather:** Featuring a natural play trail for children, a locally crafted long table & benches, beautiful timber shelter, and composting loo, for club and community use.

Join our Facebook group fb.com/groups/charleagardens

[@charleagardens](https://www.facebook.com/charleagardens)

HILLTOP GARDENING CLUB

www.hilltopgardeningclub.org.uk

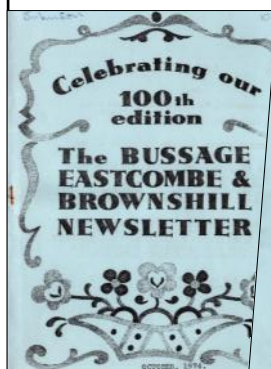
On Tuesday 1st September Margaret Wood opened her garden to members. Fine weather helped ensure a good turnout and, as well as appreciating a well-kept garden, members enjoyed the refreshments on offer. Many thanks Margaret!

The weather was not quite so good the next day, Wednesday 2nd, for our trip to Jekka's Herb Farm and the University of Bristol Botanic Garden. Nevertheless, the showers did not prevent us from having a good look at both places and receiving interesting and informative presentations, which gave us a good understanding of the sites.



VILLAGE HISTORIES: OCTOBERS PAST!

Editions of the forerunner of this newsletter, the *Bussage, Brownhill & Eastcombe Newsletter*, give a fascinating insight into the October activities of Eastcombe a few decades ago...



Dates for your Diary

OCTOBER, 1974.

1st	Eastcombe Play School 'Nearly New' Sale
2nd	60 Plus Club in Bussage Village Hall 8.15pm.
3rd	Women's Fellowship with Islcombe Young Wives in Village Hall.
4th	Eastcombe Cricket Club Dinner in the Manor School 8.30pm. - 12pm.
7th	Dinner Meeting in the Church Hall at 8.15pm.
9th	Official Opening of Bussage Boy's Club 3.0pm.
12th	Royal British Legion Get-together in the Church Hall at 7.30pm.
12th	Eastcombe W.I. at 7.30pm in W.I. Hall.
16th	60 Plus Club in Bussage Village Hall 8.15pm.
16th	Rotary Club Association meeting in the Church Hall at 7.30pm.
16th	Eastcombe P.T.A. Marks & Spencer Sports Sale at 8.0pm. in Primary School.
17th	Women's Fellowship.
17th	Eastcombe S.I. Fanklin Show in Church Hall at 8.0pm. for charity.
18th	Women's Fellowship Theatre Outing.
18th	1st Bissley Cub Scout meeting in the Church Hall at 8.0pm.
21st	P.T.A. Meeting in The Vestry, Eastcombe at 8.0pm.
23rd	Bussage meeting in Church Hall at 8.15pm.
24th	60 Plus Club in Bussage Village Hall at 8.15pm.
30th	Evening of Slides in Church Hall at 7.30pm.

P.T.A.

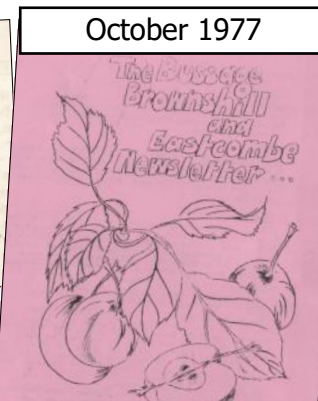
The P.T.A. Meeting was held in the Primary School, and was very well attended. It was nice to see so many parents there.

A Marks & Spencer Sports Sale and Coffee Evening was arranged for Wednesday 16th October between 8.0pm. and 9.15pm. at the Primary School. Anyone will be welcome.

The Christmas Party was arranged for Tuesday 17th December. Eight mothers volunteered to help. Mrs. Cowper rounded up the evening by giving a very interesting and informative talk on "Modern Maths".

A. Cooper.

Anyone watching the football team play will have noticed that the familiar green and white has disappeared that they wanted new colours; they now play in black and amber shirts, black shorts and yellow socks. We wish them the best of luck for the coming season.



BUSSAGE BOYS CLUB

For the past two years the Club has been building a new Clubhouse, using voluntary labour, and assisted financially by many organisations, some local and others from further afield.

The Clubhouse is now ready for use, and will be officially opened on SATURDAY OCTOBER 12th, the 'Celebrations' will commence at 3.0pm.

The Clubhouse is for the use of young people in the area, and, as an amenity, belongs to the village.

BUSSETTS

The Bussages are now meeting again every other Wednesday in the Church Hall from 2.15pm. - 4.0pm. Anyone over the age of 60 would be very welcome. If we agreed the age of 60 would be very welcome. If we agreed the age of 60 would be very welcome. If we agreed the age of 60 would be very welcome.

FOOTBALL

On Monday 12th September Eastcombe brought back another cup to the club after winning the Charity Cup. Well done. At this match the Chairman of the Stroud Charity Cup Committee thanked our treasurer for bringing 'your contingent again'. Eastcombe are noted for their good support as they travel around the district. £16 was raised at this match for charity.

Fixtures for OCTOBER/early NOVEMBER

1st Hillsley - away	8th C.Cup Round 1
15th North Nibley - away	22nd Ebley Reserves - home
Nov. 5th C.Cup Round 2	12th North Nibley - home

NEWSLETTER NO.100 Price 5p.

Dear Reader,

We have reached the hundredth edition.

Compiling this edition has brought back many memories for me. As I looked through each issue I realised the amount of changes that have taken place over the last 8 years in our villages. Yes it was July 1966 that our first edition was delivered to you. Many activities that were flourishing at that time have gone by the wayside, while new activities have taken their places.

We have given you a special 100th edition 'middle page' as a souvenir plus the delightful cover; I am sure you will agree helps to make this issue special. Our thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Simmons for producing this cover for us.

May I take this opportunity to thank everyone who helps in anyway to get your monthly newsletter to you. But please if you have any items for the Newsletter let either myself or Mrs. P. Clissold have them by the 1st of the month. This enables us to get your copy to you by the first day of the month.

I hope you will enjoy reading your 100th edition and feel that we have made it something special.

Your sincere editor,
Beryl Freebury.

October 1974: the 100th edition

"MR. & MRS."

Mr. & Mrs. Martin of "Mon-Travail" spent an enjoyable evening as guests at the T.W.W. Studios at Bristol also taking part in the programme "Mr. & Mrs." The recording will be on T.W.W. on Friday 26th August at 7.0pm.

OTHER NEWS

Alison Chalk, Frith Wood of the Eastcombe Guide Company attended the opening of the Severn Bridge by her Majesty the Queen. She was accompanied by her Lieutenant J. de Andrews and Christine Stadden of the France Lynch Company. Their names were drawn out while they were in Camp at Cowley Manor. They had tickets for the South Railings and had a good view of her Majesty and Prince Philip.

PLAYGROUP

A meeting was held to discuss the probability of starting a PLAY GROUP in Eastcombe. Anyone interested should see Mrs. O. Turner of 22 Bracelanis, Eastcombe.

Under 12 team so far have played two games, they drew against Randwick and lost against Kato. The boys are thoroughly enjoying this new venture and we must thank Mike Sinclair and Beverly Townsend for their hard work in training the boys and their enthusiasm. Also to the teenagers and others who have travelled with them to watch them play.

Fixtures for OCTOBER/early NOVEMBER

9th Cam - home (3pm.)	16th Dursley - away (10.30am.)
23rd T.R.Cup	30th Tetbury & home (3pm.)
Nov. 6th County Cup	

DON'T FORGET THE FOOTBALL DANCE on SATURDAY 29th OCTOBER.

Find more local history on
www.eastcombearchive.org.uk,
 the [Eastcombe & Bismore Local History Group](#) &
[Chalford Parish Local History Group](#) on Facebook.



WHAT'S ON in OCTOBER?

3 Oct: New-to-Eastcombe Coffee Morning, The Lamb Inn, 10-11.30am

3 Oct: Chalford Parish Local History Group History Afternoon, France Lynch Church Rooms, 2-4.30pm.

4 Oct: Chalford Market, 10am-1pm, Chalford Sports & Social Club

7 Oct: B-w-L Parish Council Meeting, Bisley Village Hall, 7.30pm

11 Oct: Harvest Service & Lunch, Bussage Primary School, 11am

11 Oct: Bisley Market, 10am-1pm, Bisley WI Village Hall

17 Oct: Hilltop Film Club, Eastcombe Village Hall, 7.30pm

20 Oct: Eastcombe WI Meeting, 7.15pm, Eastcombe Village Hall

21 Oct: Chalford Parish Local History Group meeting, 7.30pm, France Lynch Church Rooms

17th OCTOBER: NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

24 Oct: EVG Wine Tasting, Eastcombe Village Hall, 7.30pm



NAME THAT VIEW!
How well do YOU know our area?

September's photo was of St Michael & All Angels Church, Bussage.

Where was October's photo taken?
 The answer will be revealed in the November issue.