

# Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 158

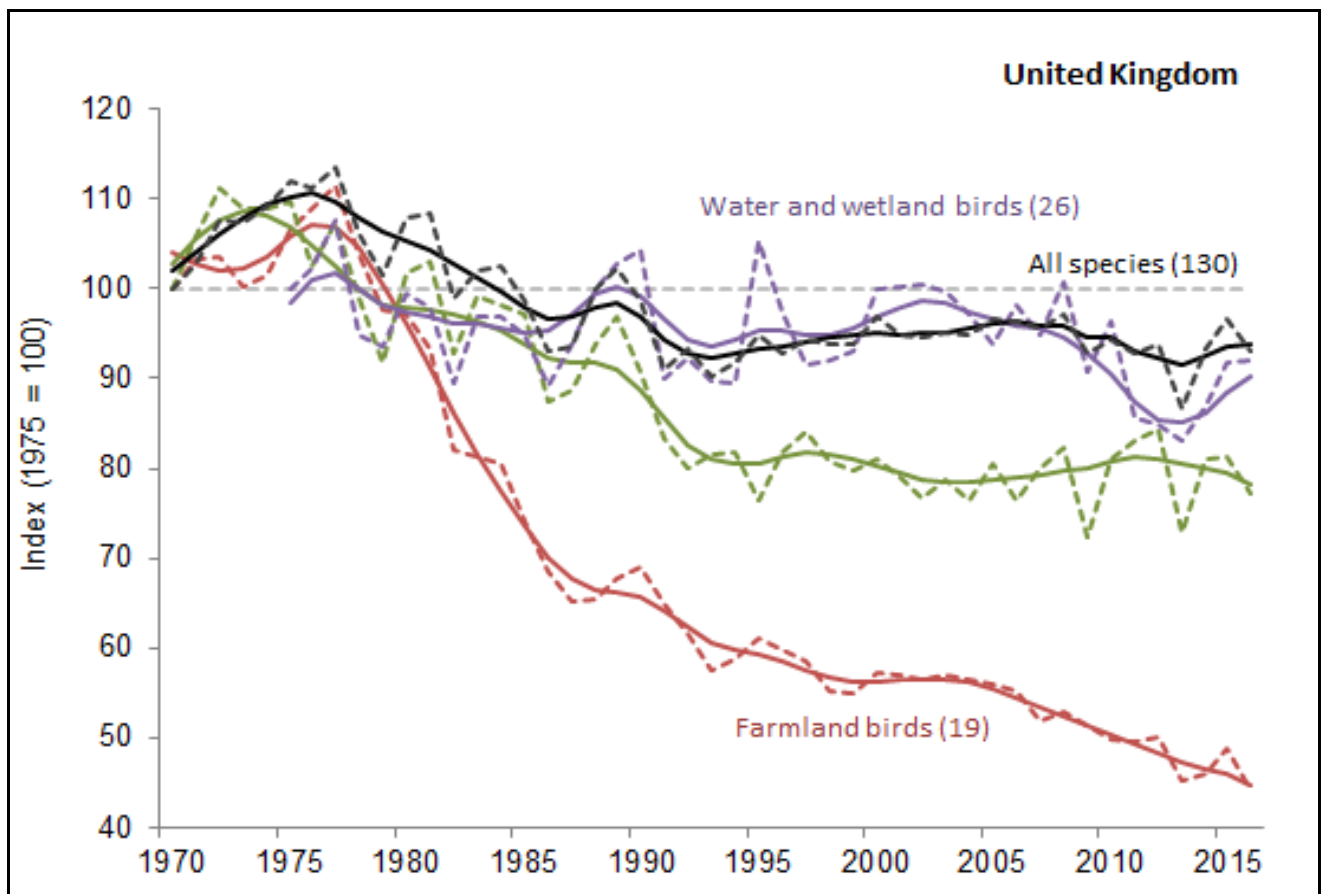
January 2018

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

## NATURE NOTE 104

Brian Davis

Beth and I were recently invited to a small meeting in Cambridge to hear about the work of the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) on Spotted flycatchers. They have been making a special study of this species which has declined in Britain by 73% in the past 10 years; a birdy friend told me just last night how he once saw eleven pairs around one meadow! Now, Easton, Barham and Stow Longa have been doing their bit to stem this decline by producing at least seven broods in the past two years, and the BTO has included these in a major study of their annual movements: the female that nested in our garden this and last year overwintered in Angola and so had made a round trip of over 7,000 km (4,400 miles)! I will report more fully on this study next year.



Meantime, I have just received a report from the BTO summarizing the most recent trends in 130 species of birds during the past 40 years. As you see from the above graph, woodland birds (green line), and particularly farmland birds, have been doing very badly, the latter plunging to below half the 1970 figure. Species like Grey Partridge, Lapwing and Turtle dove are worst affected. On the other hand, Skylark and Linnet have shown some recent improvement thanks to the sort of High Level Stewardship scheme operated by the Burtons.

## A14 IMPROVEMENTS

As work on the new road enters its second year of construction, villagers may be interested to see how it is all going to look eventually. Alasdair Graham has kindly provided a link to a "Fly through" of the route and this is available on <https://youtu.be/tT39Kdr5PKY>.

## SUNDAY SERVICES FOR JANUARY

<b>Sunday 7th January 2018 (Epiphany Sunday)</b> 09.30 COV Parish Communion & Baptism (Rev S Bowring) 09.30 SPA Morning Worship (Ms. J Dighton) 10.45 KIM Family Service (Rev S Bowring) 15.00 STO Evensong (Rev Dr. J Rawlinson)	<b>Sunday 14th January (Epiphany 2)</b> 09.30 TIL Family Service (Mrs L Bowring) 09.30 EAS Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring) 10.45 KIM Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring) 16.30 SPA Messy Church (team)
<b>Sunday 21st January (Epiphany 3)</b> 09.30 STO BCP Communion (Rev Dr. J Rawlinson) 09.30 COV Family Service (Mrs L Bowring) 09.30 SPA Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring) 10.45 KIM Matins (Rev S Bowring) 18.00 EAS Evensong (Ms. J Dighton)	<b>Sunday 28th January (Epiphany 4)</b> 09.30 TIL Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring) 09.30 EAS Morning Worship (Mr Mike Baker) 10.45 KIM Parish Communion (Rev R Lancaster) 15.00 KIM Evensong (Rev S Bowring) 17.00 SPA Prayer & Praise (Rev S Bowring)

### 59 CLUB

**John Maith**

I must apologise for the lack of updates recently, but the recent winners are as follows: September - Claire and Michael Lawson £25; October - No winner (number 53 not held by anyone); November - Tony Ellis won the £50 rollover. The December draw will be on the 30th, and the end January draw will be the last in the current series. I hope you will support the 59 Club in 2018. Seasonal greetings to all and hope you have a prosperous and healthy 2018.

### MURDER MYSTERY EVENING - 25TH NOVEMBER

**Angie Smith & Paul Minney**

What a great evening we all enjoyed within the church on Saturday evening! The EFSC committee members presented a very clever murder mystery written by Simon Malivoire, and we in the audience had to determine "Whodunit"! The characters were very well portrayed by the committee members and there was no doubt that they must have rehearsed for months. The whole delivery was professional and atmospheric, with the added benefit of a sound and light system. It was well-supported by Easton villagers so a good night was had by all. The food was excellent and was provided by outside caterers which worked very well. We thoroughly enjoyed the evening and six people correctly guessed the murderer.... the dastardly Mr Sapphire played by Ed Sloper!! Well done to the EFSC for all their hard work.

### WARNING TO VILLAGERS

**Easton Parish Council**

The end of November saw another attack on a dog just to the south of the village. The villager concerned was walking their dog along the Stonely Road and was set upon by three dogs. Fortunately, the owner's dog concerned was not seriously injured because they were able to get into the safety of a passing car to get away from the attack. In the last couple of years there have been several attacks on village dogs, typically when using the footpath off Stonely Road which leads past the old barn in use as a business to stable horses. The latest attack is the first time that it has happened on the main road. The villagers and their dogs that have suffered these attacks have used the correct channels to report the issue and in each case, it has been taken up by the Dog Warden on the Council and dealt with accordingly. This latest attack has also been formally reported. Until we can be confident that the dogs concerned no longer pose any further threat, can all villagers please exercise caution when using this area outside the village especially when exercising their dogs. Thank you.

Note: Since receiving the above from the Parish Council, another Easton family has reported a similar experience. Whilst walking back in to the village, a large Alsatian dog appeared from no-where, (believed to be from the Barn/Stables at the end of the long concrete road) and chased them down in an intimidating and aggressive manner. They lifted their dog to protect him, and walked at pace shouting at it to leave whilst it continued to stalk them back to the village perimeter before returning back across the fields. Having heard of previous incidents other neighbours have experienced with dogs running free from these barns, they believe they may have got away lightly, but are very concerned this may happen again to other more vulnerable elderly residents or parents with young children. This was reported to the local police and to the HDC who have visited to take a formal statement.

Mark Jones, Community Protection & Enforcement Officer at HDC strongly encourages any other residents who may have experienced similar in recent months, or who have any concerns to report them to him at HDC on Tel. 01480 388867 or [www.crm\\_communityprotectionandenforcement@huntingdonshire.gov.uk](mailto:www.crm_communityprotectionandenforcement@huntingdonshire.gov.uk) to assist them with their on-going interest in trying to resolve this.

