

The Ecton View



July 2026

Issue 239

ECTON VIEW News

Welcome to the July edition of Ecton view, produced by the Village Hall Committee.

July is the warmest month of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, and a time for sitting in the garden with a glass of wine and relaxing, while over in Australia it's mid-Winter so no shrimps on the Barbie for them! Interestingly, despite being the first month of the second half of the year, July 1st is not the middle of the year. The exact midpoint of a standard year occurs on July 2nd at 1:00 PM!

Speaking of a glass of wine, the Ecton Wine Tasting at the village hall was a great success, congratulations to all involved. I believe that there are some bottles of the wines that were tasted that evening available to purchase.

And of course, we should all remember our village connection with Benjamin Franklin one of the founding fathers of America as they celebrate their 250th birthday on July 4th, although the UK didn't recognise their independence until September 1787!

At the time of this issue, we are in the middle of the FIFA world cup, Wimbledon Tennis, Commonwealth Games, the Women's T20 world cup, to name a few, if you don't like sport, July is not for you!

July is home to delightfully quirky celebrations like National Hot Dog Month, Take Your Houseplants for a Walk Day (July 27th), and National Cheesecake Day (July 30th).

There is a Quiz at the village Hall this month and Ecton Brew will be on Friday 3rd July with the best coffee, bacon baps, and homemade cakes in town. Do save the date in your diary for the Village BBQ Saturday 1st August, always one of the highlights of the year!

And from Seattle, with 7 albums to their name, Massy Ferguson www.massyfergusonband.com play at the 3-Horseshoes 22nd August as part of the UK tour.

Finally, congratulations to the Northampton Saints and our own Alex Mitchell, Gallagher Prem Rugby champions!

Enjoy the sunshine!



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Parish and Village Directory

Parish Council

Chairman: Ian Whittaker
07971 336556

Church Directory

Rector

Rev Jackie Buck
07883 583202
gdwe3@hotmail.com
gdwebenefice.wordpress.com

Church Warden

Vacant

PCC Secretary

Lynne Nelson - 07973 552047

PCC Treasurer

Vacant

Lay Minister

Wendy Villette - 01604 402457

Electoral Roll Officer

Mary Dicks
01604 407145

Bell Ringers

David Dicks
01604 407145

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.uk

Website Editor

Thomas Coulter-Brophy
TCB@ectonvillage.co.uk

Cover Photo:- By Robert Lee

Ecton Church Lottery		
	1st Prize £50	2nd Prize £25
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June 2026	Natasha Wardley	Claire & Colin Reid



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Ecton Village Information

ECTON GOLDEN OLDIES (EGOs)

See page 10 for further details.

OPEN CHURCH & CHURCHYARD TIDY

The next dates for care of the churchyard and open church are 4 July and 1 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 page 15 for further details

ECTON WALKS 2025

Walks planned for July will be on the 8th and 22nd. The walk on the 8th will be a longer walk (5-6 miles) and the 22nd will be a short walk (about 2 miles).

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.

ECTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Ecton Parish Council has 8 of 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 2026 magazine

to : ectonviewmagazine@outlook.com

or phone 07770 335107

By 24th July 2026

Ecton Services for July 2026

Sun 5 th July	No Morning Service at Ecton	
	Please join us at one of our other churches	
	9.30am Holy Communion	Wilby
	11am Holy Communion	Great Doddington
	6pm Evensong	Ecton
Tue 7 th July	10am Holy Communion	Ecton
Sun 12 th July	10am Benefice Holy Communion	Great Doddington
Sun 19 th July	9.30am Holy Communion	Ecton
Sun 26 th July	11am Morning Prayer	Ecton

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

BE SCAM AWARE

Officers from Northamptonshire Police's Economic Crime Unit are warning the public about a group of rogue traders who have been attempting to scam vulnerable people in the county.

The national message is to Take Five to stop fraud. **STOP – CHALLENGE – PROTECT**

STOP – take a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information.

CHALLENGE – could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

PROTECT – Contact your bank immediately if you think you've been scammed, either via online banking or by dialling 159 and when prompted asking for the fraud team of your bank. You should also report to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

Remember:

Most genuine companies will send a letter before they visit.

If you do open the door, put the chain on first.

Always ask for ID, close the door and check it with the company before letting them into your home (do not call the number given on the card, it may be fake).

You may find the telephone number on one of your bills or the internet.

Genuine callers don't mind checks, they want to keep you safe.

If in doubt, DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR!

Rector's Letter July 2026



On 22nd July the Church celebrates St Mary Magdalene, who is the patron saint of Ecton church. This year, to celebrate the occasion, there will be a Choral Evensong at Ecton at 6pm on Sunday 2nd August.

We have been awarded a grant for this service from the Choral Evensong Trust <https://new.choralevensong.org/about-the-choral-evensong-trust/> . The Trust is encouraging churches, who do not usually hold an evensong service, to do so to celebrate their Patronal Festival. The grant is to be used for a choir and refreshments, which will include a celebration cake.

The service of evensong has a long tradition and is still popular in cathedrals and many churches. It includes organ music, choir led singing, readings, prayers and a short Homily. The service lasts about 45 minutes and is a lovely way to end the day, especially in the busy world in which we live.

At the service on 2nd August we will hear about the life of Mary Magdalene, who was a follower of Jesus and was the first person to see Jesus after the resurrection. She went and told the disciples she had seen the risen Christ and became known as the “Apostle to the Apostles”. Do join us if you are able to, to learn more about Mary Magdalene, experience an uplifting service followed by good fellowship afterwards.

There will also be an Evensong Service at Ecton at 6pm on Sunday 5th. No choir for this one, but good organ music and traditional evening hymns will be sung. The Homily will be based on the evening hymn The day Thou gavest Lord, is ended.

If these services prove popular, we will look to put on some more on next year. Do let me know what you think.

Yours in Christ,

Revd. Jackie Buck
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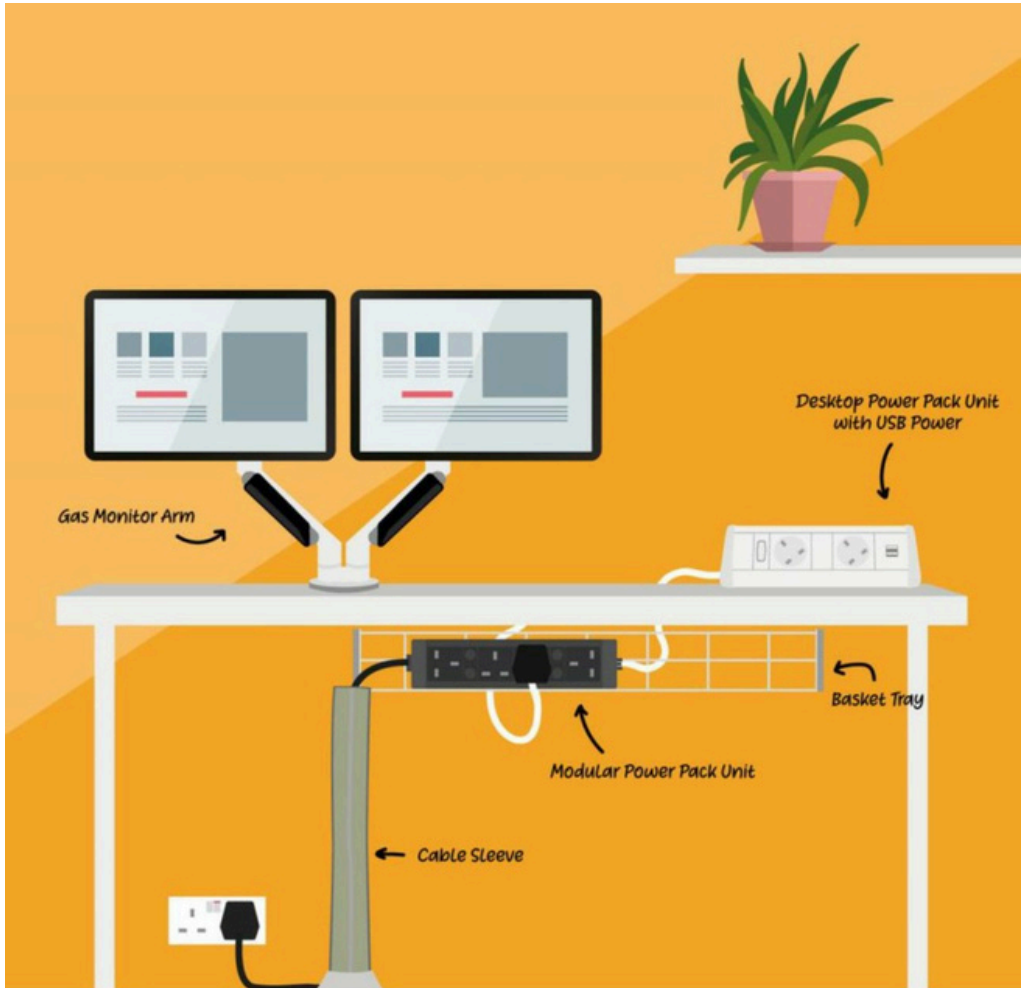
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ECTON GOLDEN OLDIES

Thanks Margaret for providing the ham for our last lunch, it was lovely and much appreciated.

On July 17th we are going to Barnsdale Gardens (the home of Geoff Hamilton). We are leaving the village at 10.15 returning at 4.30ish. We have spaces for friends and neighbours. For non EGO's the charge is £13.50 (the cost of entry to the gardens). If you are not sure you are on the list or you want to bring a friend call Sally 07850416429, Kathy 01604404590 or Pat 07751505608

Sally and the team

Dates for the year:

21st August, 18th, September, 16th October, 20th November, December tbc



Did you know??

Ecton has its very own Café ... Ecton Brew, run by volunteers. If you would like to join the friendly pool of helpers contact Claire.

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 have introduced a 'Guest Baker' each month. Could you make your 'Signature Cake' for the café? if so please contact me.

Claire 07962 079564



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!

Call, Richard on **07583 994532**

Several satisfied repeat clients in the village



The Ecton Village Summer Quiz

7pm 3 July in the
Village Hall



Bar, bring your own nibbles
£5 per head

For tickets contact
Alistair McCarter 07914 796844
or NigelBond 07923 634739
All proceeds to Ecton Church

Become a volunteer Puppy Raiser with Guide Dogs



Are you a dog lover? Do you have the time to help raise a life-changing puppy? Would you like to make a difference to someone's life? If you've answered yes to these questions, then this could be the perfect role for you!

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There might be the odd chewed slipper here and there but nothing beats the rewarding feeling of loving and raising a puppy which will go on to make an enormous difference to someone living with sight loss.

Puppy Raiser, Kelly, says -

"It's the most rewarding and fulfilling thing I have ever done. I have an enormous sense of worth and pride in my role. There are so many people willing to help. It's a lovely community of Puppy Raisers who want all the dogs to succeed and are always happy to help."

To find out more and apply, visit:

www.guidedogs.org.uk/volunteer or
email

volattractcentral@guidedogs.org.uk.

Our friendly Volunteer Office is open
9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday,
tel. 0345 143 0191.

Ecton History Group

Beyond Births, Marriages and Burials

Parish registers are often viewed simply as records of baptisms, marriages and burials, but the Ecton registers reveal far more than names and dates. Hidden among the routine entries are memoranda and annotations that offer rare glimpses into the religious and social life of the seventeenth century.

One particularly striking note from 1629 records the appointment of Richard Middleton, “Bachelor of Divinity & one of the King’s Chaplains,” to the rectory of Ecton. The memorandum also notes that Samuel Hook, Master of Arts, continued as curate after Middleton’s induction. Such entries preserve details of parish administration that would otherwise be lost.

There is a lengthy pastoral memorandum describing Middleton’s efforts to reform parish worship. The clerk writes that, “in zeal to God’s glory,” Middleton introduced a monthly communion to strengthen “faith, pietie, charitie, & all other gifts of grace” among the people. The note adds that he personally paid the additional expense of these more frequent services, and the following year, a ‘Towne Clock’ which would ring bells at 4am, 12 noon and 8pm except on the Sabbath and holy days, to ‘call all good people to work’ He also structured the teaching of Children & Adults, through question and answer sessions, known as Catechising. This was to teach the principles of the Church of England and reflects the growing emphasis on religious discipline and instruction in the years before the English Civil War.

Other marginal notes name churchwardens, curates and local officials, transforming the registers into living social documents. They reveal not only who lived in Ecton, but how the parish functioned, how religion then shaped daily life, and how local communities were governed.

These forgotten annotations remind us that parish registers preserve far more than just family history — they preserve the character and concerns of an entire community.

We are holding our Ecton History Meetings every other month, our next meeting will be Wednesday 1st July, and then on 2nd September at 7pm in the Skittles Room at The Three Horseshoes. Look forward to seeing you all then.

- David Dicks & Wendy Stephens.



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RSVP

Claire on 07962 079564 or
Sally on 07850 416429

Community Page

A date for your diaries

Ecton Safari Supper : Saturday 7th November

The Ecton Golf Day was held in May. Despite forecasts of heavy rain sufficient rain dances meant we only got one ten minute shower. The individual winner was Mick Gardner and the Nick Mills Team Trophy went to Anne Hammond, Dick Chapman and Gary Boddington. An excellent feast supplied by Anita was held at the Three Horseshoes. A big thank you once again to our generous sponsors, Wendy Mills and The Three Horseshoes. Next years competition is on Tuesday May 18th and any newcomers are welcome to play.

Steve Hunt



Planned Village Hall Events for your diary

BBQ Saturday 1st August

Race Night Friday 11th September

Tabletop Sale Saturday 17th October

Winter Quiz Saturday 21st November

Christmas Brunch Sunday 6th December

Christmas Starter Saturday 19th December



July Quiz questions !!!!

First is First

1. Which iconic and long running B.B.C. programme was first broadcast from the the Dickenson Road Studios in Manchester in 1964?
2. Helen Sharman was the first British female to do what?
3. What first did athlete Jim Hinds achieve in 1968?
4. Who holds the title First Lord of the Treasury in the U.K?
5. What was the first product to be advertised in Britain on ITV in 1955

Good Luck !!!!! Answers will be in next month's magazine.

Answers to last month's quiz are on page 27



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Each month we'll be asking an Ecton resident for their **Desert Island Disc** selection, July is Alistair MacRae



What was the first record you bought?

Diamonds by Jet Harris and Tony Meehan. It cost me six shillings (30p).

Is there a record or tune that reminds you of a particular time in your life?

All Right Now by Free. In the Summer of 1971 they were the first "big name" band I saw live. Their blues-infused rock has the place jumping.

Favourite female singer and song?

There are individual songs I love by Etta James, PP Arnold and Elkie Brooks. But consistently enjoyable for me is Annie Lennox. I really like Cold from Diva.

Favourite male singer and song?

Again there are many candidates; Marvin Gaye, Steve Winwood, Eric Bibb. But my choice is the singer/songwriter Gus MacGregor. Great voice, great acoustic guitar and his lyrics are always straightforward but heartfelt. I love his song A Friend from his album A Different Dream.

Favourite Band?

The Beatles from my teens, later Emerson, Lake & Palmer and recently Kaleo but overall it has to be Jethro Tull. Maybe it's their mix of rock, folk and jazz that appeals to my own varied tastes or just the curiosity of a flute lead rather than guitar. They're still going after nearly 60 years.

Most played Albums?

I've always got music playing around the house or in the car. But if I want to sit down and simply listen, more often than not it'll be Division Bell by Pink Floyd.

Best Concert attended?

Oscar Peterson at the Montreux Festival in the summer of 2005. Everyone was spellbound by the maestro playing some of his greatest tunes. At the time we didn't realise how very lucky we were because that was one of his last live performances before ill health forced him to retire.

If you could take one record to the Island, what would it be?

The Lark Ascending by Ralph Vaughan Williams. A beautiful pastoral piece with the violin capturing the song of the lark just like I hear in the summer when walking across the fields around Ecton. It would remind me of home.

What book and luxury item would you take?

I think on the desert island I'd need a laugh now and then, so I'd take Puckoon by Spike Milligan. It's full of his absurd humour but also has gentler moments. I'd like to take my guitar. I don't practice enough but on the desert island I should have time and wouldn't annoy people by playing the same piece over and over until I got it right.

To listen to some of the music I've mentioned, search for the playlist **Ecton View July 26** on Spotify or on YouTube Music.

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Butterflies in July

A warm sunny day is a good time to see butterflies in your garden or further afield. In July you may see Meadow Brown, Gatekeeper, Peacock, Painted lady, Comma, Small Tortoiseshell and the Large and Small Whites. Hopefully you have lots of flowers and grasses where they can feed. Other butterflies can be seen in more specific habitats like the purple emperor at Fermyn Woods and the Marbled White at Twywell Hills and Dales reserve.

Charlotte Eley

Sunshine



The warmer weather and rain have facilitated huge growth in gardens and our churchyard. The grass that has been left unsown is tall and elegant with delicate seedbeds blowing gently in the breeze. It is interspersed with flowers, particularly ox-eyed daisies which are often as tall. Yellow flowers grow nearer the ground opening in the sunshine. I love these small

areas which are left among the mown area, so do the insects. They are also busy, particularly bees, visiting the flowers of our shrubs, herbs and more formal plants in the borders. The undergrowth around the boundaries is full of activity. There are hidden woodpiles, a tiny pond and many “weeds” seeding plants as well as a bird box and bug hotels. Please come and enjoy the churchyard, look for butterflies and listen for birds and insects. We hope the sunflowers seeded from last year will flower this month.

Anne Henderson

Answers to last months Quiz questions.....

1. Paul Hewson is Bono from U2
2. Tony Rome was played by Frank Sinatra
3. Graham McPherson is Suggs from Madness
4. Teflon Tony is Tony Blair
5. The Purple One is Prince

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X47	08:14
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
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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
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X47	13:49
X46	14:14
X47	14:49
X46	15:22
X47	16:00
X46	16:28
X47	17:03
X46	17:26
X47	17:57
X46	18:22
X47	18:46
X46	19:27
X47	19:44



Bin Collected from 6.30am



July		August		September	
3rd	Green	7th	Black	4th	Black
10th	Black	14th	Green	11th	Green
17th	Green	21st	Black	18th	Black
24th	Black	28th	Green	25th	Green
31st	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 freephone 0800 145 145

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

Escaped Livestock!



If you come across escaped livestock on our streets please contact the farmer David Penn on 07802 296323. You may also need to contact the police on 101.

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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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			
Wed 1 st July	19:30	Ecton History Group	3 Horsehoes
Fri 3 rd July		Green Bin Collection	
Fri 3 rd July		Ecton Brew	Ecton Village Hall
Fri 3 rd July		Summer Quiz	Ecton Village Hall
Sun 5 th July	14:00	Live Music - Haley & The Heartbeats	3 Horsehoes
Fri 10 th July		Black Bin Collection	
Wed 15 th July	20:00	Quiz Night	3 Horsehoes
Fri 17 th July		Green Bin Collection	
Fri 17 th July		EGOs trip to Barnsdale Gardens	
Sun 19 th July	14:00	Live Music - Old School Revival	3 Horsehoes
Thu 23 rd July	20:15	Live Music - Village Choir	3 Horsehoes
Fri 24 th July		Black Bin Collection	
Thu 30 th July		Open Mike Night	3 Horsehoes
Fri 31 st July		Green Bin Collection	
August			
Sat 1 st August		Village BBQ	Ecton Village Hall
Wed 5 th August	20:00	Quiz Night	3 Horsehoes
Fri 7 th August		Black Bin Collection	
Fri 7 th August		Ecton Brew	Ecton Village Hall
Sun 9 th August	14:00	Live Music - Grande Quattro	3 Horsehoes
Fri 14 th August		Green Bin Collection	
Sun 16 th August	14:00	Live Music - Family Affair	3 Horsehoes
Fri 21 st August		Black Bin Collection	
Fri 21 st August		EGOs	Ecton Village Hall
Sat 22 nd August	16:00	Live Music - Massy Ferguson	3 Horsehoes
Thu 27 th August		Open Mike Night	3 Horsehoes
Fri 28 th August		Green Bin Collection	
Sun 30 th August		Morris Dancing	3 Horsehoes



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