

REPORT ON EASTON ROYAL HERITAGE GROUP 2025-2026

The Group continues to update archive materials to provide an ongoing record of village activities plus additions from other sources.

An ongoing display of archive photographs is posted on the village hall noticeboard for the benefit of all villagers,

We have been working to update our village website which is now ready to launch at our upcoming AGM. We hope villagers will enjoy dipping into it and recommend it to all their friends and relations!

We now have seven committee members: myself, Carole and Ray Choules, Judith McLain, Ian Johnson, Colin Edwards and Julie Farrell.

Our speakers throughout the year have been much enjoyed by members and visitors particularly two of 'our own' – Ben Cooper and Chris Elliott. If anyone reading this has a topic which they think may be of interest we should be delighted to hear from them.

Our bank balance is healthy and we have continued with a very loyal set of members who turn out in all weathers to support us.

Thank you to them, particularly the committee members and to all the villagers for the interest they show in the work of the Heritage Group.

Elizabeth Johnson – chair, Easton Royal Heritage Group

Report for Annual village meeting 14th April 2026

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Attendance at services has remained steady but reflect the generally lower levels nationally. Special and festival services – Plough Sunday, Easter, Living churchyard, harvest, Remembrance and Christmas were well supported.

End of term services for Easton Royal Academy were held in church.

Work on the Living Churchyard project is progressing with planting of wildflower beds and reduced mowing in the western area of the churchyard. Links have been established with the school ecoproject.

Sarah Crookes has taken on the role of treasurer.

The quinquennial Inspection took place at the end of April last year and the report received in September. There are several areas needing attention and quotes are awaited from contractors.

The organ is in the process of being registered/listed. It is hoped if this is achieved, it will enable applications for grants for the further work required.

Lilies for Remembrance, plant sale, progressive supper and village Christmas card were all successful.

My thanks to PCC members for their support and also all those who provide flowers, read lessons and clean the church.

Finally Rev Mark for his continued support.

Drop In Coffee Mornings

**A great way to while away
a morning chatting to friends
over coffee & cake.**

Coffee Mornings in the village have been running for 20 years. Originally started for the retired folk in 2006 where it would be hosted in different houses in the village. We have had some lovely summer ones sat in our hosts gardens surrounded by roses and flowers. Then some winter ones in a cosy sitting room, always served with lovely coffee and cake. We started off with coffee and biscuits, but you know Easton Royal a cake was introduced, followed by more cake and cheese scones and sausage roll A Feast!!

Now don't let this put you off from becoming a host, there is always someone to help and to make a cake. The more people willing to make a cake the better.

Since Covid we have been holding the monthly coffee mornings in the Village Hall enabling us to open the invitation up to all, held usually around the middle of the month, either a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 10 - 12 noon.

We change the day to hopefully make it accessible to most people. Look out for the notice on Mail Chimp and WhatsApp.

We have become very successful fund-raisers. All the money collected, £4.00 per head (less payment for hire of hall) goes towards our chosen charities. Over the years we have donated to many charities such as Cancer Research, Alzheimer's, Macmillan, Pewsey Link, Dogs' Trust, Ukraine Fund, Cystic Fibrosis Trust and also Plants for Village Flower Troughs and Village Coronation Fund. Last year (2023) we raised £1,050.00 which we gave £500 to Wiltshire Air Ambulance, £300 to Prospect and £250. to Julia's House Children's Hospice. December 2025 we gave £1000. to South West Ambulance Charity to help fund a new vehicle for the Volunteer First Responders in our area.

If you and a few friends would like to host a morning, please let me know.

Carole Choules choulescarole@gmail.com 810481



Future Coffee Morning Dates 2026

Most are held in the Village Hall 10 - 12 Noon at a charge of £4.

Hosts with the help of friends

Thursday 26th February	Isobel & Nigel Barnwell
Thursday 26th March	Judy Grange & Jane Narizzano
Thursday 16th April.	Hilary Hollinsworth

Money to St Timothy Foundation

May, June, July & August, weather permitting, we are hoping to hold the coffee mornings in the hosts lovely gardens like last year.

Thursday 28th May.	Jennifer & Peter Turton's garden, if wet V.H.
Wednesday 24th June.	Nickie & Ian Johnson's garden, if wet V.H
Wednesday 22nd July.	Peta & Daniel Puyo's garden, if wet V.H.
Wednesday 13th August	Carole Gale & Karen Nimmo Scott in the garden (not sure which one yet)

Money to Cystic Fibrosis

Friday 25th September.	MacMillan Afternoon Tea in the Village Hall: 2 - 5pm. £5. money to MacMillan Hosts Liz Norman, Jennifer Turton & Carole Choules
------------------------	---

Tuesday 20th October.	Amanda & Mark Baines
-----------------------	----------------------

Wednesday 18th November.	Christine Fitt, Liz, Jennifer & Carole
--------------------------	--

Friday 11th December.	Bring & Share Lunch 1 - 3pm
-----------------------	--

At the Bring & Share Lunch a vote will be made on which charity/charities will receive the money we have collected throughout the year, (except that already given)

Carole Choules. choulescarole@gmail.com

Orchard Team

Last year's sunny weather produced an exceptional harvest of fruit. There was an abundance of fallen apples and rather than let them go to waste those that were collected from the ground were given to the 'pig lady'.

Some of the oak trees along the edge of the recreation ground were overhanging some of the orchard trees so we obtained agreement and Ivan and Ian then trimmed some of the lower branches.

The orchard was pruned in February with further summer pruning scheduled to take place in the summer.

As always, orchard produce can be gathered by all villagers for their own use.

There is an abundance of apple varieties in the orchard but also cob nuts, plums, pears, damsons, quince and crab apples. Quince jelly is delicious - why not give it a try? The orchard sign indicates where varieties are located.

If you interested in helping with pruning an extra pair of hands is always welcome so please get in touch with Ivan or Ian for more information.

SPEEDWATCH 2025/26

Over 60 Speedwatch sessions on the top road.

7,547 vehicles counted

205 vehicles reported for speeding

Highest speed – 2 cars at 52 MPH

9 cars reported for a second time

Thanks to Allan Duncan, Brian Norman, Richard Grant, John Yeoman, Roger Tilbrook, Chris Elliot and Cedric Hollinsworth for all their efforts.

James Hamblin

Easton Royal Remembrance Activity Report – 2025

The annual remembrance activities in Easton Royal were once again very well attended and thoughtfully observed by the community. The programme included a moving service at Holy Trinity Church, followed by a sell-out curry lunch in the village hall. Both events were strongly supported, reflecting the village's continued commitment to remembrance and community spirit.

Alongside the village poppy appeal collections, a total of £1,479.55 was raised this year in support of the Royal British Legion. The breakdown is as follows:

- ER West side – £175.98
- ER East side – £234.00
- ER Harris Lane – £83.37
- ER Main Road – £45.45
- ER Academy – £109.67
- University Technical College, Swindon – £21.72
- Curry Lunch (including bar profit) – £623.36
- Percentage of Church collection – £186.00

This outstanding total is a testament to the generosity and involvement of villagers, from those who donated and collected, to those who organised and attended events. The funds raised will contribute to the vital work of the Royal British Legion in supporting veterans, serving personnel, and their families, ensuring that their sacrifices are never forgotten.

A sincere thank you to everyone who played a part in making this year's remembrance activities such a success. Remembrance Sunday 2026 will be Sunday 8th November; everyone is welcome, more details will follow closer to the time. If you would like to be involved, please speak to Megan Ashton.