

Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 126

May, 2015

NATURE NOTE 89

Brian Davis



A little while ago I encountered a chap staring intently at the church wall in Easton. He turned out to be Mark Powell, the county lichen Recorder, who was surveying churches and churchyards generally in Huntingdonshire. The following day he sent me his list of 88 species made in a 'somewhat cursory visit' of under two hours, with a note saying that all old churchyards were 'hotspots' for lichens and that this was by no means an exceptional score. Even so, nine are classified as 'nationally scarce' and two as 'Nationally rare.' I should perhaps say that lichens are an especially difficult group to identify but they are well known to be very slow growing and very sensitive to aerial pollution. The majority of species were on the church itself (including a couple associated with metal run-off beside the lightening conductor) but others were on tombstones, the northwest churchyard wall and the base of the war memorial. I have photographed a few distinctive examples and Mark has named these for me. See if you can find them. The first three are on tombstones in the north west corner of the churchyard.

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| <p>1) <i>Diploicia</i> 'Brain lichen' – Annie Rowlatt 1963;
 3) <i>Xanthoria calcicola</i> – Ruth Hannah Parnell 1945;</p> | <p>2) <i>Xanthoria parietina</i> – Maud Annie Nash 1957;
 4) <i>Ramalina</i> shrubby lichen – church tower wall below window.</p> |
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I have counted an exceptional number of clumps of frog spawn in the brook this year: 28 clumps opposite Brook House and another eight opposite the Sloper's house. They have now all hatched into tadpoles so I predict a biblical plague of frogs this year (see Exodus chapter 8)!

CHURCH SERVICES DURING MAY

<p>Sunday 3rd May (Easter 5) 09.30 COV Parish Communion (Rev Dr John Rawlinson) 10.45 KIM Rogation Praise! (Rev Stephen Bowring) 10.45 SPA Parish Communion (Rev Dr John Rawlinson) 18.00 STO Evensong (Rev Nicki Bland)</p>	<p>Sunday 10th May (Easter 6) 09.30 TIL Family Service (Mrs Lesley Bowring) 09.30 EAS Parish Communion (Rev Stephen Bowring) 10.45 KIM Parish Communion (Rev Nicki Bland) 10.45 SPA Family Service (Rev Stephen Bowring)</p>
<p>Sunday 17th May (Ascension Sunday) 09.30 COV Matins (Rev Stephen Bowring) 09.30 STO Parish Communion (Rev Dr John Rawlinson) 10.45 KIM Matins (Rev Ron Lancaster) 10.45 SPA Parish Communion (Rev Stephen Bowring) 11.00 BAR Family Service (Rev Nicki Bland) 18.00 EAS Evensong (Rev Stephen Bowring)</p>	<p>Sunday 24th May (Pentecost) 09.30 TIL Parish Communion (Rev Nicki Bland) 09.30 EAS Morning Worship (Mr Mike Baker) 10.45 KIM Parish Communion (Rev Dr John Rawlinson) 10.45 SPA Morning Worship (Rev Nicki Bland) 18.00 KIM Evensong (Rev Nicki Bland)</p>
<p>Sunday 31st May (Trinity Sunday) 10.45 SPA United Parish Communion (Rev Stephen Bowring)</p>	

Note: KIM = Kimbolton; COV = Covington; EAS = Easton; SPA = Spaldwick; STO = Stow Longa; TIL = Tilbrook.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The AGM of what will then be the newly-elected Parish Council will be held on Wednesday, 13th May 2015 in the Church at 8.00pm. Although this is not the open Parish Meeting (which was held in March), all parishioners will be most welcome to attend the Annual General Meeting.

WELL-COMPOSTED HORSE MANURE



Each spring we offer horse manure from Springfield, Chapel Lane. After leaving the manure for at least 18 months or more, it is dug out and transported by the narrow gauge railway down to the driveway for distribution. It provides excellent compost for many types of flowers and vegetables.

For the next 3-4 weekends there will be a wagon left in the drive for people to come over and help themselves, so bring your wheelbarrow and take as much as you like (we will help with the loading if you wish). Alternatively we can deliver anywhere in Easton at the rate of £1 per bag. If you want a delivery, you can either ring Steve or Jan on 01480 891516 or email thomsk@btinternet.com.

STEEL-FRAMED COMPUTER DESK WITH SLIDE-OUT KEYBOARD TRAY

Can anyone make use of a computer desk on wheels (picture on right)? We have no further use for it, but there is nothing wrong with it so it would be a shame to take it to the tip. It's free to a good home! Ring Steve or Jan on 01480 891516.



EGG BOXES WANTED!



If anyone has any unwanted egg boxes (6-egg size), Jenny Hyde would be very pleased to have them! They can be left in the porch at Fiddlers, or give her a call (891454) and she will come and collect them.

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