

Beacon Heath

Community Newsletter Summer 2025



Hello from Ebbie!



It's been a pleasure to get to know the Heath even more and build a picture of community life. I've meet some lovely people that are so kind and really go that extra mile to help make a difference. There's been lots of great activities including the brilliant Sewing bank project, the regular drop in on Fridays at the Beacon Centre and lots of action up the hill in Gareth Crescent and Pellinore road. Have a read and save those dates over the Summer.

There's lots to join in with locally. if you've got a great idea for your street or neighbourhood, be it a community garden or a little library, but don't know how to start, I can support you to turn it into a reality. Equally, if you've got an event or activity you'd like to feature in this newsletter, or you'd like to get involved in any of the activities highlighted, do get in touch. You'll find my contact details on the back page!

Best wishes

Ebbie

Ebbie Peters

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Listening Post

Listening is an important part of a Community Builder's work. Here's a snapshot of what I'm hearing

It feels like a real community, for the people by the people

It feels like a little bit of heaven now, thanks for your support

I'm new to the area and want to make friends and get involved

What about an International friendship group?

Your Ideas, Your Community

I've heard some fantastic ideas from local residents—things like star gazing, craft groups, teenager space, open air crochet, bring and share food events, jumble trails and international friendship group. There's a lot of imagination and care in the community. If any of these sound like something you'd like to be part of, I can help connect you with others and offer support to get things started. Or if you have a different idea for a group or event you'd love to make happen, I'm here to help—just get in touch!





Join our Community Champion Group

A great group of volunteers are meeting regularly to care for the neighbourhood.

If you'd like to get involved, you can join the Community Champions WhatsApp group. The group is open to anyone who lives locally and wants to get involved.

Diary Dates

Tues 8th July 11am Meet at the shops for a tidy up
Thurs 10th July 6.30pm Community Celebration Pelinore Road Bench
Saturday 12th July 11.30-3pm Summer Celebration, Beacon Centre
Friday 18th July 12-1pm Litterpick, meet at Pelinore road bench
Tues 5th August 11-1am Beacon Brunch, Beacon Centre
Tues 19th August 11-1am Beacon Brunch, Beacon Centre



A lot of heart



In May, neighbours gathered to celebrate the launch of a Little Free Library in Gareth Crescent—small in size, but full of heart.

More than just opening the beautiful library, the day was a lovely celebration of community spirit. We built on what the community already had. Everyone gave time, talents, and energy, installing the library, painting the art mural and sowing the wildflower bed together.

Highlights included:

- A ribbon cutting and homemade treats.
- Giant bubbles, blind book surprises, and medieval sword fighting.
- A Saxon tent showcasing crafts and stories.
- Laughter, music, fresh fruit, and heartfelt conversations.

One neighbour said it best: "This feels like a proper community get-together – for the people, by the people. Visit the Little Free Library to pick up or swop a book. Here's the <u>facebook page</u>

The Bench makeover- Pellinore Road



It started with what we already had: people, passion, and place. At a forgotten bench, we gathered—sharing ideas, listening, and imagining what could be. Paint was donated, flyers were made and everyone brought something—time, tools, and creativity.

That simple bench became a spark for connection. Neighbours began to stop, chat, and linger. Dogs got petted, hugs were exchanged, stories were told. Someone brought a watering can, another offered wood for planters. The space came alive as we started to care. People started cleaning up the street, sweeping glass, pulling weeds. It wasn't just about the bench anymore —it was about pride, ownership, and belonging.

We didn't just talk—we did. Makeover day was full of laughter, colour, and connection. New ideas flowed: what next, what more? The energy grew, along with a promise of lemon drizzle cake when the finishing touches are done.

Celebrate with us

Join us to celebrate the launch of the Friendship Bench at Pellinore road. Thursday 10th July 6.30pm. Expect books, bubbles, cake, and a free plant giveaway! As part of the event, Neighbours will be chatting with residents to gather feelings about suggestions for the nearby green space — a great opportunity to share your ideas for the neighbourhood.



Summer Celebration

We're turning 10 and you're invited to help us celebrate at our Big Beacon Summer Celebration! Bring your friends, family, and neighbours for a fun-filled day packed with activities, entertainment, and plenty of treats.

Here's what's in store:

BBQ & Café – Tuck into tasty bites, stalls & Interactive Displays – Explore local stalls, hands-on activities, and community showcases.

Professor Bumble – Family-friendly fun with a touch of magic and mischief! Live Music – Enjoy performances from:

- Community Voices Choir
- Pinhoe Praise
- Sylvania Shop Choir Live Performances
- Irish dancing displays
- Medieval sword-fighting workshop
- Tiger Style Karate demo Special Moments –

Join for the anniversary speech and celebratory cake cutting as we mark 10 incredible years of Beacon in the community.

Let's make this a day to remember – come and celebrate.



Stalls, BBQ, Café, Interactive Displays, Mr Bumble, Music, Penalty Shoot Out, Crafts, Face Paint and more

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1161023

Saturday 12th July 1130–1500



Our Exeter- Sewing Bank

The Sewing Bank project has gone down a storm at the Beacon Centre over the past few months. It's been great to see friendships grow as people have come together to get creative and learn together. Lots of local volunteers have lent a hand and got involved. Here's some snapshots of what the group has been up too. Keep an eye out for more opportunities soon that you can join in with.



Big Brunch

Come along to The Big Brunch – a relaxed, friendly fun morning. We'll have a table of delicious treats (pastries, fruit, and drinks) – all you need to bring is yourself and maybe a friend.

Medieval fun – Try sword-fighting Gideon's handson workshop.

Giant bubbles – Play like a kid again with bubble magic – for all ages!

Get creative or cosy up – Join in with crafts, or a good old board game.

Sew & mend – The Sewing Bank volunteers will be on hand to guide you through simple sewing – beginners welcome.

Find out what's happening locally. Jane from Hope at Home will share how their work is supporting isolated people – and how you can get involved. Come for the brunch, stay for the fun and leave feeling connected.



Shape the futures of East Exeter's children



We're launching an exciting new initiative to support the children and young people of East Exeter—and we want you to be part of it.

The East Exeter Community Partnership brings together local schools, families, and organisations to build a community where every child can thrive. Join us for our first community gathering to share your voice, explore opportunities, and help shape a shared vision for how we might work together.

Date: 7th July

Location:Beacon Centre

Time: 1-3.30pm

Let's work together to uncover East Exeter's strengths and create lasting change.

RSPV: Link here https://forms.office.com/e/GEaPrH4YHG

News from Georgie

This is Georgie your local Community Physical Activity Organiser (CPAO), she works across the whole of north Exeter and knows all things Physical activity and sport. Her role is to assist residents with their ideas of forming a group or to sign post them to groups that already run in the local area. CPAO's also help individuals to overcome barriers they may face stopping them from accessing physical activity. Here's a great example of what Georgie does.

Beacon Wanderers

Beacon wanderers a walking football group that started from idea from a resident that was developed by Georgie. With support through a few funded taster session the group took off. Growing in numbers the resident who suggested the idea then took it over, and has kept the group going with a bit of help getting the group affiliated from Georgie. Save the date for the Community Sports Day on August 31st in Summerway Park 12-3pm



If you have an idea or need support to access physical activity. Please contact Georgie via this email: georgie.barbourgresham@ecct.co.uk

Community Sports Day



Save the date! We're excited to be hosting this Community Sports day session in Summerway Park, Willow Walk this summer! These fun, free sessions will be packed with active games and activities — a great way for children and families to spend time outdoors together during the holidays.

Beacon Wanderers



We're still on the lookout for new players! Whether you're just starting out, getting back into football, or simply looking to meet some great people — Beacon Wanderers is for you. We play every Friday, and currently have an amazing group of men and women aged 18 to 70.

Free of charge

Fun, friendly and inclusive

No running, no pressure — just football and good company More than just a kickabout — Beacon Wanderers has supported people through:

- · Long-term injuries
- · Mental health challenges
- Weight loss journeys
 Everyone who joins finds more than football they find a community.

Come along, give it a try, and see what makes Beacon Wanderers so special.

St James School, Fridays 8–9PM beaconwanderers@gmail.com Greg: 07546 419885

Craft and chat

Beat those Monday blues by coming along to the Beacon Centre chat & craft group. It's a friendly supportive group, no need to bring a craft, all materials provided. You can also enjoy a cuppa and a natter.

The group has been busy making hand made flowers and vases ready to sell at The Beacon Community Centre summer fayre.

They've all worked really hard every Monday morning making these, getting creative and having a chat and a laugh. I think they look amazing.

It's on every Monday morning at the Beacon Centre from 10.30-12.30pm





What's on: Beacon Heath Summer 2025

Monday

- 10.00am-12.00pm Working Morning- Grounds & Building St Katherine's Priory
- 10.30am-12.00pm Chat & Craft Drop-in Beacon Centre
- 1.30-3.30pm Young at Heart Beacon Heath Church Hall
- 1.30-3.30 Whist (Part of Isca bowls) Isca Centre
- 7.00pm The Junction 72A Model Railway Club St Katherine's Priory

Tuesday

- 10.00am-3.00pm EDMES (Exeter and District Model Engineers) St Katherine's Priory
- 10.30-11.30am Over 60's Yoga Beacon Centre
- 1.30pm Whist Drive St Katherine's Priory (fortnightly)
- 4.00-5.30pm The Hub Youth Space, Beacon Centre
- 6.30pm 6.15pm Bridge Club Isca Centre
- 6.30pm Taster Sessions- Isca Indoors Bowling club, Isca centre
- · 6.30-7.30pm Body Workout with Kamila Beacon Centre
- · 7-8pm Women on the Run- Exeter Arena

Wednesday

- 10.00am-12.00pm Headway Beacon Centre
- 10.00am-12.00pm Food bank Beacon Centre
- 11-12pm WEFTE Northbrook Pool
- 1.00-3.00pm Baby Massage Beacon Centre
- 4.30-6.30pm Rio Youth Group Beacon Centre
- 5.00-6.00pm Premier League Kicks St James School (ages 11-18)
- 7.00-9.00pm Old Wyvern Workshops Beacon centre
- 7.00-9.00pm Netball St James High School

Thursday

- 9.30-11.15am Lily Pads (baby group) Isca Church (at Beacon Centre)
- 9.45-11.15am Tadpoles Playgroup Isca Church (at Beacon Centre)
- 10am-3.00pm Exeter and District Model Engineers St Katherine's Priory
- 10.30am-12.00pm Drop-in Community Cafe Beacon Heath Church
- 10.30am-2.00pm Meet and Remember Devon Yeoman
- 1.30pm Whist St Katherine's Priory (every other Thursday)
- · 6.00-7.30pm Woodcraft Folk Beacon Centre
- 6.30pm Foodcycle Beacon Heath Church (free meal)
- 6.30-7.30pm Body Workout with Kamilla Beacon Centre
- 6.45-9.00pm Bingo Isca centre

www.homestart.org.uk

- 7.00pm The Junction 72A Model Railway Club St Katherine's Priory
- 7.30-8.30pm Yoga with Anouska- Beacon Centre
- 7-8pm Walking Netball- St James School



What's on: Beacon Heath Summer 2025

Friday

- 9.30-1.30pm Spinning Top Toy Library Beacon Centre
- 10.00am-12.00pm Foodbank (referrals 07818 226524) Beacon centre
- 10.00am-12.00pm Friday Community Drop-in Cafe- Beacon Centre
- 10.00am-2.00pm Community Cafe St Katherine's Priory
- 11-12pm WEFTE Northbrook Pool
- 12.00-3.00pm Lunch Club (part of Isca Bowls club) Isca Centre
- 1.30-4.30pm Tribe Home Ed social (age 11-17) Beacon Centre
- 4.30-5.30pm Football Academy St James High School
- 4.30-5.30pm Isca Church & Police Youth Football Academy St James School
- 6.00-7.00pm Whipton Football FC Willowbrook School (Under 8's)
- 6.00-7.30pm Launch Pad Willowbrook School
- · 6.00-7.30pm Children's Open Group Willowbrook
- 6.30pm Prize Bingo St Katherine's Priory (first Friday)
- 7.00-8.00pm Walking Football St James High School
- 6.45-9pm- Tag Rugby- Exeter Arena

Saturday

- 9.45am-1.00pm Messy Church (Vineyard) Beacon Centre (2nd weekend)
- 10.00am-12.00pm Soundwaves Beacon Centre
- 11.00am-2.00pm Craft & Chat St Katherine's Priory (first Saturday)
- 1.30-4-30pm Knit and Knatter Beacon Centre (materials provided)

Sunday

• 11.00am-3.00pm - Exeter Miniature Railway - St Katherine's Priory (first Sunday)

Other Great Projects

- Squillometer Mile Lane Pod & Beacon Heath Pod Shops
- Friends of Mincinglake Orchard hosts a yearly Wassail
- Sylvania Hall Rebuild Project
- Community Opportunities Group Schools (COGS)

Facebook Pages

 Beacon Heath Together, The Beacon Centre, Miles Lane Pod, Friends of Mincinglake Orchard, Sylvania Hall, St Katherine's Priory









Devon Connect



Are you an organisation looking for volunteers?

We are proud to be a Devon Connect platform partner and if you're not on Devon Connect, you're missing out on a powerful free platform to recruit dedicated volunteers in your area. Devon Connect is used by thousands of community-minded individuals across the county. Here's why your organisation should join:

List volunteer roles in just minutes Reach over 4,500 live members! It's completely FREE!

Join over 900 local organisations like us already using Devon Connect to promote their work and find amazing volunteers. Sign up now: https://devonconnect.org/register

Get Social

Keep up-to-date by joining these local Facebook pages and groups.

- Beacon Heath Together
- Beacon Centre
- Beacon Heath Church
- Beacon Heath Squillometer Open Group
- Beacon Heath Little Free Library
- Community Champion what app
- Isca Church
- Friends of Mincinglake Orchard
- Miles Lane Pod Open Group
- Save the Bus Stop Field (above Pendragon road)
- Save Celia Crescent & Pinbrook Meadow Fields
- St Katherine's Priory
- St James School

Contact Details for Venues

- Beacon Centre 01392 204979 www.beacon centre.org.uk
- Beacon Heath Church www.beaconheathchurch.org.uk/
- beaconheathchurchtribe@gmail.com
- Holy Trinity Church- office@whipton.church
- St Katherine's Priory 07467079452 st.katherinespriory@gmail.com
- Isca Centre-Summer Lane 01392 265390
- Northbrook Swimming pool 01392 265390
- St Boniface Church info@whipton.church
- The Isca Centre 01392 265840
- The Devon Yeoman 01392 273493

Useful Information

- Parental Minds gives support to families who are struggling with their www.parentalminds.org.uk/ 07907 614 516
- Domestic Violence Splitz Devon Helpdesk Tel: 0345 1551074.
- Talk works Tel: 0300 555 3344 www.talkworks.dpt.nhs.uk
- Mental Health Mind charity Tel: 0300 123 3393
- The Moorings @ Devon Out of hours mental health support for 16+.

Tel: 07990 790 920

- Andy's Man Club Talk through issue and problems that men face.
 Monday evening 7pm www.facebook.com/andyManClub Exeter/Remote
- Age UK Exeter Tel:: 01392 202092
- Adult Social Care team Tel: 01710 424000
 Out of hours Tel: 01720 422699
- Care Direct 0345 1551 007
- NHS Chat Health Health Visitor confidential text messaging service www.chatline.nhs.uk
- Home-Start Support for families with young children

About Wellbeing Exeter



Wellbeing Exeter is a collaborative partnership of organisations working together to promote and improve the wellbeing of people individually and in their neighbourhoods, to make the community a better place to live.

Beacon Heath Community Builder

Name: Ebbie Peters Phone: 07516 692583

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Facebook: Ebrel Peters

Click <u>here</u>

Community Physical Activity Organiser (CPAO)

Name: Georgie Barbour Gresham

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Facebook: Georgie - Community Physical Activity Organiser Exeter North -

click <u>here</u>