

# Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 24

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## NATURE NOTES 18

**Brian Davis**



This has been the best season ever for pears, damsons and cherry plums in my garden, and there have been loads of blackberries since August. While picking some a month ago with my grand-daughter Louise, I spotted a Large Tortoiseshell caterpillar in its nettle-leaf tent and gave it to her to take home. She phoned a week ago with the message: "I let the butterfly out – today. Phone back – soon." Full marks for feeding it with nettles from her garden through to pupation and emergence! Following last month's query, I'm glad to say that Hedgehogs are doing well in Easton with reports from Chapel Lane (a pair), the Weir and Church Road – at least four individuals, unless one or two are exceptionally nippy! A few Kestrels have also reappeared as successful broods from somewhere have spread out to exploit vacant territories. Gwen Tomline and Val Ellis have seen an unusual small yellow finch on their bird feeders, possibly a Serin or an escaped Canary. All sort of rare birds are seen at Grafham Water from time to time but Cheti's Warblers are a new record this year, I believe. Their chattering call is distinctive, luckily, as you will rarely see one as it skulks in the reeds. Dormice, too, have had a good year in Brampton Wood, I hear. There is going to be a "Gnawed Nut Hunt" in October to determine their spread in the wood – all eyes welcome!

## 49 CLUB WINNER

The August draw was won by Caroline Wood – very well-deserved after all the work she puts in to organising the 49 Club!

## CHURCH NEWS

Services in Easton during October will be:

1 <sup>st</sup> Oct.	9.30 a.m. Eucharist;	8 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	6.00 p.m. Evensong
15 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	9.30 a.m. Sunday Worship;	22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct.	8.00 a.m. Eucharist
29 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	No Service in Easton – 11.00 a.m. Eucharist in Barham.		

Due to the proximity of All Souls Day (2<sup>nd</sup> Nov.) there will be special services to remember the departed at 4.00 p.m. in Grafham and 10.00 a.m. in Alconbury, to either of which everyone is warmly invited. As you enter the Church, there will be a list available on which you may enter the names of any individuals you would like to be commemorated and the list will be read out during the service.

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Since Ellington has expressed a wish for a 6.00 p.m. Remembrance Service, Easton PCC has decided that this year we should go to Ellington and join with them for this occasion – more details next month.

## EASTON COMMUNITY PROJECT

Sadly, the fund-raising event planned for October in support of the proposed alterations to the Church for wider community use has had to be cancelled because of lack of support. Further events will be announced in due course.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The annual churchyard tidy-up is planned for Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> November (weather permitting). The Carol Service will take place in Easton on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> December and there will be a Christingle service on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2007.