

# Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 70

August 2010

## WASPS AND BEES



Peter Gould

Wasps and bees don't mix! Last autumn two of my hives were wiped out by wasps: first they attack and kill the bees, then they eat the honey and finally they eat the young brood and leave the hive quite empty. So at the beginning of the season I had only one not very strong colony that had survived the winter; then its queen disappeared. With no other bees to provide eggs for a new queen I brought some young brood from London with fresh eggs and put it in the queenless hive they duly raised a queen and I thought all was well. However, she did not mate successfully and I was back to square one, so I bought a new queen from Croatia - sent by post! She was successfully introduced and started laying, but all to no avail as the remaining bees were too old and weak to sustain her. All is not lost however as I was lucky to gain three new swarms, too small for honey this year but very promising for 2011; and I have learnt my lesson with the wasps, the hive entrances are already reduced to a tiny hole so that the bees can defend themselves.

## CHURCH NEWS

Correction: in last month's newsletter it was stated that "the church will be open from 10am to 6pm...". This should have read "On Saturdays and Sundays the church will be open...." Our apologies to anyone who was inconvenienced by this.

After nearly five years as our Curate, Martin Kettle will be moving to Oxfordshire with his family at the end of August. The Group Farewell service will be at Alconbury on 22<sup>nd</sup> August at 10.00 a.m. when we hope as many people as possible will be there to thank him for his work in our parishes and to wish him well in the future.

During August, services in Easton will be:

1 <sup>st</sup> August	-	9.30 a.m. Sunday Worship
8 <sup>th</sup> August	-	6.00 p.m. Evensong
15 <sup>th</sup> August	-	9.30 a.m. Eucharist

**22<sup>nd</sup> August** - **10.00 a.m. Farewell to Fr. Martin Kettle at Alconbury**

29<sup>th</sup> August - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - No service in Easton. The nearest service will be 9.30 a.m. Eucharist at Spaldwick.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO BOOK THE MEETING ROOM?

Bookings are handled by Ivan and Kathy Yates. To check on availability, costs etc. please speak to either of them on 01480-891656. Users will be invoiced during the month following the event.

## KITTENS AVAILABLE NOW

St Neots & District Cats Protection have several kittens that were born in branch care and are now ready for re-homing. If you are interested, please contact them as soon as possible. A new home is also required for an outdoor/working cat. He is a beautiful young male, has been neutered and will make an excellent mouser. He would suit a farm, nursery, stables or depot and will need to be kept in a cage (supplied) or secure outbuilding for a couple of weeks before he can be put to work. Please phone 01480 476696 if you can help.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

In mid-July someone forced open the petrol cap on a Nissan car in front of Dennis and Marilyn Jolly's house in The Lane, though they were unable to get any petrol. It is not known whether there have been any similar attempts but it would pay to be vigilant and ensure that vehicles are always locked when unattended.

## C.H.C.T. "RIDE + STRIDE"



This annual sponsored event will take place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September. The Ride + Stride welcomes both cyclists and walkers to be sponsored to take part and the event is co-ordinated nationally from 10am until 6pm. Of course, you could also visit our beautiful churches on horseback (why not even by car?!). This is an occasion when most of the churches in the deanery will be open so it affords an excellent opportunity to see the treasures we try to maintain. Please consider taking part and encourage your friends to do so with you. And if you really cannot manage the ride itself, your sponsorship per church visited will be gratefully received by those who can. It would be

especially apt to have a good turnout from Easton this year as we have benefited greatly from grants and loans from the C.H.C.T. in order to complete the Community Project and replacement of the clerestory windows. We shall also need "Church-sitters" who can welcome visitors and dispense refreshments; it has even been suggested that these people could also be sponsored per hour of assistance! Please speak to Peter Gould or Roger Silcock.