EPSOM & EWELL TIMES
For the community, by the community. A not-for-profit service

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Coursera & NESCOT to enhance further education

12 September 2022



Coursera Inc., a global online learning platform, has announced that it is partnering with **North East Surrey College of Technology** (NESCOT), to both enhance and expand teaching delivery, and to prepare the college's 9000 students for in-demand careers in the digital economy.

With NESCOT being a partner in the new Coast to Capital region's Institutes of Technology, access to Coursera will support the college's aim to deliver a wider range of advanced technical qualifications and higher education courses. NESCOT's staff will have access to the full Coursera catalogue, including 22 entry-level professional certificates offered by Google, IBM, Meta, and other leading industry partners. The partnership will thereby create additional opportunities for NESCOT's staff to develop the skills needed to deliver courses on high-demand technologies including AI, data science, engineering and software development.

Coursera is doubling down on its efforts to support the nation's further education strategy, with the UK government increasingly investing in its new T Levels programme, and with participation in adult government-funded further education having increased by 4.6% over the past year.

The partnership with NESCOT builds upon Coursera's relationship with the TEC Partnership, one of England's largest providers of further and technical education, to expand its contribution to the UK's further and higher education sector. It will do so by filling curriculum gaps, expanding NESCOT's provision of job-aligned vocational courses, and bridging the gap between student skills and employer needs.

By empowering faculty professional development and bridging this gap, Coursera and NESCOT seek to narrow the UK's technology and data science skills gaps. The 2022 Global Skills Report, released in June by Coursera, found that the United Kingdom's technology skills proficiency continues to lag behind a majority of European nations, ranking 42nd globally for technology skills, and 24th among the 33 European nations indexed in the report.

Anthony Tattersall, Vice-President for EMEA, Coursera, said: "As the UK further education sector seeks to empower learners to thrive in the digital economy, collaborating to scale up the delivery of high-demand technology, business, and data science skills is essential. We are excited to partner with NESCOT by helping support their faculty to deliver high-quality, job-relevant skills training to their students, and to evolve the college's blended learning provision."

Coursera currently supports the skills development of 2.75 million UK learners. UK institutions already partnering with Coursera include Imperial College London, Queen Mary University of London, The University of Edinburgh, University of Glasgow, University of Leeds, University of London and the University of Manchester. UK learners are able to access 2,500+ Guided Projects, 5,000+ courses, 625+ Specializations, more than 75 Certificates (of which 22 are Entry-Level Professional Certificates), and 35+ degrees. In the first eight months of 2022, UK learners spent more than 1.1 million hours upskilling and reskilling on Coursera's platform.

About Coursera

Coursera was launched in 2012 by two Stanford Computer Science professors, Andrew Ng and Daphne Koller, with a mission to provide universal access to world-class learning. It is now one of the largest online learning platforms in the world, with 107 million registered learners as of June 30, 2022. Coursera partners with over 275 leading university and industry partners to offer a broad catalog of content and credentials, including courses, Specializations, Professional Certificates, Guided Projects, and bachelor's and master's degrees. Institutions around the world use Coursera to upskill and reskill their employees, citizens, and students in fields such as data science, technology, and business. Coursera became a B Corp in February 2021.

About NESCOT

Nescot is a further and higher education college based in Ewell, Surrey. Each year over 2000 16-18-year-olds study at the campus on a wide range of vocational courses and apprenticeships, alongside 500 adults on university-level programmes. It also provides part-time and professional qualifications to thousands of adults – both on campus, and through distance learning and employer partnerships.

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New Downs Hack Canter in the running...

12 September 2022



From 1st October 2022, a **new turf Hack Canter on Walton Downs** will be provided and maintained for leisure horse riders on **Epsom and Walton Downs**. This will replace the sand Hack Ride, which will permanently close from this date and be left to return to its natural state. Image © Copyright Hugh Craddock (Horses training on Walton Downs)

FORMAL NOTICE

OPENING OF HACK CANTER AT EPSOM DOWNS AND CLOSURE OF HACK RIDE

After substantial consultation and discussion between interested parties, from 1 st October 2022, a new turf Hack Canter on Walton Downs will be provided and maintained for leisure horse riders on Epsom and Walton Downs. This will replace the sand Hack Ride, which will permanently close from this date and be left to return to its natural state.

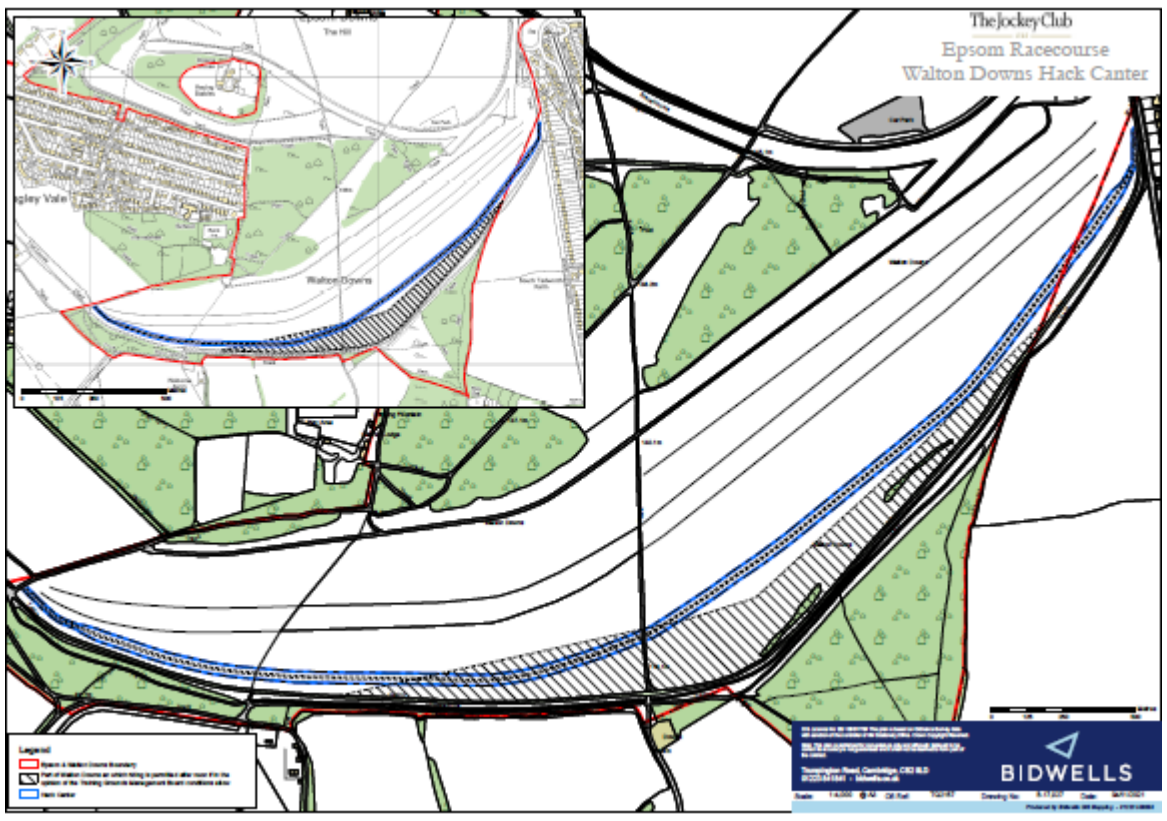
This change has been agreed in the interests of the safety of horses and their riders, and all users of The Downs. The Hack Canter, which is on grass land previously restricted for use only by Licenced Racehorse Trainers, will be available for use by leisure riders after noon each day. It may also continue to be used by Licenced Racehorse Trainers before noon on any day: on such occasions, this will be agreed and communicated in advance by The Training Grounds Management Board.

The Jockey Club reserves the right to temporarily close part or all of the Hack Canter, as a result of poor weather and/or unsuitable or unsafe ground conditions, or to facilitate any required maintenance and major repair works.

The terms of this new arrangement have been approved by The Jockey Club, The Horserace Betting Levy Board, The Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators, The British Horse Society, and The Epsom and The Walton Downs Training Grounds Management Board.

Those who wish to comment on this change have 28 days from 22 nd August to do so and all comments and contributions will be gratefully received . Any correspondence must be sent to Epsom.reception@thejockeyclub.co.uk by 5.00pm on Monday 19 th September 2022.

The Jockey Club
22 nd August 2022



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Saturday’s rugby: SUTTON & EPSOM 22 -BANBURY 26

12 September 2022



A two minute silence for the Late Queen was observed before this tightly fought match played out on 10th September 2022. This fixture would have been the first league encounter between these two clubs at **Rugby Lane** [the home ground of **Sutton and Epsom RFC** situated just inside the borders of the **Borough of Epsom and Ewell**,] but the unusually dry summer adversely affected Sutton and Epsom’s pitches. Therefore, in accordance with the regulations the hosts found an alternative venue and were most grateful to the generosity and hospitality of Cobham RFC for letting them use their splendid synthetic surface at Fairmile Lane. This was the first time in the league era that Sutton & Epsom had played a home fixture on a neutral venue though the club have experienced this situation on their travels in the past.

There were seven changes to the squad that lost the opener to Bracknell last Saturday. Returning to the fold were Sutton & Epsom’s stalwarts George Drye, James Caddy and Stefan Cooksammy. In comparison Robbie Martey (Barnes) was making his debut for the Black & Whites. Meanwhile Ross Parsons, Charlie Aylward and Luke Halford were making their first appearances of the campaign. Banbury also failed to win their first game of the season as visitors Havant triumphed at Bodicote Park 26-18. Both clubs were eager to get off the mark and record their first points at the second time of asking. It was mission accomplished for the visitors who recorded a 26-22 win and a bonus point to boot.

After the observation of the silence for Queen Elizabeth II Banbury kicked off the fixture. Soon the Bulls were on the scoreboard after solid ball from the scrum it was spun down the line and Quinten Blythe broke away down the flank and passed to supporting full back Tommy Gray to score for the perfect start. Ed Phillips added the extras for a 7-0 lead. S&E came back strongly with a charge down and turn over from the restart. To add to the woes of the hosts Stefan Cooksammy departed injured to be replaced by Sam Hurley.

Having reshuffled their resources the Rugby Lane team pressed hard to draw level. Just before the end of the first quarter the Black & Whites kicked a penalty into the corner. Following a line out and another penalty hooker James Craig forced his way over from a rolling maul for his first S&E try. Freddy Bunting added the conversion to level it at 7-7.

The game ebbed and flowed with Luke Halford closest to scoring when he was held up over the line as the half hour approached. Five minutes later James Craig went from hero to villain as he was penalised for a high tackle on wing Alex Garbett. S&E would have to endure ten minutes without their hooker. Despite some cussed defence by the Surrey men Banbury would not be denied. Recycling the ball quickly they broke through on the blindside and lock Louis Tooth strode over to score. Ed Phillips added the kick to lead 14-7 in time added on in the first period. There was no further score in the lengthy period of injury time. Sutton returned to their full compliment but James Craig remained on the sidelines with tactical substitute George London continuing whilst the sacrificial lamb, Austin Bell, returned to the fray.

The opening quarter of an hour of the second period saw both sides best play undermined by errors. Then the Oxfordshire team knocked on from a Sutton line out. From the scrum S&E went blind and Robbie Martey touched down to score on his debut. Bunting’s conversion drifted wide as the home team trailed 12-14. S&E were given a helping hand when the Bulls hooker Nick Agbo saw yellow for a deliberate knock on. Then another penalty gave Freddy Bunting the chance to take the lead and he obliged with a well struck kick for a slender 15-14 advantage with a dozen minutes to go. The lead lasted only seconds as Banbury playing their best rugby put together their phases and made the crucial line break to see winger Alex Garbett score. With Ed Phillips’ conversion bisecting the uprights the visitors had a 21-15 lead. A couple of minutes later Tommy Gray pounced on a knock on, scored his second try and the Bodicote Boys had secured a bonus point for a fourth try. Despite the missed conversion the rapid 12-point burst after they had momentarily trailed meant Banbury led 26-15 with five minutes remaining of normal time.

The Black & Whites needed an immediate response and they regathered the restart and forced a penalty. A few phases later and veteran Sam Hurley was through for the try. The conversion was added by Freddy Bunting and Sutton were within a score as they trailed 22-26. The Oxfordshire men pressed hard for the decisive score but stout Sutton resistance prevailed though at the cost of an injured Josh Glanville who was forced off the pitch. In a frenetic finale Luke Halford made a 30 metre break to raise the hopes of the S&E followers but the visitors’ line was not seriously threatened.

With no further addition to the score Banbury had earned their first points of the campaign and a win on the road. Sutton & Epsom were unfortunate to suffer early injuries to not only Stefan Cooksammy but also Alex Mount. However, it was their self-inflicted wounds that were their undoing in a contest that could have gone either way. Tommy Gray was the Man of the Match with a couple of tries in a performance that carried a constant threat. For the Black & Whites Robbie Martey rounded off an impressive debut with a try. It was a case of the curate’s egg for James Craig with a try and a yellow card to add to the now familiar strikes against the head. Freddy Bunting endorsed his growing reputation with fine place-kicking to add to his already considerable all around game.

Next Saturday, 17th September, will see the Black & Whites visit fellow Surrey club Camberley for the first time for a

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league fixture since January 2013. The hosts after an impressive opening day win over Wimbledon stumbled at the second Havant hurdle and will be keen to return to winning ways. The kick off will be 3pm at Watchetts Recreation Ground as Sutton & Epsom seek their first success of the season.

Sutton & Epsom
Austin Bell, Charlie Aylward, Freddy Bunting, Stefan Cooksammy, Robbie Martey, Jamie See, Ross Parsons, Alex Mount, James Craig, Luke Halford, Ben Tame, George Drye, Tom Brooker, Chris Farrell © & James Caddy.
Replacements: (all used) Tom Boaden, Josh Glanville & Sam Hurley.
Banbury
Tommy Gray, Quinten Blythe, Thomas Burman, Louis Richards, Alex Garbutt, Oscar Triggs, Ed Phillips, James Leonardi, Nick Agbo, Sonny Rowe, Louis Tooth, Jacob Turner, James Hibbert, George Ding & Ed Berridge.
Replacements: (all used) Ian Isham, Jacob Mills & Dan Brady.

Other Results From Round 2
BRACKNELL 14 29 MAIDENHEAD
HAVANT 18 6 CAMBERLEY
OXFORD HARLEQUINS 21 13 BOURNEMOUTH
ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT 12 22 LONDON WELSH
WIMBLEDON 55 26 BRIGHTON

God Save the Queen, Long Live the King

12 September 2022



Since 1946 Her Late Majesty **Queen Elizabeth II** missed only three **Derby Races** held in **Epsom**. In tribute to Her love of the event the magnificent **Queen's Stand**, opened in 1995, was so named. This **Platinum** year it was officially renamed **The Queen Elizabeth II Stand**. Sadly, she missed this year's race-meeting on the occasion of her unparalleled seven-decade long reign. Undeterred the **Borough of Epsom and Ewell** held a fitting celebration with the lighting of the **Platinum Beacon** on the **Epsom Downs**. A feature that will remain a constant reminder of Her Late Majesty's steadfast service to the Nation and beyond. Over these years it has been the habit of many locals to wait beside a road, hoping to see the Queen on her way to or from the Derby. The lucky ones receiving that famous Royal wrist-ache saving back-handed wave!



The Queen at the Derby 2015 – Wikipedia Commons

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The Queen's Stand – geograph.co.uk

The **Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey, Michael More-Molyneux** has issued the following statement:

"On behalf of the **people of Surrey**, I have expressed our profound sympathy and sincere condolences to HM The King on the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. His Majesty and all the members of the Royal Family are very much in our thoughts and prayers at this sad time. May she rest in peace."

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council has issued the following statement:

The Councillors and staff of Epsom & Ewell Borough Council (EEBC) are deeply saddened at the news of the death of Her Majesty The Queen. Our thoughts are with the Royal Family at this time.

Flags in the Borough are being flown at half-mast and books of condolence are available for everyone to sign at the Town Hall, Bourne Hall and the Wellbeing Centre. An online book of condolence is also available at https://www.royal.uk.

The Mayor of EEBC, **Councillor Clive Woodbridge**, has said, 'Her Majesty was no stranger to Epsom, rarely missing a Derby. She was a much loved and respected monarch, and I know the vast majority of the residents of this Borough will be profoundly saddened by today's news.

'As well as our sovereign, Her Majesty was also a mother, grandmother and great grandmother; on behalf of the people of Epsom & Ewell, I extend our sympathies to members of the Royal Family on their personal loss.'

The Interim Chief Executive of EEBC, **Jackie King**, has said, 'As Members attend to the democratic process in the Council Chamber, they do so under a portrait of our late monarch; a poignant reminder of duty and personal commitment.

'I am very aware of the esteem in which Her Majesty is held by the Council's staff, and on their behalf, I offer our sympathies to the Royal Family.'

Rt Hon **Chris Grayling MP** for Epsom and Ewell has written to constituents. "I am sure you will want to join me in expressing very great sadness at the death of the Queen. She has been such an important part of our national life and will be hugely missed."

Let's go Electric Epsom and Ewell

12 September 2022



Friday 9 September is World EV day, a global movement to celebrate switching to electric vehicles and driving change. In Surrey, almost half our emissions come from transport, and about half of that is from private vehicles. So, reducing the emissions from the way we travel about – whether that's by walking or cycling more, using public transport or switching to an electric car – can help to drastically reduce our carbon footprint.

Electric vehicles produce virtually no exhaust emissions, so are much cleaner than petrol or diesel cars. And lots of people are choosing to make the switch.

Recent Government data shows a 62% increase in battery-operated electric vehicles in the UK, compared to the same period last year and, for the first time, registrations of new electric vehicles outstripped registrations of new diesel vehicles.

To support residents' switch to electric vehicles, Surrey County Council is installing on-street chargepoints across the county. Phase one of the installation programme will see 80 chargepoints installed across four boroughs – Woking, Guildford, Spelthorne and Waverley. Phase two has already started and includes plans to install 110 chargepoints across

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six boroughs in the coming months.

Residents can suggest a location for an on street chargepoint near them via a dedicated online map – Have Your Say Today – Surrey EV – Commonplace. Over 1700 suggestions have already been submitted and the information is being used to inform future EV chargepoint installations.

Matt Furniss, Surrey County Council's Cabinet Member for Transport, Infrastructure and Growth, said: "On World EV Day, it's important we recognise the progress we have made in supporting residents to switch to electric vehicles, and the ongoing work to ensure we meet our goals. Transport is such a huge contributor to our carbon emissions in Surrey, so changing the way we travel and reducing our emissions from transport is a key area for achieving our climate change targets.

"We have recently invested over £39m in buses including a new, electric on-demand bus service in Mole Valley."

Surrey County Council has a target to be a net zero carbon council by 2030 and a net zero county by 2050, in line with government targets.

Access to chargepoints for electric vehicles is essential in order to give resident's the confidence to make the switch, especially those who do not have access to their own driveway or for whom it's not appropriate to install a chargepoint at home.

Current estimates are that we would need 10,000 chargepoints in the county by 2030 to meet demand from electric vehicle owners.

Read about one resident's experience of switching to electric, and why she's a total convert now! Resident Blog: Going Electric… (commonplace.is)

Epsom's Ashley Centre stands with Ukraine

12 September 2022



The Ashley Centre in Epsom provided premises in the Mall to **Surrey Stands With Ukraine** rent and bills free since 7th March 2022. Now the unit is required for retailing. The Ashley Centre continues its generosity to the people of Ukraine by permitting the Epsom based charity to operate a kiosk in the public court. In addition the Ashley Centre owners are providing a large partitioned office space in Global House in adjacent Ashley Avenue. Here, Surrey Stands With Ukraine and the **Epsom Refugee Network** can carry on their activities. Processing donated goods destined for Ukraine and providing English classes and advice sessions to Ukrainian refugees.

Image: SSWU volunteers Rob and Anne-Marie Carlin with Epsom and Ewell Mayor Clive Woodbridge beside the new kiosk in the Ashley Centre 3rd September.



Alan Avis of Surrey Stands With Ukraine spoke to **Epsom and Ewell Times**. "We are overwhelmed by the generosity of the public, the Ashley Centre for our rent free accommodation and to Epsom and Ewell Borough Council for waiving all business rates. In six months SSWU has raised £200,000 and sent 40 vans to Ukraine filled with an estimated £1,000,000 worth of essential humanitarian supplies. The mission continues in our new and excellent facilities".

The manager of the Ashley Centre, **Jacqui McGeeghan** told The Times "We are proud to have such strong links with the community and when we were approached to support the community and Ukrainian families we did not hesitate. The

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Ashley Centre has provided a dedicated space, The Ukrainian Hub, to allow the local team to operate a central donation point. In addition, the space acted as a platform to reach out to our loyal visitors and raise awareness for the efforts to raise money, food and medicine for local Ukrainians, and supporting their own families living in Ukraine in this difficult time of war.

It has been an absolute pleasure to be able to assist the charity and to date, the local initiative has been exceptionally well supported. As a result, the organisation has collected much-needed supplies and supported many of the Ukrainian families in the Epsom & Ewell community at this most crucial time".

Civilised protest to save civilisation?

12 September 2022



Sunday 4th Sept, Epsom & Ewell's climate action group put on a hard-hitting and thought-provoking street-theatre performance in Epsom centre. Right in the middle of town, on the big crossroads near the clock tower, a colourful backdrop had been erected, depicting landscapes ravaged by drought, forest fires and flooding. Against this backdrop, a dozen actors played out a silent lament, mourning the victims of climate disasters in the global South. The emotional impact of bodies on the ground being covered by shrouds was further amplified by a slow, powerful drumbeat and a bugle playing 'the last post'…

Not surprisingly, this performance drew strong reactions from the public. Some felt greatly strengthened in their perception that a changing climate is a grave danger to us all, and the cause of worldwide injustice. However, there were also some who disapproved of the graphic nature of the performance and who felt that ordinary people were made to feel bad for things that are really the responsibility of governments and commerce?

As far as the local climate action group (Epsom & Ewell XR) is concerned, all views for-and against are welcomed, as they feel the gravest danger to us all will come from indifference to the issues.

Further actions and street-theatre are being planned.

Epsom & Ewell XR can be contacted at epsomewellxr@gmail.com

BBC misreports Epsom and Ewell planning?

12 September 2022



On Friday 2nd September **Mark Easton**, the **BBC'**s top home affairs reporter, swooped down on **Epsom and Ewell.** Our Borough suffers from nimbyism and we could easily meet our housing targets, was his report's message. The **Epsom and Ewell Times** takes his two minute report to task.

First – he opens his report while standing on **Epsom Common** off **Woodcote Side**. The implication being that this area could in part be developed for housing. Did he not check it was a **Local Nature Reserve** and **Site of Special Scientific Interest**?

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Secondly, he travelled to **Station Approach Stoneleigh** and suggests the rejection of a plan to build a four storey block of flats was mistaken. The plan was rejected in February 2022. The developer **Woolbro Homes** (a part of **St James Group Ltd** which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the multi-million **Berkeley Group Holdings Plc**) did not exercise its right of appeal to a Planning Inspector.



Image of original 6 storey block

Perhaps they accepted the grounds for refusal which included overdevelopment, overbearing and incongruity. Moreover, the applicants had failed to sign a commitment to affordable housing.



Thirdly, the report of the BBC showed **Cllr Liz Frost** objecting to a 22 room residence for students near Epsom's **University for the Creative Arts** in Ashley Road, Epsom. The reportage gave the impression that housing needed to meet ordinary housing targets was being denied. UCA indicated in connection with the case that it is attracting mainly foreign students to its new business courses. See Epsom and Ewell Times report on the meeting HERE

Lastly, Mr Easton claimed no Councillor was available for comment. The **Epsom and Ewell Times** know of at least two Councillors who attended the Planning Committee meeting who were NOT asked. Mark Easton is not available for comment as his direct contacts cannot be found. **Grace Manning-Marsh** of **LandTech**, was interviewed by Mr Easton, she was critical of Epsom and Ewell's failure to authorise developments on **Green Belt**. She did not ring back when asked to talk to us.

An Epsom style of socialism?

12 September 2022

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Surrey's first food hall, **Epsom Social**, has just opened its doors on 29th August. The 200 seat venue will bring together 8 food vendors, with a central bar serving local coffee from Redber, craft beer from Esher-based Big Smoke brewery, cocktails, wine and non-alcoholic drinks, and a range of entertainment from local artists.

The food hall features 7 tempting kitchens in addition to regularly rotating pop ups offering up a range of cuisines and innovative menus. Food options will include local pizza purveyors Doughboyz, award-winning Venezuelan street food vendors Pabellón, Curry On Naanstop (as seen on BBC's 'Britain's Top Takeaways'), as well as Lebanese, Mexican, Korean and dessert options.



Complementing the 8 food vendors is a 12 metre long bar, where Guildford-based Redber coffee and Esher-based Big Smoke craft beer will be served, in addition to a selection of wines, spirits and cocktails. Another key offering of Epsom Social is a performance area where there will be a curated range of events such as live music, sport on a large screen, comedy nights, cultural events and cooking demonstrations, using local artists and creatives where possible.

Located in the heart of the town, at Epsom Square, just off the high street and 1 minute from the train station, Epsom Social is open Monday – Sunday catering for everything from the morning coffee run, lunch and dinner through to evening cocktails and get-togethers.



Peter Farrell

Co-founder of Epsom Social, Peter Farrell, said: "We can't wait for the local community to experience the really exciting things planned for the venue."

Councillors agonise over student accommodation plan.

12 September 2022

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Council postpone a controversial planning application for their own site visit. **Mr Colin Preston**'s plan to knock down a neglected house called **Green Gables** in Ashley Road, Epsom was deferred. A **22 student bedroom** development is proposed to take the place of the neglected Green Gables house. The development provides no more than 8 square metres per bedroom with two shared kitchens and two shared living spaces. **Thursday 1st Septembe**r, **Epsom and Ewell** Borough Council's **Planning Committee** discussed a number of objections matching the number of bedrooms. 22 in all, concerning loss of privacy, overdevelopment, impact on the nearby Worple Road conservation area and many other grounds.





Proposed linked two building student accommodation above and current scene below.

The **Woodcote (Epsom) Residents' Society** submitted "…excessive scale would be visually obtrusive, over-shadow the rear gardens and result in significant light spillage from the glazed stairwell and lobby area at night. The amenity area would give rise to unacceptable levels of noise and disturbance and the narrow footpath between the proposed buildings and the boundary with Ladbroke Road properties being a potential area for antisocial behaviour and security concerns…"

The **Strategic Housing Market Assessment** (SHMA) of Epsom and Ewell BC dated September 2019 concludes that "there does not seem to be a great demand for additional Purpose-Built Student Accommodation (PBSA) at the moment". Mr Preston, the developer, contacted the **University of the Creative Arts** (UCA) situated just yards away in Ashley Road. UCA responded with the following: "We can confirm that UCA is broadly supportive of an increase in provision of student accommodation in and around Epsom and Farnham, both in Surrey. We have opened a dialogue with the local authorities in both towns, with a view to enlisting their support in addressing what is an increasing need for suitable accommodation for our students.



For the current year 2021/2022, UCA has approximately 1,800 students enrolled on our Epsom campus, of which 321 first years were housed in university provided accommodation. The others rely on the local private rental sector, or commute

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further away. Recently UCA also commenced a February intake into our Business School for the Creative Industries which is proving quite attractive to students, especially those from abroad."

Following a 90 minute debate the application was not decided on pending a site visit voted for by a majority of the Councillors.

Epsom and Ewell Times understands that UCA is heavily oversubscribed for the coming academic year. More student accommodation appears to be required by the Borough for its growing University population.

At the meeting **Cllr Liz Frost**, not a member of the Planning Committee, (Residents Association – Woodcote Ward) spoke against the proposal. She described the proposal as "Overdevelopment, far too close to neighbouring properties and overbearing. Rear of properties will be flooded by lighting from the development. Inevitably there will be disturbing noise effecting enjoyment of neighbouring gardens. Conditions suggested to deal with noise are unenforceable without a warden on site. The 32 square feet of outside amenity space wholly inadequate."

Local Ladbroke Road resident **Paul Ring** described the development as "a cramped student house in multiple occupation (HMO) and there would be disturbance from the movement of students in a narrow space".

Spencer Copping, the agent for the applicant, defended the application and asked the Committee to support the recommendation of the Council officers to approve the plan.

The **Council Officer** argued that there would be a requirement for a "management strategy" to deal with anti-social behaviour and that would mitigate risk of disturbance of neighbours.

Cllr Steve McCormick (RA Woodcote) expressed concern about the lack of amenity space for the students. The Officer explained that as a student accommodation the development was not subject to amenity space requirements and the nearby Rosebery Park mitigated this. The Councillor proposed refusal of the application. Cllr **Previn Jagutpal** (RA Stamford) also spoke against on grounds of the density and lack of amenity space.

Cllr Alex Coley (RA Ruxley) asked for the matter to be put off to allow a Councillors' inspection and despite the Chairman **Cllr Humphrey Reynolds** describing site inspections as a "waste of time", a majority voted to inspect. If a decision had been reached approval would have been voted for by **Cllr Kate Chinn** (Labour Court Ward) who recognised the need for more student accommodation in the Borough. **Cllr David Gulland** (LibDem College Ward) reluctantly accepted there were no legal grounds to refuse that would withstand an appeal to an inspector and would vote in favour.

Cllr Jan Mason (RA Ruxley Ward) could not accept that 22 students should live together without a responsible supervisor living there. They would play hip-hop music and make noise. She thought the rear of the development looks "like a prison". She asked "Why white brick? That would not fit the area."



Green Gables next to white rendered houses in Ashley Road



Houses opposite Green Gables

Green Gables' registered proprietor is one **Bernard Wells** who has owned it since at latest 1994 and the property is subject to a **Swindon County Court** charge in 2008 in favour of **Thames Water Utilities Ltd**. The **Land Registry** entries can be out of date due to months' long backlogs in data entry.

Strikes cross East St., Epsom

12 September 2022

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For the community, by the community. A not-for-profit service

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Following a strike of mail workers and a picket at Epsom's East Street Sorting Office CWU workers picket the telephone exchange on the other side of the street. See our report on postal strike HERE.

The dispute, which involves more than 40,000 CWU members working for BT and Openreach, was triggered by BT's imposition of real-terms pay cuts for all CWU-represented grades, claim the Trade Union.

CWU claim that instead of following normal negotiating protocols – under which a draft deal that is fair and acceptable to both sides is arrived at through discussions, and then recommended by the union to its membership for their ratification – this year BT abruptly terminated the talks after just six short meetings. Firm proposals had only been tabled by management in the latter two of those meetings.

BT claims the flat-rate settlement of £1,500 equates to between 3.8% and 8% dependent on where individuals sit on the pay scale.

The CWU therefore calculates that even the biggest beneficiaries of this year's imposed flat rate pay award have only received around 5% – with the vast majority of CWU-represented grades receiving only a little over 4% and some below 3%. That compares with spiralling inflation that saw the Government's preferred (typically lower) CPI measure hit 10.1% in July (RPI 12.3%) and even the Bank of England predicting CPI will top 13% within months.

In 2021 members received no consolidated pay rise at all, and even the agreed settlement in 2020 was slightly below inflation. In fact, since 2020, BT pay for CWU grades has increased by just 6.6% (including the £1,500 imposed award for 2022). Without any improvement to the imposed £1,500 award, this represents a real-terms pay cut since 2020 of 6.9% based on RPI, and 2.8% based on CPI. This is despite BT's declaration of a £1.3bn annual profit, a £761 million dividend payout for shareholders and a 32% pay increase for the CEO.

The CWU conducted its first company-wide industrial action ballot in BT Group since 1987 in June. In Openreach, where 28,425 CWU members were entitled to vote, participants recorded 95.8% 'yes' vote for industrial action on a 74.8% turnout. In BT, where 10,353 were issued with a 'yes' vote of 91.5% was recorded on a 58.2% turnout.

As a result, the first national industrial action in BT Group for three and a half decades took place on July 29 and August 1 and again on Tuesday August 30 and Wednesday August 31.

1st September 2022

12 September 2022

Dear Subscribers,

Welcome to our resumed weekly and fortnightly service after a brief August break. 28 new reports since 4th August. Back issues are always accessible via the top of the page editions menu.

Best wishes,

The Team at Epsom and Ewell Times

Thursday 1st September 2022



COUNCIL CULTURE

What an erudite lot we are.

August 31, 2022

Surrey libraries are the second most visited in the country according to the latest UK Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) data, with the figures showing the libraries … READ MORE

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FOOTBALL SPORTS

Epsom and Ewell Top the Table

August 31, 2022

Oakwood 0-5 Epsom & Ewell, Southern Combination League – Division One, Monday 29th August 2022. Report Source: www.eefconline.co.uk. Reporter: Richard Lambert. Any disappointment felt in the FA Vase defeat at … READ MORE

FOOTBALL NEWS SPORTS

Lobsters at home with Salts

August 29, 2022

Salts battle hard but Lobsters progress in the Vase. Redhill 2-1 Epsom & Ewell. Isuzu F.A. Vase – First Qualifying Round. Saturday 27th August 2022. Report Source: www.eefconline.co.uk Reporter: Richard … READ MORE



NEWS

Council pledge to support victims

August 26, 2022

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council signs the Anti-Social Behaviour Pledge. Councillor Clive Woodbridge, Mayor of Epsom & Ewell Borough Council has signed an Anti-Social Behaviour Pledge which commits the council to … READ MORE



BOROUGH HISTORY COMMUNITY NEWS VOLUNTEERS

Adviser to Pope blesses Epsom Heritage Project

August 26, 2022

Baroness Sheila Hollins has joined Freemen of the Borough, the local MP and others in their Patronage of The Friends of Horton Cemetery. Baroness Hollins is a leading figure nationally … READ MORE



NEWS

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“You’ve NOT got mail”

August 26, 2022

Epsom Posties go on strike. Photo above: Local workers and Labour Party activists outside Epsom’s East Street Royal Mail sorting office today. The biggest strike of summer so far will … READ MORE



ARTS

UCA Epsom MA Graduation Show 2022

August 25, 2022

The University for the Creative Arts (UCA) Epsom welcomes the return of its in person postgraduate shows with work created by our master’s students 2022. For one week only, UCA … READ MORE

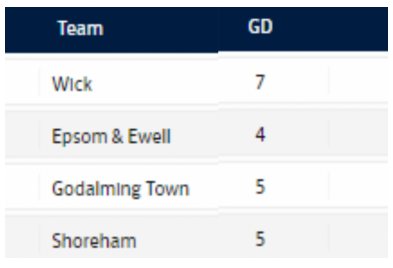


COMMUNITY FOODBANK HEALTH VOLUNTEERS

Foodbank feeding thoughts…

August 25, 2022

Gillian Nichols of Epsom and Ewell Foodbank writes: What price do you put on mental health? Among the people that visit foodbanks, many have severe mental health issues due to … READ MORE



Team	GD
Wick	7
Epsom & Ewell	4
Godalming Town	5
Shoreham	5

FOOTBALL SPORTS

Good start to season with Salts

August 25, 2022

Mavericks receive a repeat dose of the Salts. Worthing United 0-3 Epsom & Ewell – Southern Combination League – Division One – Saturday 20th August 2022. Report Source: www.eefconline.co.uk Reporter: … READ MORE

FOOTBALL SPORTS

Thrashing good win for the Salts

August 20, 2022

Epsom & Ewell 5-2 Forest Row Southern Combination League – Division One. Wednesday 17th August 2022. Report Source: www.eefconline.co.uk. Reporter: Richard Lambert. On Wednesday night at Fetcham Grove we thoroughly … READ MORE

Posts navigati

CRIME NEWS

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No immunity for CoVid vaccination thief

August 18, 2022

A Tadworth man who stole empty CoVid vaccination vials and sold them on Ebay gets a suspended prison sentence. What do you do when you get given one of those … READ MORE



NEWS

Two Surrey Stabbings in One Day

August 17, 2022

Surrey Police have issued witness and information appeals for two serious stabbings by knives both taking place on 16th August 2022. The first in Horley at about 10.20pm and the … READ MORE



NEWS TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

Nope Buses in Epsom soon

August 17, 2022

Bus drivers strike affecting the people of Epsom and Ewell. There are planned bus driver strikes during the 19th till the 20th of August. Passengers from west and south west … READ MORE



COMMUNITY TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT VOLUNTEERS

Reaching recyclables others cannot reach .....

August 16, 2022

Ro Stretton from Epsom has signed up to the Baylis & Harding Free Recycling Programme offered by recycling experts TerraCycle. By sending waste to TerraCycle, Ro also raises money for … READ MORE



CRIME

Surrey’s Police Chief cracks down on cover-up

August 16, 2022

A Surrey Police officer who “deliberately concealed” her friend’s criminal damage to a car has been barred from policing. The officer told her friend she had put her in “an … READ MORE

FOOTBALL SPORTS

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Two excellent strikes earn the points for Salts

August 16, 2022

Seaford Town 1-2 Epsom & Ewell FC Southern Combination League – Division One Saturday 13th August 2022 Report Source: www.eefconline.co.uk Reporter: Richard Lambert. With one swish of the left foot … READ MORE



BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Queen fit hats raise £9K for brain charity

August 15, 2022

An online auction of a collection of 15 hats created for the Platinum Jubilee by some of the UK's leading milliners has raised close to £9,000 for Brain Tumour Research. … READ MORE



ARTS BUSINESS NEWS

UCA tips for clearing

August 15, 2022

Epsom's University for the Creative Arts (UCA) offers advice to degree seeking 'A' Level students. "With over two million jobs in the Creative Industries across the UK, choosing a degree … READ MORE



COUNCIL TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

Wasting water?

August 12, 2022

As drought is declared in Surrey during the driest UK summer in 50 years, councils and services across the county have been taking measures to save water. The temperatures are … READ MORE



COMMUNITY COUNCIL NATURE

Council Pride in Not Uncommon Green Flag

August 12, 2022

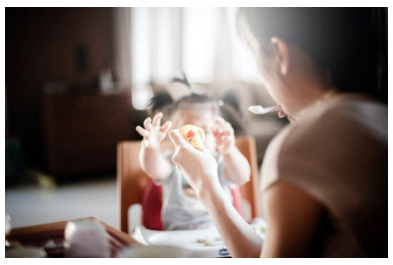
Epsom and Ewell Borough Council is pleased to have received a Green Flag Award for Epsom Common Local Nature Reserve, one of 2208 UK winners. The award is the international … READ MORE

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NEWS

Minding the minders

August 12, 2022

A Tadworth childminder who did not tell Ofsted about changes to the adults living in her house has been given an inadequate rating. Inspectors said the childminder had breached requirements … READ MORE



COMMUNITY COUNCIL NATURE NEWS VOLUNTEERS

Flagging Up Epsom Common

August 11, 2022

28th July David King and Cynthea Blunden of the Epsom Common Association (ECA) represented Epsom & Ewell at the Green Flag Award ceremony in Lambeth Community Hall. This marked the … READ MORE

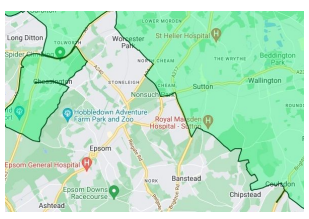


NEWS

Mayor’s electrifying car decision

August 10, 2022

The new civic car leased by the Borough of Epsom and Ewell will be a plug-in hybrid vehicle, according to a recent decision by the Council’s Strategy and Resources Committee. … READ MORE



NEWS

Yet more on ULEZ….

August 10, 2022

By Emily Coady Stemp Local Democracy Reporter: London’s proposed Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) expansion would mean drivers trying to get to some popular landmarks in the capital’s border with … READ MORE

FOOTBALL SPORTS

Shoreham 3-0 Epsom & Ewell

August 9, 2022

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Southern Combination League – Division One. Saturday 6th August 2022. Report Source: www.eefconline.co.uk Reporter: Richard Lambert. On Saturday we suffered our third straight 3-0 defeat when visiting Middle Road, home … READ MORE

COUNCIL NATURE TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

Verging on reason?

August 6, 2022

Surrey County Council is to take back control of verges and on-street parking enforcement from Epsom and Ewell Borough Council and all other County districts. In a bid to streamline … READ MORE



COMMUNITY HEALTH

Epsom Hospital bucks Brexit staff bottleneck

August 5, 2022

Epsom and St Helier NHS Trust bucks the national trend in maintaining its level of recruitment of UK qualified medical staff between 2015 and 2021. Nationally the picture is different. … READ MORE

FOOTBALL SPORTS

Salts falter at final friendly

August 5, 2022

Leatherhead 3-0 Epsom & Ewell Pre-season Friendly – Stella Lamont Trophy Wednesday 3rd August 2022. Report Source: www.eefconline.co.uk Reporter: Richard Lambert Tanners ease to victory. In five days we have … READ MORE

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