

Easton Village Newsletter

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NATURE NOTES 60

Brian Davis

Summer is i-comin in/ Loudly sing cuckoo/ Groweth seed and bloweth mead/ and springs the wood anew. Well, Roger Silcock has heard a passing cuckoo in Easton, and Ray Ellis has heard two turtle doves, but they haven't set up territory at the end of our garden this year for the first time that I can remember. And just when I thought nobody seemed to have had nesting spotted flycatchers this year, Gwen Tomline reported a Spotted Flycatcher on her bird bath on 26th June. All three species are in national decline and we are noticing the effects here. Luckily, little owls seem OK as Melissa says she watches these on the church from her bedroom window. Butterflies seem very sparse this year, apart from Orange Tips and Speckled Woods, but Meadow Browns have just started to appear and Ray reports an early Painted Lady. The prize this month must go to Marilyn and Denis Jolly who have sent me this magnificent photograph of a Humming-bird Hawk Moth in their garden, possibly a very early migrant from the Continent, although I kept one in my garage over winter a few years ago.

CHURCH NEWS

Services in Easton during July will be:

4th July 9.30 a.m. Eucharist; 11th July 6.00 p.m. Evensong
18th July 9.30 a.m. Sunday Worship; 25th July 8.00 a.m. Eucharist for St. James's Day.



In future, the church will be open from 10am to 6pm during the summer months, or during the hours of daylight in the winter months. The internal doors to the tower and meeting room will be locked except when the church is being used. Please can all visitors ensure that the external wire doors are kept closed if the church doors are open, in order to keep birds out of the building.

49 CLUB

Owing to delays in getting the money in for the new year, this year's 49 Club will run from July 2010 to June 2011. There was therefore no draw in June.

BISHOP'S VISIT - 20th JUNE

Over 75 villagers and invited guests attended the inauguration of the new facilities in the Church, which included a short service of dedication by Bishop David of Huntingdon. In his blog after the event, Bishop David wrote: "Easton has just given its a church a real birthday. They've raised pots of money to put in a new stone floor, relocate the font, and use the new space to install a smashing new community room and "facilities". Since the next

largest gathering space in the village would seem to be the telephone box, the new

space is already in demand from all sorts of users, and it looks like being a great success. I was there on Sunday with lots of other people (above) to share a strawberry tea and bless the new works – and say very well done indeed to all who made it possible. The last time the church had a makeover was a hundred years ago and the new work is a fitting contribution for another century, but now the team have got the wind in their sails I hope they keep on going and come up with some more good schemes as this lovely mini-cathedral of a church comes to life". Canon Jonathan Young said : "This is a very exciting project in the life of

Easton Parish. Every century has contributed something to the care and development of the Church and now, in the 21st century, we are opening the building wider still to the whole community."

A little illustrated history of Easton church from the fourteenth century up to the present has been written by Beth Davis entitled *Easton Bells: A History of Easton Church, Huntingdonshire*. Copies are available from Beth priced at £5.

SUMMER AT THE MUSEUM

If you are wondering how to entertain the family over the summer holidays, check out the St. Neots Museum website (www.stneotsmuseum.org.uk) which has a full and interesting programme of activities from 30th July to 27th August. They are running Family Workshops every Friday on topics as diverse as *The Wonderful World of Willow*, *Birds and Bats*, *Animated Marsh Monsters*, *The Curious World of the Butterbumps of the Bogs* and *Utterly Otters*. There is a small charge for each of these events but from 23rd July to September 4th you can join in a walk or workshop on Riverside Meanderings, some of which are free. Details can be found on the website or telephone 01480-214163 for more information.

