



The Ecton View

March 2026

Issue 235

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

Website Editor

Thomas Coulter-Brophy
TCB@ectonvillage.co.uk

Cover Photo:- By Phil Foster, taken at Barton Fields

Ecton Church Lottery		
	1st Prize £50	2nd Prize £25
January 2026	Maggi & Steve Hunt	John Vintiner
February 2026	Carol & Robert East	Philip Standing

ECTON VIEW News

Welcome to the March edition of the Village Magazine.

Please see below a letter from Ecton Parish Council

Dear residents of Ecton,

I have been reading on Facebook, that some irresponsible dog owners are allowing the streets and pathways to be fouled with dog excrement.

This is an illegal activity, as well as a health hazard, so according to North Northants Council, dog owners are legally required to clean up after their pets in all public areas.

The Rules and Regulations says:-

- *Must Clean Up: You must pick up dog mess immediately.*
- *Carry Bags: It is an offence to walk a dog in public without the means to clean up, such as carrying suitable bags.*
- *Penalties: Failure to pick up can result in a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £100, potentially rising to £1,000 if the case goes to court.*
- *No Excuse: Being unaware the dog fouled or not having a bag is not a valid excuse. (NB Dog wardens can challenge dog walkers for evidence)*

To the Irresponsible dog owners, this article is for you.

If you get caught you WILL BE prosecuted, as Dog Wardens have been asked to monitor the village at random times.

Alas, I have had to write this article as the feelings in the village are getting quite heated, and to prevent escalation, I hope the offenders when reading this article take note and modify their actions.

Most Ecton dog owners are doing their duty, and I thank them for doing so. There are dog bins located at the south end of West Street, and near the gate in Barton fields. They are emptied on a regular basis, but in the rare occurrences they are full, please could you dispose of them at home rather than leaving on the fence.

If anyone has date/times and door camera footage, of the culprits, please send it to me, and I will forward it onto the prosecuting authorities!!

Kind regards Ian

Chair Ecton Parish Council



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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 7th March and 4th April.

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 13 for further details

ECTON WALKS 2025

Walks planned for March will be on the 11th and 25th. The walk on the 11th will be a longer walk (5-6 miles) and the 25th 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 April 2026 magazine

to : ectonviewmagazine@outlook.com

or phone 07770 335107

By 24th March 2026

Ecton Services for March 2026

Sun 1 st March	No Service at Ecton	
	Please join us at one of our other churches.	
	9.30am Holy Communion	Wilby
	11am Holy Communion	Great Doddington
Tue 3 rd March	10am Holy Communion	Ecton
Sun 8 th March	9.30am Holy Communion	Ecton
Sun 15 th March	9.30am Holy Communion	Ecton
Sun 22 nd March	11am Morning Prayer	Ecton
Sun 29 th March	10am Benefice Holy Communion	Great Doddington
Palm Sunday		

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

Next Songs of Praise

Wednesday 8th April 2026

Great Doddington Church

Church Lane
NN29 7TR

Singing from 2pm Refreshments at 3pm

All Welcome

Rector's Letter March 2026



As a child I remember Easter eggs having a small bag of sweets or chocolates inside, something which I don't think happens at all these days, which is a shame, because the Easter egg is full of Christian symbolism. The whole egg itself can represent the stone which was rolled in front of the tomb. Once the egg is opened it represents the empty tomb and becomes a symbol of new life, for as new life can come from an egg, so Jesus, through his death and resurrection, gives new life to all. The bag of sweets inside then represents the cloths that were left behind when Jesus rose from the dead, an important detail as it proved Jesus' body had not simply been taken away.

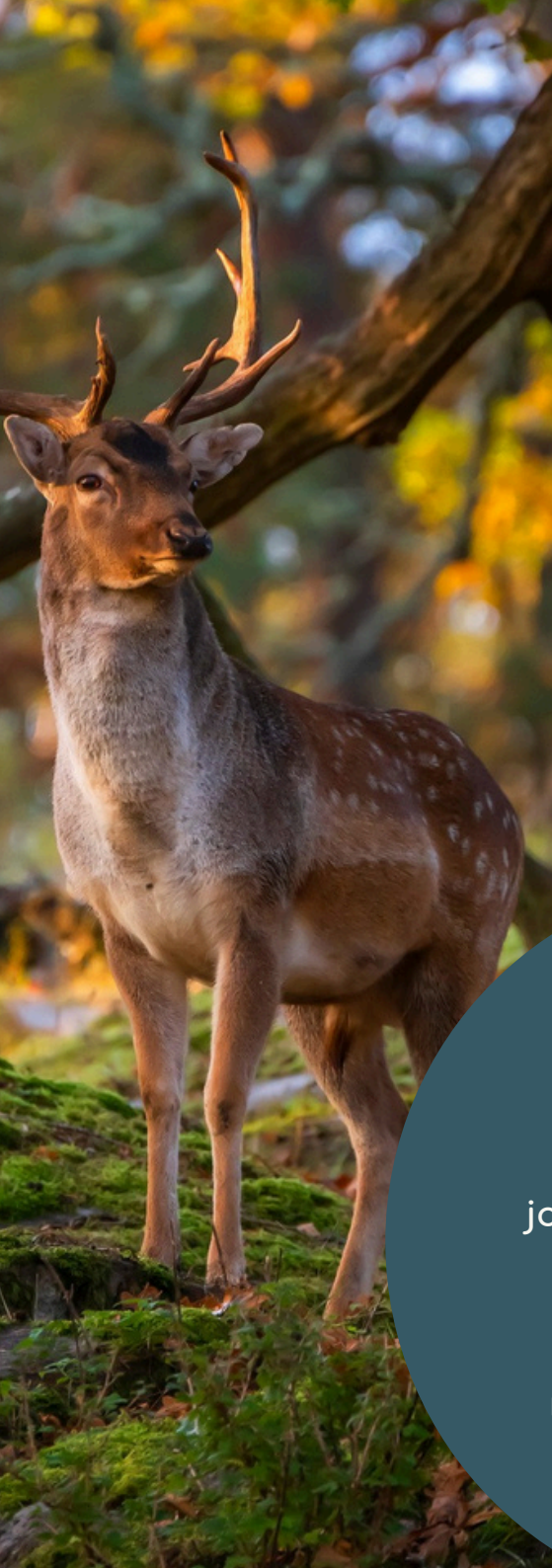
Easter Day this year is on Sunday 5th April and on the front of the church Easter card is a picture of the empty tomb reminding us that Jesus is risen. Jesus' death on the cross was an act of love that promises a new start for all who believe and his rising makes Easter the greatest celebration in the Church calendar.

We hope the card will be a reminder of the real meaning of Easter and you will see it as an invitation to join us at any of the services and events across the benefice. Thank you to those who have delivered the cards this year. The details, including those of our regular services, can also be found on the Benefice website: <https://gdwebenefice.wordpress.com/>

Easter is such a special time of year and the Church is here for everyone, whether you attend regularly or not and we regularly pray those who live and work in our communities. I and other members of the church are more than happy to visit people at home and, if you are unable to come to church, we can also bring Communion to you, not only at Easter but at any time of the year.

Wishing you all a very happy and blessed Easter,

Revd. Jackie Buck



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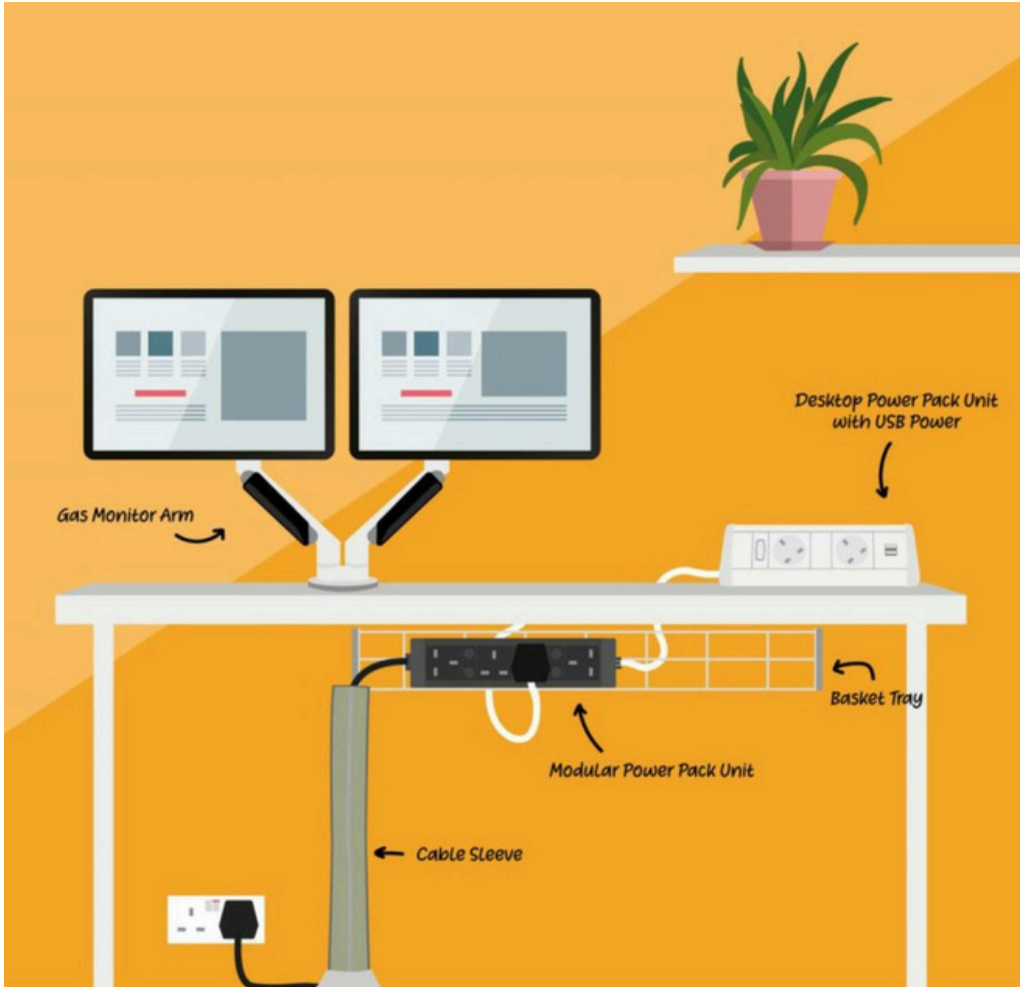
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ECTON GOLDEN OLDIES

We all enjoyed the now famous “Carol’s Lasagne” in February. We are now heading for the next famous event - it’s Kathy’s chocolate and sweet tombola (any contributions to Kathy beforehand) for our March get together on March 20th, just before Easter We have some ideas for future events but if there is anything you would particularly like to do please let us know and also any ideas for a summer outing.

Don’t forget the last of the Winter Warmers is on March 10th.

See you all soon.

Sally and the team

Dates for the year:

20th March, 17th April, 15th May, 19th June, 17th July, 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



Craig Wright Memorial Charity Skittles

*3 Lives Killer
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Sat 21st March 2026

at The Three Horseshoes

Registration - 3.30pm prompt

Cash Prizes for Winner & Runner Up

Grand Raffle

£3 Entry Fee

Everybody Welcome

Refreshments to Follow



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Thank You For Your Support

Ecton History Group

Update - Search for the Oldest House in Ecton

Our research continues, but so far we have come up with a few candidates for the Oldest House in the Village, these include:

Ecton Hall, parts of which date from 16 Century

Ecton House, dated 1693

The Manor House, dated 1694

Wheelwrights Cottage, also late 17 Century

There may also be a couple of other cottages that were built earlier, if you live in any of the old stone cottages and happen to come across copies of original deeds with more details, please let us know.



If you have any other questions, topics or information relating to Ecton History to share, we would always be willing to help with any research wherever possible.

We are holding our Ecton History Meetings every other month, our next meeting will be Wednesday 4th March, followed by Wednesday 6th May, at 8pm in the Skittles Room at The Three Horseshoes. Look forward to seeing you all then.

- David Dicks & Wendy Stephens.

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

Planned Village Hall Events for your diary

Spring Quiz Friday 13th March
Bingo Night Saturday 11th April
Table Top Sale 3rd May
Wine Tasting 9th May

Community Page

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

A massive thank you to all the people that helped us raise a bumper £1489.90 at our February Bridge Drive. As ever, we couldn't do it without you. You're such an incredible team!

The money has been divided between Ecton Church, Brain Tumor Research and Head Up (a charity that helps with mental health of our ex-armed forces).

For those of you interested Jayne Riven's son, Ben, is running a marathon in April to raise much needed funds for Brain Tumor Research in memory of his Dad. If you'd like to support Ben, his Just Giving page can be found by copying and pasting the URL below into your browser:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/ben-rivans-2?tm_medium=FR&utm_source=WA

Once again, thank you all - you're amazing!

Margaret & Carol xxx



Audrey May Fitzhugh

5th March 1933 - 7th January 2026

On behalf of the family, Michael would like to thank everyone for the overwhelming love and support at this difficult time. You showed the same when Dad passed away as you have for Mum.

Now they are together again.

Ecton is not just a place of birth, it is the community of spirit shown from all who live here, forever giving, never ending.

"Times change and we with time but not in ways of friendship".



A warm welcome goes to CANTO LEARNING who have just moved to South Lodge on the Ecton Estate. They are a registered charity working with adults with learning disabilities.

They will collect toys, books, puzzles bric-a-brac etc from you. If you have items that you wish to donate call them on 01604 741150 or text on 07780457789 to arrange collection.

In addition they are happy to do small jobs around the village, again please contact them on the above numbers.

They also run a Pop-up Charity shop.



February Quiz questions !!!!

1. Which three digit numbers comes next? 1, 8, 11, 69, 88, 96, 101, ???
2. What is the **minimum** number of points you need to win a frame of snooker?
3. Which musical act has achieved over 100 hit albums in the UK & USA charts?

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

Answers to last month's quiz are on page 23



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Each month we'll be asking an Ecton resident for their **Desert Island Disc** selection, March is Joe Fernley



What was the first record you bought?

The first record I clearly remember buying myself was Dead Ringer for Love by Meat Loaf in 1981, when I was about 12. I definitely had earlier records as gifts, ABBA in particular, but this was the first one I chose and paid for.

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

I Have a Dream by ABBA. I sang it live on stage with them at Wembley Arena for three nights in November 1979 as part of my school choir. Sky News presenter Gillian Joseph was also in the choir. My biggest claim to fame was that Agnetha gave me a kiss on the cheek on the last night.

Favourite female singer and song?

I don't really have a single favourite. My listening has always been more band-focused, but I was genuinely excited to see Kylie Minogue live last year, which probably says something about her staying power.

Favourite male singer and song?

As a teenager it would have been Michael Jackson. I later introduced Sam to his music as well, and it became his favourite for a while too. I have gone off Jackson as a person for obvious reasons, but songs like Billie Jean were undeniably formative. Around the same time, I also really appreciated Prince. Purple Rain remains one of my favourite albums, with When Doves Cry the standout track.

Favourite Band?

That's easy. Queen. I was introduced to them via Greatest Hits, then bought all their albums while still at school.

Most played Albums?

Of all time, probably Born in the U.S.A. by Bruce Springsteen, Brothers in Arms by Dire Straits, and, slightly left of field, The War of the Worlds by Jeff Wayne. All three are albums I keep coming back to rather than something tied to a single phase.

Best Concert attended? Queen at Wembley in 1986, right at the front. I was lucky enough to see many great acts growing up in Wembley, but Queen was definitely the best. It cost £15. I hadn't been able to afford Live Aid the year before, which was a whopping £25. My second choice would be the first concert I went to with Alex, Ocean Colour Scene at the height of their fame at Brixton Academy.

If you could take one record to the island, what would it be? If I had to choose something different from those already mentioned, it would be Hot Rocks 1964–1971 by The Rolling Stones. Greatest hits albums are usually frowned upon, but this one is full of classics and would stand up to endless listening.

What book and luxury item would you take? For my book choice, I would go with The Stand (uncut edition) by Stephen King. One of the few books I have read more than once. A fantastic story and, at around 1,200 pages, it would keep me busy. I first read it while travelling around Africa after graduating. The last time I read it was at the start of Covid.

As for the luxury item, that would have to be a bike. If the island is tiny, a stationary one will do.

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Ecton Village
Spring Quiz
Friday March 13th
At the Village Hall

7.30pm start

Proceeds towards Brain Tumour Research

Raffle

Prizes for the winning team

2 Separate Prize Rounds

Come as a team or come to join a team


Tickets £5 per person

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Cold Weather, Warm Heart

I recently visited Summer Leys, going to the hide at the end of the car park. A member of the Wildlife Trust was there to help people identify birds and talk about the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits Special Protection Area. It was lovely to see 2/3 oystercatchers flying around calling and the moorhens choosing territory/mates, so Spring is coming! I also saw a pair of little grebes – small and dainty, and a little and great egret – large and majestic. The shovellers were asleep with their distinctive beaks tucked under their wings. The weather was cold, dull and damp, but watching the birds warmed my heart!

Charlotte Eley

Welcome Spring!



What a pleasure to see the spring flowers; they were planted months ago and more are growing. Now we hope to enjoy summer flowers grown from seeds, cuttings or transplanted which we shall be busy doing in the next months. We shall be preparing for summer on our next Saturday Open Church/Churchyard Care mornings 10am to 12pm. (refreshments always available).

On 14th March we would like to welcome families between 10am and 11am for children to pick a few flowers for their Mums for Mothering Sunday the following day.

Did you see our sunflowers last year? On 4th April please come along to help plant some of last year's seeds in pots to take away and care for a month. We shall also be decorating the church for Easter so please bring some of your garden flowers and greenery and give us a hand! We shall also be building an Easter Garden during Holy Week in the border by the North Porch.

On 2nd May we are holding a Coffee Morning and Plant Sale. We shall also be planting out those young sunflowers in the border.

Anne Henderson

Answers to last months Quiz questions.....

1. Where can the letter B equal 4, 5 and 7 at the same time? In the game of snooker. (Brown, Blue & Black Balls).

2. What are the next two letters in the following sequence?

WT SG SR !! The next 2 letters are AN. The first and last letters of Autumn. As notified on Facebook there was a typo in the original question WR = Winter, SG = Spring & SR = Summer

3. If $7 + 8 = 3$ and $10 + 9 = 7$ what is $11 + 2$? Answer is 1. Numbers are on the face of a clock

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

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

Buses To N'ton	
X46	07:39
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
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	15:22
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



March		April		May	
6th	Black	3rd	Black	1st	Black
13th	Green	10th	Green	8th	Green
20th	Black	17th	Black	15th	Black
27th	Green	24th	Green	22nd	Green
				29th	Black

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.

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@dvs.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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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
March			
Wed 4 th Mar	20:00	History Society	3 Horsehoes
Fri 6 th Mar		Black Bin Collection	
Fri 6 th Mar		Ecton Brew	Ecton Village Hall
Tue 10 th Mar	11:30	Winter Warmers	Ecton Village Hall
Wed 11 th Mar	20:00	Quiz Night	3 Horsehoes
Fri 13 th Mar		Green Bin Collection	
Fri 13 th Mar	19:30	Spring Quiz	Ecton Village Hall
Fri 20 th Mar		Black Bin Collection	
Fri 20 th Mar		EGOs	Ecton Village Hall
Sat 21 st Mar	15:30	Charity Killer Skittles	3 Horsehoes
Sun 22 nd Mar		Toast Sunday	3 Horseshoes
Wed 25 th Mar	20:00	Quiz Night	3 Horsehoes
Thu 26 th Mar		Open Mike Night	3 Horsehoes
Fri 27 th Mar		Green Bin Collection	
April			
Fri 3 rd Apr		Black Bin Collection	
Fri 3 rd Apr		Ecton Brew	Ecton Village Hall
Wed 8 th Apr	20:00	Quiz Night	3 Horsehoes
Fri 10 th Apr		Green Bin Collection	
Sat 11 th Apr		Bingo Night	Ecton Village Hall
Sun 12 th Apr		Live music Family Affair	3 Horseshoes
Fri 17 th Apr		Black Bin Collection	
Fri 20 th Apr		EGOs	Ecton Village Hall
Wed 22 nd Apr	20:00	Quiz Night	3 Horsehoes
Fri 24 th Apr		Green Bin Collection	
Thu 30 th Apr		Open Mike Night	3 Horsehoes



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All our campers are fitted with 2 x swivelling captain seats, 2 rear seats (with isofix) and sleeps 4 with double rib bed and panoramic pop-top roof bed, storage cupboards, 4G Wi-Fi, Apple CarPlay, Phone connection & Bluetooth.

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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?**