



The Ecton View

July 2025

Issue 228

Parish and Village Directory

Parish Council

Chairman: Ian Whittaker
07971 336556

Church Directory

Rector

Rev Jackie Buck
01933 631232
jackiebuck@hotmail.co.uk
www.gdwebenefice.wordpres.com

Church Warden

Joy Bond - 01604 948040

PCC Secretary

Lynne Nelson - 07973 552047

PCC Treasurer (Acting)

Joy Bond- 01604 948040

Electoral Roll Officer

Mary Dicks
01604 407145

Bell Ringers

David Dicks
01604 407145

Website Editor

Thomas Coulter-Brophy
TCB@ectonvillage.co.uk

North Northants Council

Wellingborough Area

Earls Barton Ward - Councillors

Scott Brown - 07791 870235
scott.brown@northnorthants.gov.uk

Vicki Jessop -
vicki.jessop@northnorthants.gov.uk

Ecton Village Hall

Bookings: Helen Bond - 07753 868734
evhbookings@gmail.com

EGOs

Pat MacRae - 01604 402582

Pre & Primary School

Head: Kate Cleaver - 01604 409213



Our community police officer for Ecton
PCSO 7059 GARETH CROSS
Police Community Support Officer
Tel: 101 ext 343706 Mob: 07557 778049
Email: gareth.cross@northants.police.co.uk

Ecton Church Lottery		
	1st Prize £50	2nd Prize £25
May 2025	Sandra Wheatman	Charlotte Eley
June 2025	Bryan Bond	Melvyn Savage

ECTON VIEW News

Welcome to our July edition of Ecton View (produced by the Village Hall committee), and the first thing we want to celebrate with you is Sally Jones' MBE. What a pleasure it is to see someone, well known in our community, deservedly winning an award for her charity work with Northamptonshire Carers, fantastic. We are lucky to have Sally's central involvement in village hall affairs, and previously as chair of the Parish Council. Thank you, Sally, for all your work.



The Big Lunch at the beginning of June event went down outstandingly well and looks set to be an annual gathering. This was part of a national event initiated by The Eden Project Communities organisation, and seeing the feedback from other organisations for their events makes you realise that the experience and community spirit in Ecton puts us right up there when it comes to managing a village celebration.

In this edition you will see adverts for the village American themed BBQ on Saturday 19th and a Summer Quiz on Friday 25th, we look forward to seeing you there.

We encourage contributions to this magazine from all the village residents. If you have thoughts or advice you want to share, a story to tell or you want to celebrate home grown achievements, you can email us or speak to any member of the Village Hall committee. We have a small core of able photographers in the village that regularly send us pictures we can use for the magazine cover. It would be great to see new contributors, and if you have any seasonal pictures that would suit the magazine, we would love to use them.

Cover Photo:- Taken by Yvonne Miller



www.northampton.minutemanpress.com

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Ecton Village Information

ECTON GOLDEN OLDIES (EGO's)

See page 11 for further details.

OPEN CHURCH & CHURCHYARD TIDY

The next dates for the tidy and open church are 5th July and 2nd August. Come along and give us a hand to keep the churchyard tidy, or just come for a coffee and bikkies.

ECTON BELL RINGERS

The Ecton Bell ringing Band meet at 7.30pm until 9pm on most Wednesday evenings at St Mary Magdalene Church, Ecton. Everyone is welcome. For more information contact David on 01604 407145.

ECTON VILLAGE HALL

See pages 16 & 17 for further details

ECTON WALKS 2025

Ecton Walks are continuing this year with two walks per month on the first and third Wednesdays. If you prefer a short walk - up to 3 miles - come along on the third Wednesday and if you prefer a longer stride - 5-8 miles - come along on the first Wednesday. I try to factor in a coffee stop where I can. We meet at the Shrine at 9.30am. I have an email circulation for more information about the individual walks, car seat availability etc. If you would like to join the walks/email list please let me know by email - nigelbond@talktalk.net.

Walks in July - 2nd long walk, 16th short walk

Walks in August - 6th long walk, 20th short walk

ECTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Ecton Parish Council has 8 it's compliment of 9 councillors.

You can obtain a full copy of the latest Parish Council Minutes.

Email:clerk@ectonparishcouncil.org.uk Agendas and Minutes can also be downloaded from the website -www.ectonvillage.co.uk/parish-council/meetings-and-copy-minutes/

Copy for the AUGUST 2025 magazine

to : ectonviewmagazine@outlook.com

or phone 07770 335107

By 23rd Ju 2025

Ecton Services for July 2025

Sun 6th July	No Service at Ecton Please join us at one of our other churches. 9.30am Holy Communion 11am Holy Communion	Wilby Great Doddington
Tues 8th July	No Holy Communion Service today	Ecton
Sun 13th July	9.30am Holy Communion	Ecton
Sun 20th July	9.30am Holy Communion	Ecton
Sun 27th July	11am Morning Prayer	Ecton

Please contact Charlotte Eley 01604 891109 if you need a lift to a service



Summer Fayre
St Nicholas Church
Great Doddington
Saturday 30th August 2pm - 4pm
Cakes, Tombola, Bring and Buy
Plant and Produce Stall, Grand Draw, Refreshments
Free Entry
Money raised will go to:
St Nicholas Church , Great Doddington
St Mary the Virgin Church, Wilby
St Mary Magdalene Church, Ecton

Rector's Letter July 2025



Last month I shared with you one of Bishop John's favourite hymns, Father I place into your hands, the things that I can't do and since then I have heard it is a favourite of several other people as well. Another popular hymn is Amazing grace by John Newton. Published in Olney Hymns in 1779 it reflects Newton's own intense conversion experience to Christianity and his profound sense that it was only the overwhelming grace of God which had saved him.

Last year, during the month of August we sang hymns and songs at our Sunday services from four different hymn writers, and we will be doing the same again this year. So, for the first four Sundays in August the sermon and hymn choices will be based on a specific hymn writer, including John Newton.

As there are five Sundays in August our three churches will join together for a Benefice Service on 31st August at Ecton 10am. At this service we will be welcoming Bishop Debbie, the Bishop of Peterborough. Do make a note of the date and take this opportunity to meet with her, we might even find out what her favourite hymn is. Refreshments of tea, coffee and cakes will be served after the service and everyone is welcome.

In next month's letter I will tell you a little about the writers we will be looking at in August and to end this month's letter here is a verse from Newton's hymn Amazing grace:

Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

**Yours in Christ,
Revd. Jackie Buck
01933 631232**



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To book contact Nigel Bond 07923 634739
nigelbond@talktalk.net

or

Alistair McCarter
07914 796844/01604 401134

(Proceeds shared between Ecton, Great Doddington and Wilby Churches)

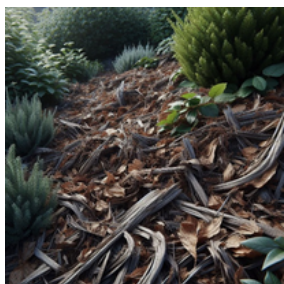
* only alcohol purchased at the bar may be consumed on the premises

How does your garden grow

...in hot, dry weather?

Climate changes bring many garden challenges including how to keep your garden looking fresh, and a healthy green in hot, dry summers. There are quite a few strategies you can use such as choosing plants that are more drought tolerant, persuading plants to develop good roots, disturbing the soil as little as possible. Collect water in water butts as much as possible and water tubs and baskets at the start or end of the day.

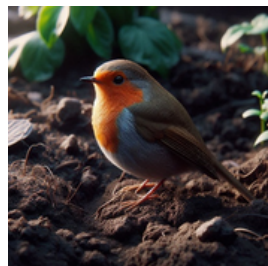
But what you really want is for any water that your garden receives to do as much good as possible and last as long as possible, and there is one magic bullet that helps. You want your soil to retain moisture, improve soil texture, aid root development, and deter weed seeds that steal nutrients and moisture. Putting a mulch layer of chippings, often



available free from tree surgeons who are desperate to dispose of them, is the magic bullet. Just as an experiment, try putting a 8cm - 12cm mulch layer on a border and leave a nearby border bare. What you will see on the mulched border is a substantial increase in moisture retention in the soil, an increase in the worm population, which then leads to an

improved soil texture and then more vigorous root development. You will also see that weed seeds struggle to germinate, and those that do are more easily removed. Mulch that is a mixture of leaf and wood (apart from evergreens) quickly breaks down to a uniform brown textured surface. Avoid mulching right up to the stems of plants.

The invertebrates that make a home in mulched surfaces are a 3 course meal for many garden birds, most commonly blackbirds and robins. So expect to see more of them visiting your borders and taking snails, slugs and other pests whilst they are there. If



you are as lucky as we are, you will find a hedgehog visiting regularly and having a good rummage about. The downside with these visitors is that you will occasionally need to rake or sweep the mulch back in place afterwards. A small price to pay.

ECTON GOLDEN OLDIES

We enjoyed a lovely day out in the Cotswolds. Our first stop was Broadway which offered nice shops, lots of cafe's and restaurants as well as a craft festival. We moved on to Bourton on the Water, unfortunately we hadn't been told that the coach park had been closed so there was more walking - everyone kept their step count up! Sorry to those of you who found it too much.

Our next get together is on July 18th, 12 for 12.30pm, lunch will be served. Looking forward to seeing you all.

Sally Jones

Remaining dates for this year: July 18th, August 15th, September 19th, October 17th, November 21st, December tbc



Did you know??

Ecton has its very own Café ... Ecton Brew

Ecton Brew opens its doors on every first Friday of the month at Ecton Village Hall (10:00 - 12:00) serving freshly brewed hot drinks including 'Ecton Brew' our very own coffee blend (this is available to buy at the café, ground or beans)

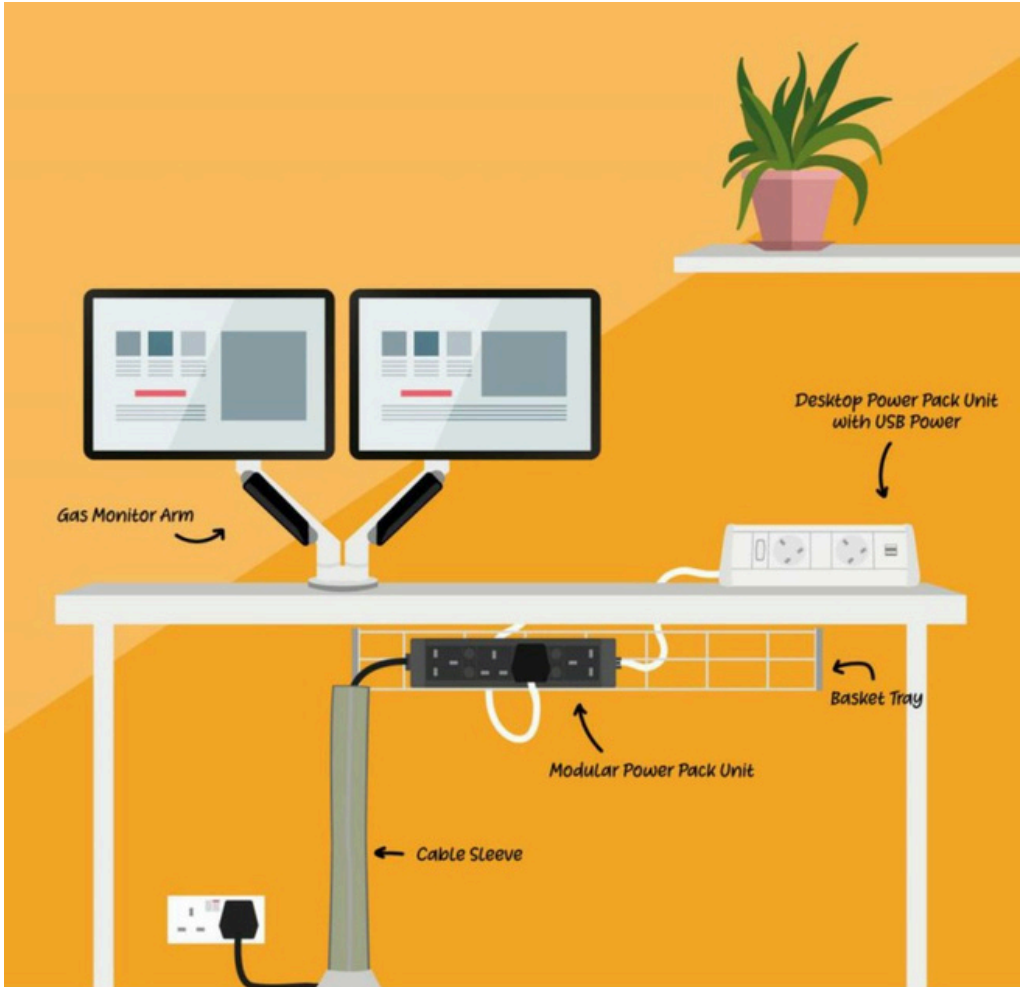
We also serve homemade cakes baked by Ecton Villagers, teacakes and our famous 'Brew & Bap' sausage or bacon roll deal.

We would like to introduce a 'Guest Baker' each month. Could you make your 'Signature Cake' for the café? if so please contact me.

Claire 07962 079564

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ECTON VILLAGE HALL



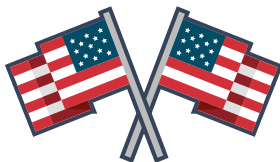
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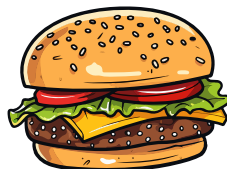
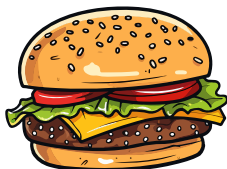


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Ecton History

This month, I thought I would follow on from our discussions at the last History Group Meeting, where we spoke about Shops & Businesses in Ecton, where we shared personal memories of former Post Office Mistresses and Shop keepers as well as Bakers & Milkmen from the village.

Medieval 'Trades' in the village would have been in the form of Farming, Skills and Livestock. Families would pay their Tithe (10% of their annual income) to the church, and their rent to their landlord, often in labour, goods or produce from the land and then any they had surplus to their own needs, they would sell (or barter) with their neighbours, or take to market.

Later, Trades such as Blacksmiths, Bakers, Dairyman etc, would set up workshops and trade with locals and travellers, For example Les Middleton delivered Milk by Horse & Cart, progressing to a Van in the 1930's



Ecton was fortunate to have Butchers, Bakers, Carpenters and many other trades, as well as a Co-Op between 1979 & 1985, but shopping habits have changed in more recent times and the last convenience store closed in 1989.

This page of adverts from the Garden Club's Programme in 1945, shows some of the local businesses of the time, notice no Addresses or Telephone numbers, everyone new all the local tradesmen in the village and where they lived!

After a short break for the summer, our next Ecton History Group meeting will be on a Wednesday in September, date to be arranged, at the Three Horseshoes at 8pm.

Please send any ideas, photos and topics for discussion to me,
Wendy Stephens at - ectonhistory@outlook.com

<p>H. W. LESTER</p> <p>Wheelwright Carpenter and Undertaker</p>	<p>J. CAMPION</p>  <p>BAKER, Corn & Flour Dealer</p>
<p>ECTON</p>	<p>ECTON</p>
<p>L. T. MIDDLETON</p> <p>Dairyman</p> <p>ECTON</p>	
<p>F. BAKER</p> <p>Prize Shoeing and General Smithy</p> <p>ECTON</p>	<p>A. GREENHAM</p> <p>General Stores</p> <p>ECTON</p>

Ecton Village Hall

We are so lucky to have such a lovely venue in our village. It is also a great building to host parties and other events and includes the main hall, lounge and outside area, all of which can be hired for competitive rates.



Rates of Hire

There are two possible hires; the Main Hall or the Main Hall plus the Lounge. The hire rates are:

		Main Hall Only	Main Hall & Lounge
Ecton Parish Residents	Regular Hire	£7.50 per hour	£12.50 per hour
	Occasional Hire	£12.00 per hour	£17.00 per hour
Non Residents	Regular Hire	£15.00 per hour	£20.00 per hour
	Occasional Hire	£18.00 per hour	£23.00 per hour

Requests for booking to be made to the Bookings Clerk who confirms availability and price depending on whether hirer is an Ecton resident or not.

Email: evhbookings@gmail.com

Regular Village Hall Hirers

The village hall is a community resource which hosts a number of regular hirers who provide a range of groups.

Monday

Morning: Pilates – Laura Longstaff 07912 022912 SHEvolutionfit@gmail.com

Afternoon: Art Class - Derek Geater 01933 381848 djgartist@hotmail.com

Evening: Action for Children youth group – Tonice Da-Costa 07977 672185
tonice.dacosta@actionforchildren.org.uk

Tuesday

Morning: Stay and Play – Eventstylingbystacey Contactable via Facebook & Instagram
Or Email on eventstylingbystacey@gmail.com or www.eventstylingbystacey.com

Evening: Step By Step Dance School Ecton - Helen Bond 07753 868734

Facebook: Step by Step Dance School/Ecton

Wednesday

Morning: Splat Messy Play - Jasmine Hammond 07929 331060

jasmine@splatmessyplay.co.uk

Thursday

Morning: Pilates - Paula Donovan - 07790 541064 - Facebook: Well Being Pilates

Evening: Project Sing Choir – Chris Startup – 07841 425835 chriskstartup@gmail.com

Friday

Morning: Ecton Brew 1st Friday of the month

EGOs 3rd Friday of the month

Planned Village Events for your diary

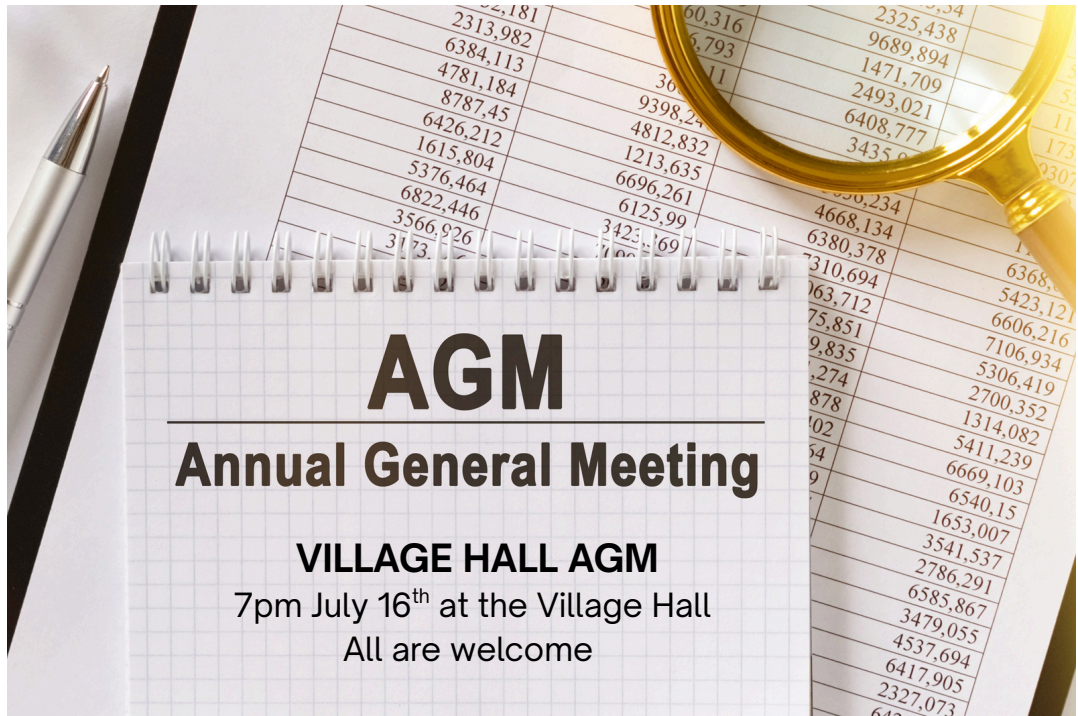
Ecton BBQ Saturday 19th July – Daytime

Event TBC September

Autumn Quiz Saturday 22nd November

Christmas Brunch Sunday 7th December

Christmas starters Saturday 20th December – 7pm



On Wednesday 16th at 7.00pm we will be holding the Village Hall AGM. This is your chance to have a say in what sort of events you would like to see taking place. It is also an opportunity to hear what our plans are, and hear about how we use the income we receive. We've just upgraded the sound system at the hall to address the sound quality, increase the reach of the system and improve its ease of use. Our next big challenge is to upgrade the kitchen to something more commercially appropriate for events with catering.



How do I report speeding?

If you are concerned about speeding, you should contact your neighbourhood policing team first. You can also report driving offences online here [Report a road traffic incident](#) | [Northamptonshire Police](#).

Your PCSOs have received speed enforcement training and can use the speed guns if you report speeding concerns on a certain road/area. PCs have the power to stop and deal with vehicles at the roadside who can educate drivers or prosecute them with a ticket. PCSOs can give out warning letters to drivers caught and will then pass on their reports to the safer roads team.

You can access road safety information and data via our public access system [here](#). You can see our enforcement locations, the monthly number of offences throughout the county, and submissions and outcomes of Op Snap.

Op Snap

This scheme allows the public to submit dashcam evidence online regarding road offences within 14 days of the offence. The team can **only accept video footage**. They will then prosecute the driver with a notice of intended prosecution.

In February 2025, there were 154 submissions to Op Snap. You can submit your footage here [Northamptonshire Police Operation Snap](#).

GARDENING MAINTENANCE



For all your general gardening maintenance needs! Lawn cutting, repairs, turf laying, pruning of shrubs, bulb planting, border mulching.

Or if you need to chat through your ideas for what you'd like to see happen in your garden, I would love to help you to create your vision!

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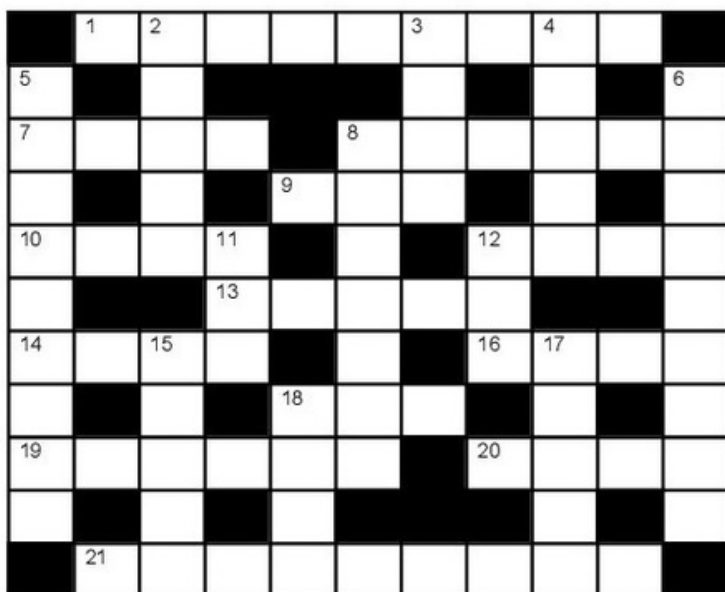


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JULY CROSSWORD



Clues marked * are cryptic, including four which are related to the Three Horseshoes in July.

The rest are normal definition clues.

Across

- 1 Mrs Merino changes on 30th * (6,3)
 7 Ms Blyton (4)
 8 See 19A
 9 Sheep both ways * (3)
 10 Strong taste (4)
 12 See 11D
 13 African country (5)
 14 Smallest puppy (4)
 16 Weak person (4)
 18 & Snowman in bad silk
 21 & arrangement on 6th * (3,9,4)
 19 Fair mafia fly about
 & 8 on 20th * (6,6)
 20 See 18A
 21 See 18A

Down

- 2 Star hunter * (5)
 3 Secure (4)
 4 One of Jupiter's moons (5)
 5 Wealthier (6,3)
 6 BA sparked change to help stop * (5,4)
 8 Brief holiday (7)
 11 & Beatles retreat on 11th * (3,4)
 12 Abbreviation for by the way (3)
 15 Grey rain clouds (5)
 17 The "Gem State" (5)
 18 Early band of Midge Ure (4)



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BRIGHTER DAYS

Contact Rachel on:
07351 980946

Email:
brighterdays4u@icloud.com

Transitioning to digital landlines: everything you need to know

You may have heard that landlines are changing and that the UK's telephone network is going digital. These changes will affect everyone who has a landline they'd like to keep using. You needn't worry: for most people, the switch is incredibly simple. Here's what you need to know and how you can help friends or family members who may be concerned.

Earlier this year, BT and Neighbourhood Watch partnered to help communities navigate this change, particularly in rural and hard-to reach areas, across England and Wales. With 250 events planned, our volunteers are busy raising awareness, answering questions and supporting the switch. However, there's still work to be done to ensure everyone, particularly vulnerable people, know about the switch, what it means to them, what they need to do to prepare – and how you can help them.

That's why we're looking for your help in spreading the word. Here are four things to know about the switchover – and how you can help your loved ones:

- 1. Now is the time to inform and educate:** ensure family members and friends understand the switch, why it's happening, and how to prepare. Households will receive at least four weeks' notice before switching.
- 2. It's easy – and comes with added benefits, too:** switching is simple, requires no extra cost, and includes features like spam call blocking for enhanced security. BT's Enhanced Call Protect prevents around 20,000 scam calls a day.
- 3. Notify us of their circumstances:** if you or someone you know has additional needs, a Telecare device or healthcare pendant, or feels they need extra support with the switchover, contact your home phone provider. Free engineer visits and battery backups are available to ensure a smooth transition.
- 4. What if they don't have broadband?** A dedicated landline service will be provided to maintain traditional landline functionality without requiring broadband.

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Wild and Walking

Did you manage to do anything WILD in June? My highlights were seeing hedgehogs in my garden, newts in my pond and going to see orchids on Dunstable Downs.

Our gardens and wildlife are finding these hot dry spells difficult. Please put out water for animals, birds and insects to drink, they, like us need to stay hydrated. For the garden do think about getting water butts. I was surprised at how quickly they fill up during a shower or two, even from a shed roof.

Charlotte Eley

Next Songs of Praise

Wednesday 3rd September 2pm

Ecton Village Hall

Singing from 2pm Refreshments 3pm

All Welcome

Crossword Solution



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Post Box at The Laurels:-
Monday to Friday 9:00am and
Saturday 7:00am



Bus Timetable - M-F, (Sat & Sun may differ)

visit <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables>

Buses To N'ton	
X47	08:18
X46	08:20
X46	08:48
X47	09:10
X46	09:39
X47	10:08
X46	10:29
X47	11:01
X46	11:27
X47	12:01
X46	12:27
X47	12:51
X46	13:27
X47	13:51
X46	14:27
X47	14:51
X46	15:29
X47	15:51
X46	16:28
X47	16:51
X46	17:44
X47	17:58
X46	18:42
X47	19:02
X46	19:38
X47	19:59

BusesTo W'boro	
X47	08:00
X46	08:14
X47	08:58
X46	09:14
X47	09:49
X46	10:14
X47	10:49
X46	11:14
X47	11:49
X46	12:14
X47	12:49
X46	13:14
X47	13:49
X46	14:14
X47	14:49
X46	15:19
X47	15:58
X46	16:25
X47	17:00
X46	17:25
X47	17:57
X46	18:22
X47	18:46
X46	19:27
X47	19:44



Bin Collected from 6.30am



July		August		September	
4th	Green	1st	Green	5th	Black
11th	Black	8th	Black	12th	Green
18th	Green	15th	Green	19th	Black
25th	Black	22nd	Black	26th	Green
		29th	Green		

Ecton Odours!



From time to time we can experience strong odours.

If you detect a 'Pong' you suspect is from the Treatment Works, please report it to Anglian Water on 08457 145 145

once a call is logged they can deal with the problem and will report back to you.



Flytipping

If you come across any Fly-tipping along the lanes of our parish, Please report immediately online at northnorthants/street-cleansing/fly-tipping in the Wellingborough section.

Also at clearwaste.com/flytipping/report where you can report anonymously.

You can also report via the app LoveCleanStreets.

Fix My Street



Many highway and public access items can be reported to "Fix My Street" at <https://highways.northnorthants.gov.uk/>

This covers a wide range of concerns including pot holes, abandoned vehicles, dog fouling, fly tipping, obstructive vegetation and so on.

HGVs



The Parish Council have received a few items about HGVs going through the village. The correct response is to report them to the police via 101 or DVSA Intelligence unit enquiries@dvsa.gov.uk Telephone: 0800 030 4103 Monday to Friday, 7:30am to 6pm.

However, vehicles exceeding 7.5tonnes are allowed for access. This includes builders' merchants, skip lorries, the bin lorries, pub deliveries and so on.



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Sun: 10am - 3pm Mon: Closed

T: 01604 811004

E: eastlodgefarm@outlook.com

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An Idyllic Equestrian Centre in a Fantastic Northamptonshire Location.
Since the centre was established in 1984 we have provided superb facilities combined with excellent tuition and customer service.

The centre caters for everyone from 2 years of age and from beginner level up to and including intermediate levels. The team of instructors are mainly BHS qualified or hold relevant and required equine qualifications. We take pride in the quality of our horses and how they are looked after.

Our excellent facilities include a:

60 x 20m and a 40 x 20m All Weather Outdoor Arena's plus a 40 x 20m Indoor Arena all with automated sprinkler systems and graded daily to create the best possible surface for horse and rider to enjoy. We also have a lunge pen, set of light weight Poly Jumps, refreshments and function room including baby changing facility.

East Lodge Farm, Washbrook Lane,
Ecton, Northampton NN6 0QU
T: 01604 810 244 M: 07807 067 747
E: eastlodgefarmequestriancentre@outlook.com
www.eastlodgefarmec.co.uk

Opening Times

Tues - Fri	10:00 to 21:00
Saturday	08:00 to 17:00
Sunday	09:00 to 17:00





What's On in Ecton

Date	Time	Event	Location
July			
Fri 4 th Jul		Green Bin Collection	
Fri 4 th Jul		Ecton Brew	Ecton Village Hall
Sun 6 th Jul	14:30	Sam Wilkinson Band	3 Horseshoes
Fri 11 th Jul		Black Bin Collection	
Fri 18 th Jul		Green Bin Collection	
Fri 18 th Jul	20:00	Get Back (John & Roger from Accrington Stanley)	3 Horseshoes
Wed 16 th Jul	19:00	Village Hall AGM	Ecton Village Hall
Wed 16 th Jul	20:00	Quiz Night	3 Horseshoes
Fri 18 th Jul	12:00	EGOs	Ecton Village Hall
Sat 19 th Jul	14:00	All American BBQ	Ecton Village Hall
Sun 20 th Jul	14:30	Family Affair	3 Horseshoes
Fri 25 th Jul		Black Bin Collection	
Fri 25 th Jul	19:30	Summer Quiz	Ecton Village Hall
Wed 30 th Jul		Morris Men Dancing	3 Horseshoes
Thu 31 st Jul	20:00	Open Mike Night	
August			3 Horseshoes
Fri 1 st Aug		Green Bin Collection	
Fri 1 st Aug	10:00	Ecton Brew	Ecton Village Hall
Fri 8 th Aug		Black Bin Collection	
Fri 15 th Aug		Green Bin Collection	
Fri 15 th Aug	12:00	EGOs	Ecton Village Hall
Wed 20 th Aug		Quiz Night	3 Horseshoes
Fri 22 nd Aug		Black Bin Collection	
Fri 29 th Aug		Green Bin Collection	



RENT ONE OF OUR LUXURY VW CAMPERVANS AND START PLANNING YOUR GRAND TOURING HOLIDAY.



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Rental starts from £645 for a full week in low season - weekend and mid-week hire also available. **What's stopping you?**