



# Newsletter

## May 2009

### EMSWORTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Church Path Emsworth PO10 7DP  
Registered Charity No 269793

Your local independent community association: a venue for local group meetings courses classes exhibitions etc. Skittle Alley. Regular films and social events for members and non-members. Rooms are available for hire by groups and individuals.

## COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT

President	Mr J Batty		02392 475939
Life Vice President	Mrs H Barnard MBE		01243 375142
Chairman	Mrs V Davies	104 North Street	01243 379443
Treasurer	Mr J Bassett	6 Oyster Mews	01243 374451
Secretary	Mrs S Ross	5 Bellview Lane	01243 377271
Booking Secretary	Mrs M Ballard-Neale	27 Beach Road	01243 372294
Membership Secretary	Mrs M S Taplin	54 King Street	01243 374105
Social Secretary	Mrs A Patrick	8 Emsbrook Drive	01243 377493

### Other Committee Members

Mrs C Armitage		Mr R Ballard-Neale	01243 372294
Mrs M L Bird	01243 372262	Mr K Gilchrist	01243 372847
Mr L Kent	01243 373286	Mrs E Mardel	02392 482941
Mrs J Millar	01243 377071	Mrs S Swaine	01243 375544
Mrs J Tier	01243 378470		

### Representatives of Constituent Bodies

Art Group		Mr S Faulkner	01243 372412
Emsworth Residential Association		Mr C Mackey	01243 379777
Emsworth Horticultural Society		Mrs C Howell	01243 378862
Hampshire County Council		Mr D Gillett	01243 378315
Hole in the Wall		Mr C Yeomans	01243 375860
Homing Society		Mr T Leggatt	02392 450886
St Aubin		Mr K Richardson	01243 430737
Thrift		Mrs J Wilcox	01243 371953
U3A		Mrs L Manns	01243 374369
Upholstery		Mrs B Ball	01243 374131

Please contact Maureen Ballard Neale on 372294 if you wish to make a booking for any of the rooms. The ECA's rooms are also available for private hire at the weekend.

Our website can be found at [www.emsworthcommunityassociation.org](http://www.emsworthcommunityassociation.org) and to have your events listed on the website please contact the Website Manager David Linnington. 56 Maisemore Garden. 01243 370308 [david@emsworth.biz](mailto:david@emsworth.biz)

The newsletter is now edited by Marguerita Taplin assisted by Bridget Ball, Louise Bird, Ken Gilchrist, Jill Millar and Sandy Swaine. We welcome any articles relating to the ECA or groups that use the premises Colin Mackey is in charge of distribution of the newsletter and he can be contacted on 01243 379777

**Final date for submission of copy for the July 2009 newsletter is 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009.**

Please send articles and details of any forthcoming events you want publicised to:

Marguerita Taplin 54 King Street, Emsworth PO10 7AZ 01243 374105 email: [ecanewsletter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ecanewsletter@yahoo.co.uk)

### EMSWORTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

#### Annual Subscription January to December 2009

£5.00 per household. Cheques should be made payable to Emsworth Community Association  
(Please note your membership card will be sent to you with the next newsletter published)

Name

Address

Tel:

email:

Send to: Mrs M S Taplin. 54 King Street, Emsworth, Hants PO10 7AZ

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## FORTHCOMING ECA EVENTS

### FILMS

#### **Australia (12A) Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

Baz Luhrmann's epic stars Nicole Kidman. A splendid piece of romantic hokum and a grand relief from all those SERIOUS films. This is what the big screen is good at – rollicking colonial adventure!

#### **The Reader (15) Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

Stephen Daldry directs Best Actress Oscar winner Kate Winslet in a screenplay by David Hare. This is tough stuff but superbly done, as an older Ralph Fiennes narrates the story of his student love for an ex-SS woman officer. A morally complex story without telling us how to think, resulting in a riveting and haunting film.

Each of the above films will be shown at 3.30pm and 7.30pm. Tickets can be bought in advance from Newsmag in the High Street at £5.00. Tea/Coffee & biscuits will be included as usual. All enquiries, tel. 377493.

### Jazz Night

#### **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm**

Join us for our long awaited Jazz Night and enjoy the music of the well known local George's Regis Jazz Band. Our £10.00 ticket will include a light supper and the usual non-alcoholic punch, but feel free to bring your own alcohol if you so wish – we are unable to supply this as we do not hold a licence to sell it. But you won't need a license to enjoy good jazz or to take to the floor for a swinging time. So call us for tickets on 377493 or 375544 or from Newsmag in the High Street.

### Dates For Your Diary

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July. Film: The Young Victoria

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July ECA AGM followed by titbits and wine reception

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September. A Spanish Night

More details of all these events will follow in the July Newsletter

## NEWS

### Quiz Night

It was yet another successful evening on the 21st March when around 70 people participated in the Quiz Night. Competitive spirit ran high and congratulations to the eventual winners. Third place went to The Crunch Bunch and runner ups were the The Apprentices. The winning team were The Millpond Mob who were all presented with Easter eggs.

### Blood Donors

The next blood donation session takes place at the ECA on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

The session times are at:

13:30 to 15:25 and 16:30 to 19:15

Please donate a pint of your blood if you are well and able as it might help to save someone's life. Always remember that your pint could make the difference.



### Burns Night

It may have been called "Burns Night" but nobody got burned despite a really warm welcome from our dedicated volunteers. Over 90 of us found places at the tables with table cloths, serviettes, floating candles and real flower heads in bowls all in blue and white (Scotland's colours I believe).

After a brief introduction to the format of the evening we were entertained to a demonstration of various Scottish Dances ably performed by Alice, Emily and Rebecca with Helen and Brendan. Elizabeth Dean then helped us to do a couple of dances before our meal which got us in the mood for later.



The Haggis was piped in by our Treasurer, James Bassett, dressed in full Scottish regalia after which Ken Gilchrist read sections of Robbie Burns' Ode to the Haggis.



What a meal – haggis, traditional or vegetarian – mash, swede (sorry – neeps) carrots, peas and gravies with many choices of dessert. We managed to work it off by dancing for the rest of the evening. James conducted the raffle during the evening. On behalf of all who attended, thanks to our wonderful volunteers Alison Sandie Louise Maureen and Hilary.

*From a very appreciative ECA member*

## WANTED

### £35,000!

The ECA needs to raise approximately £35,000 to deal with the repair and resurfacing of the playground/parking area. Are you aware of any sources of funding? Do you have any ideas for fund raising and would you like to join a subcommittee to try and raise the monies we need? We would love to hear from you so contact our Chairman Vivienne Davies on 379443. If you wish to make a donation for this sorely needed project please send a cheque to the Treasurer James Bassett using the form below.

## Booking Secretary

We are looking for a volunteer to take on the role of Booking Secretary at the ECA. Maureen Ballard Neale has been valiantly performing this task for over five years and now wishes to retire from this post.

The job entails:

- Taking calls for bookings at times to be agreed – probably no more than four hours per week
- Maintaining the Booking Diary
- Issuing Booking Forms and Conditions of Hiring
- Receiving and banking monies for room hire. Acknowledging receipt and maintaining records
- Attending monthly Council meetings with verbal report on bookings

Please contact Maureen Ballard Neale on 372294 for further information

## Annual General Meeting of the Emsworth Community Association

To be Held on  
Wednesday 15 July 2009 7.30pm

Emsworth Community Centre  
Church Path  
(Behind the Fire Station)

<b>Donation for the ECA Playground Project</b>	<b>Sum: £</b>
Name	
Address	
Tel:	
Please send to: James Bassett, Treasurer, ECA, 6 Oyster Mews, Spring Gardens, Emsworth PO10 7BX	

## Letter to the Editor:

I have only lived in Emsworth for four years, but I never cease to admire the tireless efforts of the many residents in helping to make the town (village?) the wonderful place it is to live in. The ECA Rooms and organisation capture this spirit and contribute in no small manner to this sense of camaraderie.

I moved here from Denmead, and they have a very similar Community Association – also in the “Old School”. However, they do not have the benefit of the new modern development, the Mountford Rooms. This is an amazing asset, and blends so well with the old school buildings.

About 4 or 5 years ago, Denmead Community Association took a big step into the unknown, and employed a full time, paid, Manager/Caretaker. It was a bold step as the rent to the local authority was already a heavy burden. However, I can say that they have never looked back from that day. The bookings boomed, the activities became even more varied, the vandalism almost vanished and obviously the whole set-up ran more smoothly, because there was always someone there to deal with problems when and if they arose. These remarks are in no way meant as a criticism of the ECA, or the band of volunteers who work so hard to provide this wonderful facility. I have got to know several of you well, and I admire your efforts on behalf of the community. But I just sow a seed.  
Alan Borrow

## FOCUS ON further education etc....

This month we focus on groups for the over 50's and also the WEA

### Workers Educational Association

The WEA is Britain's major voluntary adult educational association. It exists to provide high quality learning experiences for adults from every walk of life. People wishing to join the courses do not need any previous knowledge or qualifications, only a willingness to share with others their curiosity, ideas and experience. We are firm believers in life-long learning as a human right and a social good.

The Havant Branch of the association offers courses, day schools and evening talks at venues in Emsworth, Havant and Bedhampton. A course on "Victorians and the Victorian era" will be held on Thursday mornings in the Emsworth Community Centre starting in October. Brochures will be available in August in libraries etc. .

## Ems Valley U3A

The University of the Third Age confuses most people who come across the title for the first time! It is quite simply a group of likeminded people who are no longer in full time employment and who wish to learn and become involved in leisure activities by drawing on the knowledge, experience and efforts of their own members. 210,000 members are involved in the UK alone in over 700 different groups.

Here in Emsworth, the U3A membership was quickly filled, so three years ago we formed the Ems Valley U3A. This new group drew their members from Emsworth, Southbourne and Westbourne. We now have a membership of 230! We meet with a guest speaker in the Parish Hall once a month. (The Mountford Rooms are no longer large enough to accommodate us.)

However the strength of any U3A is in its small specialised groups. Would you believe that there are some 300 different subject groups in the UK? We in Ems Valley already have 30 different groups, ranging in size from four to forty members. This is why we are pleased to use the ECA rooms, and many of our groups use these facilities fortnightly or monthly. (Photoshop, Camera, Computer, Tai Chi, and Geology come to mind immediately.) We should like to register our thanks to the committee and helpers of the ECA for providing such a wonderful facility for Emsworth.

If you are interested in joining U3A, you can attend one of our monthly meetings at the St. James Parish Hall on the fourth Thursday in the month. The meetings start at 2.00pm. A visitor fee is £2.00 and annual membership of Ems Valley U3A is £15.00.

I must add however that whilst membership is still open at time of writing, we are getting close to a stage where we may have to close membership due to capacity at the Hall for these monthly meetings.

Alan Borrow, Chairman Ems Valley U3A

### **Civil Service Retirement Fellowship**

The Civil Service Retirement Fellowship is a voluntary organisation founded forty-one years ago primarily to ensure that no retired civil servant would be lonely. The local group meets at the Emsworth Community Association hall at 10am on the first Friday of every month. We usually have an interesting speaker and sometimes go out for lunch at a local pub. Last December we organised a visit to Chichester for the carol concert.

Essentially, however we are – as our name implies- a social club and one of our main functions is to provide the opportunity for ex-civil servants to meet and chat with people who have had similar working lives.

Membership is open to all former members of the Civil Service and their partners. Further information is available from Mike Hughes on 01243 372037

### **Emsworth and District U3A**

The Emsworth and District University of the Third Age holds monthly meetings with a speaker at the ECA. It also runs some twenty subject and activity study groups, the majority of which are held in peoples homes.

Further information can be obtained from the Membership Secretary on 01243 430097

## **OTHER GROUP ACTIVITIES**

### **Dance For Fun**

A new class starts at the ECA Centre at the end of April. Dance For Fun offers exciting, creative and fun classes for children between 5 and 10 years old. I use contemporary dance as a base and each term we will work on a different dance style such as: Samba, African, Indian, Street dance, Jazz, Musical theatre, Physical theatre and Disco.

We will also spend time creating dances in small groups. I encourage children to express themselves by creating their own work from the ideas and steps they have learnt in class. I strongly believe that expression of movement helps to build individual confidence as well as a group sense of achievement in working together. There are two classes which take place at the ECA Centre on Thursdays. The class for 5 to 7 year olds will run from 4.15 to 5.15pm and the class for 8 to 10 year olds runs from 5.15 to 6.15pm.

Call Rachel on 07766020434 for further information

### **Emsworth Crafts**

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 10am to 1pm

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 10am to 1pm

### **Homing Society**

The racing pigeon club in Emsworth has been in existence since just after the First World War. From 1920 the landlord of the Coal Exchange, a pigeon fancier called George Palmer, took over running the club which consisted of 40 members from all walks of life. One of these members was Cyril Silk who was the greengrocer in the High Street. Interestingly his shop is still a greengrocer now run by the Tiers. Cyril's pigeon loft was fixed on top of the side extension roof between the houses. According to another pigeon fancier Roy Fossey, on one occasion when George Palmer was very far behind in a local pigeon race he threw his pigeon clock smashing one of the Coal Exchange's windows, proving competition then was as keen as it is today.

Emsworth and other local pigeon fanciers bred top quality pigeons for the Second World War messenger service mainly for the RAF at Thorney. 32 pigeons were awarded the Dickins medal for acts of gallantry and amongst the most famous was 'Gustav' a pigeon bred by Mr Jackson of Cosham and trained by the RAF Thorney Island. Gustav carried Reuter's war correspondence on D-Day landings and brought first news of the Normandy landings to England. Pigeons were used to carry messages by all the three services saving the lives of many brave servicemen and women as well as civilians.

Another pigeon bred by the US Army saved hundreds of British lives. The pigeon called 'Gl Joe' delivered a message to the Twelfth Air Support Command of British Infantry who had advanced to a position formerly occupied by the enemy, and that was scheduled to be heavily bombed. Travelling more than a mile a minute he reached the position minutes before the bombers left giving the British Infantry time to evacuate.

When the Emsworth club merged with Havant their name was changed to Emsworth and Havant Homing Society. In 1964 the club moved from the Coal Exchange to the Railway Inn and then on to the Bell and Anchor in Nutbourne. In 1970 we finally moved back "home" to Emsworth and the ECA with the help of Bert Shepherd and Helen Barnard. We took over the tin shed which was formerly the girls playing school shelter. Most people call our base the Pigeon tin hut but we have removed the old tin sides and recladded this with timber so I think we should now be upgraded to the 'Pigeon Cabin'!

Our pigeon racing season starts in the third week of April and ends in September. We start with our old birds racing from 80 miles through to 600 miles from France and Spain and then with the young birds racing through Guernsey and the South of France. I hope you have enjoyed this article and on the history of the club and the part it has played in the community. If you want further information you are welcome to come along to the Pigeon Hut to talk to members on Friday at 4.30ish or Saturday at 5pm. These dates and times may vary so preferably please call me first on 02392 450886.

Tony Leggatt

## Membership 2009

There are still a number of people who have not renewed their subscriptions for this year. A Reminder is being sent out with this newsletter to those whose subscriptions are due and this will definitely be the last newsletter that will be delivered to those who have not paid up for this year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are in any doubt as to whether you have renewed your subscription for 2009.

Membership cards for renewals or new members are sent out with the newsletter to save costs and administration. This can sometimes mean that there is up to a two month delay before you receive your card and my apologies for this.

Marguerita Taplin. Membership Secretary  
01243 374105 margueritataplin@yahoo.co.uk

## Newsletter

The newsletter is published every two months and goes out to all members. What do you think of it? Have you any suggestions as to how it can be improved?

You may use the form below for suggestions or if you want to publicise any activity which is run at the ECA centre. Alternatively call 01243 374105 or email me on ecanewsletter@yahoo.co.uk.

Please make sure you include your contact details if you want any information published in the newsletter.  
Editor

Suggestions or activities at ECA that need to be publicised in Newsletter

From..... Tel No:

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.....  
.....  
.....

Send to : Editor ECA Newsletter. 54 King Street, Emsworth PO10 7AZ 01243 374105

## LIST OF REGULAR ACTIVITIES RUN AT THE ECA and contact no.

Art Group	Full	Wed	1.30pm to 3.30pm
Art: Emsworth Group	372412 Stuart	Wed	9am to 12pm
Art: Pan Art	377271	Tues	9.30am to 12pm
Art: Phoenix Art Group	372373 Anne	Tues	1.30pm to 3.30pm
Art: South Downs College		Thurs	1.30pm to 3.30pm
Art: Workshop	Full	Fri	9.30am to 12pm
Art Workshop: all levels	376674 Edgar	Mon	9am to 11am
Arthritis Exercise Class	378636	Tues	10 t 10.50am 11.10am- 12pm
Bagpipers		Fri Fortnightly	pm
Bourne Quilters	02392 598984 Liz	Mon Monthly	6.30pm to 9pm
Brownies	02392 360222 Sally	Wed	5.30pm to 7pm
Civil Service Retirement Fellowship	372037 Mike	Fri Monthly	10am to 12pm
Cygnets Parent and Toddler Group	389650 Christina	Tues	9.30am to 11am
Dance: Aziza Egyptian	371077 teresagriffin21@aol.com	Mon	6.45 to 8. 8.15 to 9.30pm
Dance: Clog	02392 787478	Thurs Fortnightly	8pm to 10pm
Dance for Fun: Children 5 – 10 years	07766020434 Rachel	Thurs	4.15 to 5.15pm, 5.15 to 6.15pm
Dance: Emsworth Folk Dance Club	370531	Mon Fortnightly	7.30pm to 10pm
Dance: Melana	779795 Louise	Tues, Wed, Sat	
Dance: New Move Youth	02392 446406	Mon	6pm to 7pm
Dance: Tea	374627	Thurs	2pm to 4pm
Drama. Performing Arts for Children	07961 744060 Emma	Fri Sat	4.30 to 6.30pm 9.30am to 11.30am
Emsworth Crafts	374451	Sat Monthly	10am to 1pm
Emsworth Residents Association		Mon Quarterly	7.30pm to 9.30pm
Film Show	377493 Alison	Mon Monthly	3.30pm and 7.30pm
Homing Society: Pigeon	02392 450886	Tues Variable	7.30 to 9pm
Horticultural Society	376161	Thurs Monthly	7.30 to 9.30pm
Keep Fit: Hampshire Club	374116	Thurs	9.45am to 11.15am
Kick Boxing	02392 374333 Omar	Wed	7pm to 8.30pm
Kung Fu	02392 374333 Omar	Wed	8.30pm to 9.30
Language: French Conversation	02392 484455 Francoise	Variable	
Language: German Conversation	02392 470323 Thea	Mon	12.30pm to 2pm
Language: Italian	078244279094 Loretta	Mon	6pm to 7pm
Recorders	372874. Janna	Tues	2pm to 4pm
Renaissance Choir	02392 591462	Fri	7.30pm to 9pm
Spiritualist Church	02392 642330	Sun	6pm to 8.30pm
Table Tennis	371752 Dave	Tues	8pm to 9.30pm
Thrift Shop	372412	Thurs	10am to 3.30pm
U3A: Emsworth	430097	Fri Monthly	10am to 12pm
Upholstery	373572	Tues	9am to 11am
Weight Watchers		Wed, Thurs	9 - 11am, 6.30 - 8.30pm
Women's Institute	373637	Fri Monthly	9.30am to 12pm
Workers Educational Association	373447 Jean	Mon, Thurs	2 - 4pm, 10am to 12pm
Yoga	02392 483323 Cathy	Mon	10am to 11.30am
Yoga	02392 454657 Katherine	Tues, Thurs	7 - 9pm, 10 - 11.30am
Yoga	02392 631295	Tues	7pm to 8.30pm
Yoga	378613 yoga@marshworld.co.uk	Wed	6.30pm to 9.30pm
Yoga	02392 454657	Thurs	10am to 11.30am