

EASTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Issue 121

December, 2014

FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK



Blackgrass

is the new swear word to farmers! It is really hard to kill and has hundreds of seeds per stem, so a small amount can soon be a problem. In an ideal world, after harvest I would like 5 days of warm rain to get these fine seeds to germinate followed by some sun (I would also like some snow on Christmas Day!) and I would then spray it off. Instead we had dry weather after harvest and then when it did rain it didn't know when to stop. This weed has meant I have to do a lot more work on the land to try and decrease its population.

We finally got a weather window in the last week of October which was long enough for the land to dry so I could spray off the fields, lightly cultivate them, drill them with wheat (James had his first year doing this and did better than me!), then roll each field before putting on slug pellets to stop the crops being eaten. Fields are rolled after drilling to compact them to get a good seed to soil/moisture contact, to aid germination of the wheat seed. Sprays that control weeds before they are visible (pre-emergence sprays) also work better on level soil. We will have to wait and see if our work has managed to steady up this weed. Some farmers in our area have already sprayed off wheat they have drilled because blackgrass has smothered it and others are having to leave it fallow to get more chances to kill it.

Our Rape is looking very well (two fields are on the Stonely Road just before and after you go over the disused railway bridge on the right). These were drilled in late September after a fallow (part of my countryside stewardship 'fallow plots for ground nesting birds') and had enough moisture to grow well - slightly too well in fact; rape doesn't want to be too forward or lush going into Winter and I could do with a few pigeons making a meal of it to trim it up a bit (I never thought I would say that!).



CHURCH SERVICES DURING DECEMBER

Sunday Dec 7th – (Advent II)

08.30 KIM Communion
09.30 EAS Morning Worship
09.30 SPA Morning Worship
09.30 COV Parish Communion
10.45 KIM Family Christingle Service
11.00 BAR Family Service

Saturday Dec 13th

17.00 TIL Carol Service etc.

Sunday 21st December (Advent IV)

09.30 SPA Family Service
10.45 KIM Family Communion
15.00 STO Carol Service
16.30 COV Carol Service
18.00 KIM Carol Service
18.00 EAS Carol Service

Tuesday 23rd December

19.00 SPA Carol Party

Sunday Dec 14th - (Advent III)

08.00 KIM BCP Communion
09.30 SPA Communion
10.45 EAS Communion
10.45 KIM Matins
15.00 STO BCP Evensong

Friday 19th December

19.30 BAR Carol Service

Wed 24th December (Christmas Eve)

16.00 SPA Crib Service
23.30 KIM Midnight Mass
23.30 TIL Midnight Mass

Thurs 25th December (Christmas Day)

09.30 EAS Communion
09.30 TIL Family Service
09.30 COV Communion
09.30 STO Communion
10.45 KIM Communion
11.00 BAR Christmas Service



Sunday 28th December (Christmas 1)

09.30 SPA Communion
09.30 TIL Communion

HELP AT CHRISTMAS?

We should be most grateful for extra help with decorating the church ready for the Carol Service on Sunday, 21st December at 6 p.m. and for Christmas. Any offers of greenery, holly or Christmas arrangements would also be most welcome.

FIRST-SATURDAY-OF-THE-MONTH EARLY MORNING YOGA



Don't forget your opportunity to wake up to the first weekend of the month with an Iyengar yoga class on Saturday morning in Easton Church, 8.30-9.30am. Suitable for everyone (men and women) to enjoy at their own pace. Please bring your own non-slip mat and wear suitable clothing. Villagers £3 and visitors £5. Classes will be held on Saturdays 6th December 2014 and 3rd January 2015.



Rona Graham. NEW telephone number: 891171

EASTON WAR MEMORIAL

John Hill would like to remind villagers that the Easton Fund & Social Committee's current project is the renovation of our war memorial. This is expected to cost over £1,000 to complete. After nearly 100 years, the original lettering is now almost illegible and after taking advice from an expert stonemason, the proposal is to reproduce the current inscription in Westmorland slate which will then be attached to the south side of the memorial. Any contributions or suggestions for fund-raising will be welcomed by the EFSC.

Merry Christmas

For news of what is going on in the rest of our 7-parish grouping, please see www.kymchurch.org.uk.

Copy deadline for the January newsletter is Monday 22nd December.