

Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 19

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NATURE IN EASTON 13

Brian Davis



April, April, laugh thy girlish laughter/And, a moment after, /Weep thy girlish tears! And now – What is all this juice and all this joy?... When weeds in wheels shoot long and lovely and lush. Spring has indeed sprung. You must all have seen Lesser Celandines and Sweet Violets, both deep blue and white, on verges and banks in the village, and the drifts of blackthorn flower that whiten the hedgerows. Have you also noticed the Primroses on the verge before High Park Farm drive, and the patches of white Wood Anemones on both sides before Bigram's Farm? If you walk around the anemones you should see the uncommon, dainty little Goldilocks Buttercups there. Look out, too, for the rush-like spikes of Crow Garlic on the road verges before Shepherds Close; crush and smell them to check. I woke one morning at 5.30 a.m. to the clarion, twice-through, song of the Song Thrush. On the 7th of April, a Chiffchaff proclaimed the arrival of our first summer migrant with its metronomic 'chiff-chiff-chaff-chiff' (not to be confused with the resident Great Tit's shriller 'pee-chew-pee-chew'), and a week later I heard the fluty song of a Blackcap and someone saw a Swallow. Val heard a cuckoo on the 23rd up Hartham Street, but I still await the inconsequential warble of a Willow Warbler and the aerial flights of a Spotted Flycatcher to complete the clutch. From my study window, lunch-time, 13th: a large, very wet fox with an injured foreleg reconnoitred the Burtons' chicken run, jumped the Brook, ran into our drive and across the garden.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council Annual General Meeting will take place on Thursday, 18th May at 8.00 p.m. in the Church. Even though this is not an open meeting, all are welcome to attend.

49 CLUB WINNER

The winner of the April draw was Becky Reece.

CHURCH NEWS

On 23rd April the parishes said farewell to Father John and Mrs. Mary Hare as they move to Suffolk. Father John has been our curate for nearly 4 years and has pioneered the children's Eucharist and pram services and has led a number of challenging discussion groups. We wish him well in the parish of St. John Baptist with St. Edmund, Felixstowe.

Services in Easton during May will be:

7 th May	9.30 a.m. Eucharist;	14 th May	6.00 p.m. Evensong
Friday 19 th May	2.15 p.m. Pram Service;	21 st May	9.30 a.m. Sunday Worship
28 th May	8.00 a.m. Eucharist;		Morning Prayer is said on Saturdays at 9.00 a.m.

CHURCH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This was held on 30th March and the following were elected to the PCC: Mike Baker & Clive Wood (Churchwardens), Beth Davis, Peter Gould, Pauline Venables, Roger Silcock, Malcolm Halliday and Jenny Hyde. The annual accounts showed that although there was £8,644 available in the Fabric Fund for repairs, the essential day-to-day running costs of the Church showed a deficit of £462. The previous year's deficit was £171 and our reserves are only £2,000 so unless more money can be found for the running costs of the Church, we shall run out of cash in about four years time. It was suggested at the meeting that if they were made aware of the expenditure necessary just to keep the church open, such as insurance (£1,246) and the Parish Share that we pay towards the cost of having clergy available (£2,788), more villagers might wish to help with this expenditure. All gifts and donations can of course also be gift-aided and if anyone would like more information, any member of the PCC would be very pleased to explain further.

SPALDWICK CAR BOOT SALE

A Car Boot Sale is being held in aid of Spaldwick Church in the paddock behind The George Pub Bistro on Saturday 3rd June. The Sellers Fee is £6 per car and £10 per van. The paddock will be open to sellers from 10.00 a.m. and to buyers from 11.00 a.m. Refreshments will be available. Apply for pitches to John Blatch, 43, High Street, Spaldwick, PE28 0TD; Tel. 01480-890853; Email john@blatch.com or come on the day.

EASTER THANKS

Thank you to everyone who kindly provided flowers and helped to decorate the Church so beautifully for Easter. We would also like to say a special "thank you", too, to all who help throughout the year with altar flowers, church cleaning and churchyard maintenance. We could not manage without your continuing help and support and are so grateful.