

Easton Village Newsletter

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Issue 129

August, 2015

FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK

Who would be a farmer? Just as I am ready to get my combine rolling into our rape crop, the skies opened on Friday with 27mm of rain! This was not as bad as it could have been, though, as some parts of Norfolk had over 70mm in one day. Getting this amount when crops are nearly ready can do a lot of harm, especially when accompanied by strong winds. Rape pods can split open and drop their seeds, wheat and barley can get flattened in the field, making it difficult to combine and lose quality. I may not be very superstitious, but I'm bracing myself for a wet harvest, as it rained on St Swithin's day!!

*St Swithin's day if thou dost rain,
For forty day it will remain
St Swithin's day if thou be fair,
For forty days' twill rain nae mair.*
(Elizabethan rhyme)

[doth = does]
[nae mair = no more]

Aphids are having a good year and my garden has been hit hard with black fly on our beans. Farmers who grow field beans have been struggling to control them and have had to spray them to save their crop. These beans are harvested when they are dry and hard, and are sold for cattle and pigeon feed but some varieties are exported as basic ingredients in Egypt and North Africa for dishes such as the traditional Egyptian breakfast dish of *ful mesdames*.



Figure 1 Aphids on beans

Not only do we have to cope with the weather and aphids (and I haven't even mentioned black grass in this edition!) but the world market for wheat is falling. This is due to the USA weather improving and good harvest



Figure 2: Egyptian dish "ful mesdames"

progress in France. London futures fell £2.75 per ton, down to £123.50 for sale in November; prices in 2013 were £190 per ton!

Let's hope for some sunshine for us all.

CHURCH SERVICES DURING AUGUST

<p>Sunday 2nd August (Trinity 9) 09.30 COV Parish Communion (Rev Stephen Bowring) 10.45 KIM Family Praise! (Rev Stephen Bowring) 10.45 SPA Parish Communion (Rev Dr John Rawlinson) 18.00 STO Evensong (Rev Dr John Rawlinson)</p>	<p>Sunday 9th August (Trinity 10) 09.30 TIL Family Service (Mrs Lesley Bowring) 09.30 EAS Parish Communion (Rev Dr John Rawlinson) 10.45 KIM Parish Communion (Rev Stephen Bowring) 10.45 SPA Morning Worship (Rev Dr John Rawlinson)</p>
<p>Sunday 16th August (Trinity 11) 09.30 COV Matins (Rev Dr John Rawlinson) 09.30 STO Parish Communion (Rev Stephen Bowring) 10.45 KIM Matins (Rev Ron Lancaster) 10.45 SPA Parish Communion (Rev Stephen Bowring) 11.00 BAR Family Service (Mrs Lesley Bowring) 18.00 EAS Evensong (Rev Stephen Bowring)</p>	<p>Sunday 23rd August (Trinity 12) 09.30 TIL Parish Communion (Rev Nicki Bland) 09.30 EAS Morning Worship (Mr Mike Baker) 10.45 KIM Parish Communion (Rev Nicki Bland) 10.45 SPA Family Service (Rev Stephen Bowring) 18.00 KIM Evensong (Rev Stephen Bowring)</p>

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

THE PLAYING FIELD

The rubbish bin in the playing field is not included in the normal refuse collection by the dustbin people. It has therefore been left to a few volunteers to empty this when it becomes full. In recent months this has become an increasingly unpleasant task. Dog mess, old food, broken glass etc. are frequently found and have to be dealt with. It is also becoming a potential safety hazard for the children playing on the nearby swings and slide.

Please could we ask that only clean and safe litter is left in this bin? If you are having a picnic or a party in the playing field, please could we respectfully ask that you take the remains of it home with you, as stale food and dirty disposable containers do attract flies, maggots and wasps in summer.

Thank you.

Easton Parish Council

EASTON UNITED CHARITIES

May we issue a further reminder to residents that we intend to hold an information meeting at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, 3rd September at Easton Church to explain to interested members of the village the purpose, structure and working of the Easton United Charities. We will circulate more information nearer the time.

The Trustees of the Easton United Charities



CAMBRIDGESHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST - RIDE, DRIVE or STRIDE

The annual "Ride, Drive or Stride" event will take place on Saturday 12th September. Sponsorship goes half to the participant's nominated church and half to the CHCT for the maintenance of other churches in the county. There is no set route; we welcome anybody who would like to take part – please contact your village organiser, Roger Silcock (890455).

Copy deadline for the next newsletter will be Monday 24th August 2015.