

# Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 150

April 2017

## FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK

It is a worrying time for some farmers in our area after the collapse of an Ely-based grain merchant, Wellgrain, who fell into administration with 286 creditors and who are believed to be owed more than £15 million! For once we are lucky not to be on this list as we have sold grain to this firm for many years, except this one, but feel for the farmers who have an uncertain time ahead.

It is lovely to see some sunshine and to be able to get back on the land. Spring is one of my favourite times of the year; fields and hedgerows spring into life and the sight of new lambs is always a joy. As many of you drive around our region you may be aware of less oilseed rape being grown this year. East Anglia has seen a 21% decline in number of Hectares being planted compared to last year. The change is due to the threat posed by the Cabbage Stem



Flea Beetle crop pest which has hit farmers so hard, it has put them off growing it. Last month I wrote about Avian Influenza (Bird Flu). We are currently in a high-risk area and having looked at the map, the boundary with the low risk is at Spaldwick!! So hens must still be protected from wild birds. My hens are really not happy but this could go on for a long time yet.



Last week I was spreading some granular Nitrogen to my Winter Wheat. This was just before the rain, to put it into the soil ready for when the plant needs it, as when the grounds starts warming up, the crops will rapidly grow. I have sprayed off and then power-harrowed our over-wintered fallow ready for drilling (setting) Spring Barley next week. This should grow away rapidly and smother any blackgrass that may be lurking. After drilling I will hopefully get it rolled, if the soil is dry enough to allow me, and then get some pre-emergence spray on to control the weeds that may also grow rapidly!! Keep an eye on the 2 fields either side of the bridge (on the left going out the village) to see when the crop emerges.

## SUNDAY SERVICES FOR APRIL

### Sunday 2nd (Lent 5)

09.30 COV Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring)  
10.45 KIM Family Service (Mrs S Bowring)  
10.45 SPA Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring)  
18.00 STO Evensong (Rev S Bowring)

### Sunday 9th (Palm Sunday)

09.30 EAS Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring)  
10.45 KIM Palm Sunday Communion (Rev S Bowring & Rev N Bland)  
**19.30 KIM Stainer's Crucifixion**

### Sunday 16th (EASTER DAY)

09.30 TIL Easter Communion (Rev R Lancaster)  
09.30 COV Easter Communion (Rev N Bland)  
09.30 EAS Easter Communion (Rev S Bowring)  
10.45 KIM Easter Communion (Rev R Lancaster)  
11.00 BAR Easter Communion (Rev N Bland)  
17.00 SPA Easter Songs of Praise (Rev S Bowring)

### Sunday 23rd (Easter 2)

09.30 TIL Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring)  
09.30 EAS Morning Worship (Mr Mike Baker)  
10.45 KIM Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring)

### Sunday 30th (Easter 3)

10.45 SPA Benefice Communion (Rev S Bowring)

## ANNUAL MEETING OF EASTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

This will be held on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> April at 8.00 p.m. All are most welcome and your support would be much appreciated – please do come if you can. Churchwardens and PCC members will be elected. Reports will be given on Church finances and activities in the Church. If you would like to vote at this meeting, you need to be on the Church's Electoral Roll. A copy of all those already on

the Roll will be displayed on the notice board inside the Church porch. If you wish your name to be added, please contact Stephanie Silcock (tel: 890455) before 10<sup>th</sup> April.

## 59 CLUB

**John Maith**

We are up and running again with the first draw of the new round taking place at the end of February. Thanks to all those again supporting this, it is much appreciated and does help with the maintenance of the church. The first winning number of £25 was held by Charlotte and Mark Payne, so we would like to congratulate them on their win. The next draw will be on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March and as normal will be the bonus ball from the National Lotto draw. If anyone else would like to be included, there are two numbers remaining. Just contact me on 891647. The cost is £1 per month or £11 for the remainder of the year.

## FREE COMPOSTED HORSE MANURE

**Steve Thomason**



Each spring we offer free 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 for spreading back into the fields and also to the driveway for distribution. It provides excellent compost for a range of flowers and vegetables. Each weekend in April there will be a wagon left in the driveway for villagers to come and help themselves. Bring your wheelbarrow and take as much as you like. Alternatively, there will also be bags of compost left in the drive for those who wish to pick some up by car. We can also deliver anywhere in Easton at the rate of £1 per bag (minimum delivery 5 bags). If you want a delivery, either ring Steve or Jan on 01480 891516 or email. [thomsk@btinternet.com](mailto:thomsk@btinternet.com). The railway (seen left) still sees regular use, typically each weekend, to help with the disposal of the fresh horse manure and the transport of the composted manure.

## CRIME IN EASTON

Just to make sure everyone is aware of the situation, unfortunately Easton's Public Access Defibrillator has been stolen and options are now being considered on how to provide a replacement. The good news is that more than a third of the adult population of Easton have now been training in the use of CPR as direct result of having the unit in the village over the last 15 months. In the same week as the theft was discovered, fuel was also syphoned from a vehicle in Stonely Road, Easton. It behoves us all to be alert to possible incidents or unusual activity and to report suspicious behaviour.

## SPEEDWATCH IN EASTON

**Easton Parish Council**

At a previous Parish meeting, a number of people expressed an interest in forming a Speedwatch group to cover the stretch of Easton Road between the bus stop and the playing field. The Parish Council has now received details of how the scheme would operate; training is provided locally and takes about one hour, with courses available each month. However, if we have seven or more volunteers, the trainers would try and come out to Easton. At least three people are required to operate the equipment and volunteers must be over 18. To ensure we have a pool of people to draw from, we probably need at least seven people trained. Following training and a site assessment, Easton would become part of group where we would liaise on the sharing of equipment - if you would like more information on how the scheme works go to the following site: [www.speedwatch.info](http://www.speedwatch.info). If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Phil Trussell ([trussells@btinternet.com](mailto:trussells@btinternet.com))

## LAST CALL FOR THE SWEEP!

The response this year to the sweep's annual visit has been very poor so presumably we are all giving up on fires and wood-burning stoves? If you have overlooked this, please contact Jenny Hyde ([j.hyde2@btinternet.com](mailto:j.hyde2@btinternet.com) or 891454) a.s.a.p. and no later than Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you.

## AND FINALLY...

Don't forget to have a look at the village website from time to time. The web address is [www.easton.btck.co.uk](http://www.easton.btck.co.uk).



**Deadline for contributions to the May newsletter will be Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**