

Easton Village Newsletter

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NATURE NOTES 22

Brian Davis

It is the duty of every good man that he plant at least one tree every five years and protect it. So said Gautham Buddah in 2500 BC. Well, the Easton tree planters have done the planting bit along the New Footpath and the county tree lady, Bridget Holford, has given her approval, but more planting will be needed next winter and meantime the brambles will need to be kept in check and the young trees watered during summer drought. Recently, though, Ford Cottage has lived up to its name and I have watched the turgid brook reach the footbridge for the third time this winter. At last the ground water level has covered the bottom of my little well by two inches but the Cedar's pond next door is still only one-eighth full. Over Christmas I collected two Barn owl pellets of fur and bones, and from these I extracted the skulls of eleven field voles. I also picked out jaws, shoulder-blades, pelvis, fore and hind leg bones and ribs, and mounted a skeleton on a card for my grandchildren. I know that they are field voles because of the design of the teeth. Barn owls normally regurgitate one pellet a day but they usually contain only one or two voles so this is exceptional. My Monks Wood contact tells me that adults feeding young often just swallow the head (brain food!) but nevertheless, at this rate, a pair of owls would be taking 77 voles a week – while supplies lasted.



49 CLUB WINNER

Congratulations to Helen Gellatly who was the lucky winner of the last draw of 2006.

CHURCH NEWS

Services in Easton during February will be:

4 th Feb.	9.30 a.m. Candlemas Eucharist;
11 th Feb.	6.00 p.m. Evensong
18 th Feb.	9.30 a.m. Sunday Worship;
25 th Feb.	8.00 a.m. Eucharist



Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and falls this year on 21st February. There will be no special service in Easton but there will be a 9.00 a.m. Eucharist in Spaldwick. Please see the Church notice board for details of any additional services in the larger parishes.

Bishop John is coming on 24 June to baptise adults and children and to administer confirmation. If any adults or teenagers are considering preparing for baptism or confirmation, or if you would like to know more about this, please contact one of the clergy. The telephone numbers are:

Fr. Jonathan Young (Rector) – 01480-891695;
Fr. Martin Kettle (Curate) – 01480-890284 or 07876-755587