Eaton Village Residents' Association Interim Newsletter – July 2020

We hope this interim newsletter finds you all well during these difficult times. We have not been able to deliver the usual Spring Newsletter because of the Coronavirus pandemic. We have also postponed our events planned for this summer but will update you on future events and our AGM arrangements in our Autumn Newsletter in September.

The Committee have been liaising with local councillors and the City Council to ensure that our vulnerable residents have been able to access food and medicines during the lockdown. We are very grateful for the support of the Covid-19 Mutual Aid NR4 WhatsApp group who have undertaken shopping trips and collected medicines on behalf of residents. Caroline Ackroyd, our City Councillor, sorted out arrangements with Boots Pharmacy to enable home deliveries of medicines for elderly and vulnerable residents. Our key local businesses have continued to trade with Waitrose extending their online deliveries and giving priority to elderly residents during their first hour of opening. The Cellar House were able to overturn the enforced closure of the Post Office and reopen with a Village Store to sell some hard to get items and provide a book and jigsaw exchange for residents. The Red Lion, Eaton Fish Bar and Planet Wok have provided take-away food services. And many others have also continued to provide services such as milk and newspaper and postal deliveries, refuse collections, bus services and many others. We thank them all for their continued service to our Community.

We offer special thanks to the workers in the health service, blue-light services and carers who have worked tirelessly to support us all during these difficult times.

Please visit the EVRA website at www.eatonvillage.co.uk for the latest information on matters covered in this newsletter.

Chris Stebbing EVRA Chair

2020 Scarecrow Festival

We cannot arrange our usual Scarecrow Festival and Competition but think it would be great to have a scarecrow display around the Village which people can visit as part of their daily exercise. An appropriate theme for this year is "Heroes" of which there have been many since lockdown started in March (see overleaf). Let us make this more than just a weekend event by displaying the scarecrows for eight days starting on Sunday 2nd August and continuing until Sunday 9th August. Scarecrows can be made from whatever you have to hand around the house and should be displayed in your front gardens. Let us know if you are displaying a scarecrow and we will add you to the list. Contact us on evra.vc@live.co.uk or phone 503301. We will publish on the EVRA website and Facebook pages a list of scarecrows and a map with their location which you can download and print.

EVRA Subscriptions – We usually issue an envelope for your annual EVRA subscription with our Spring Newsletter. Your subscriptions plus money raised at events such as the Fun Day provided an income of around £2000 last year. There could be a risk for our team handling the large amounts of cash and paper involved. However, you can pay your subscription directly into the EVRA bank account, which would be helpful. The details are: Sort Code: 20-62-53 Account No. 90029262 Account Name: Eaton Village Residents Association. Please use your address as the reference so that we can update our records to note which households have paid. Subs remain as £1 but more would be welcome to help us meet our commitments and deliver our projects.

Eaton Green Playground – We have raised the money for a new roundabout but this is now on hold because of the pandemic. We are talking to the City Council about how and when we can restart this project but it depends on factors such as availability of suppliers and equipment and when restrictions on playground use might be lifted.