

Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 56

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NATURE NOTES 49



The Easton Brook has been full of interest this year. Iris Brooker and others spotted clumps of frog spawn in March and it is now teeming with well-grown tadpoles between Brook House and the road culvert. These have attracted the attention of a shoal of about five small pike, six to ten inches in length, seen by Rob Bennett during Easter week! They must have swum up when the brook was full during the winter for it has been almost dry downstream of Crown Cottage recently. There has also been a Little Egret in the brook, perhaps gorging on tadpoles (or pike), and a Mallard with a nest of eleven eggs on the edge of the brook opposite the church. At the other end of the village, a swarm of bees tried to set up house with the Hindmarshes, using holes in the brickwork above the back door. It couldn't be wasps at this time of year as only queen wasps survive the winter, and it takes some months for them to produce large numbers of workers which then build their papier-mâché combs, underground or in a hollow tree. In the autumn one may frequently get large buzzing 'drone flies'

in the house. These are just large hoverflies and are quite harmless. I just catch them and put them outside. Bees and wasps are easily distinguished by having long antennae while most flies have very short ones – and only one pair of wings. What has fifteen pairs of wings? Answer: a family party of Long-tailed tits passing through our garden this week. Eight to twelve per nest is normal, but can all these have come from one nest? The Silcocks had one nest and there was another in the hedge by the Trussells in Broadweir so perhaps this was a double family. Finally, I must mention the impressive series of Dryad's saddle bracket fungi growing on an elm stump opposite the Tomlines on Chapel Lane.

Brian Davis

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Ray Ellis would like to thank everyone for all their help and support in so many practical ways during the days surrounding his recent bereavement, and for their kind messages, cards and flowers. Both he and Heather were overwhelmed by the number attending Val's funeral and who regarded her as such a special friend.

49 CLUB

The winner of the April draw was Marjorie Ellis.

CHURCH NEWS

Services in June will be:

7 th June	-	9.30 a.m.	Eucharist
14 th June	-	6.00 p.m.	Evensong
21 st June	-	9.30 a.m.	Sunday Worship
28th June	-	8.00 a.m.	Patronal Festival Eucharist
	-	11.00 a.m.	St. Peter's Day Service

The 11.00 a.m. St. Peter's Day Service on 28th June will be an informal service followed by a glass of wine, to which we hope everyone will come

SPALDWICK SCHOOL

Spaldwick School have a Bags2School collection on 10th July. Flyers and bags will be posted around the village nearer the time, so please save all old, unwanted clothes, shoes, curtains etc. which can all be dropped around to Eversden Cottage, Church Rd at the Burtons. All profits to Spaldwick School.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Our local community support officer informs us that we have had an increase of Shed and Garage burglaries around the area. We are recommended to take extra precautions to protect valuable items such as bikes, tools and garden equipment. Keeping a note of the make, model and serial number of equipment is a wise move.