

NATURE NOTE 109

Brian Davis



I was recently asked what those blue and white flowers were that were growing in the grass field beside Ford Cottage. I guessed right in suggesting violets, as, when I checked next day, I found these Sweet violets, *Viola odorata*, so called because of their fragrance (though this eludes me these days). It is, actually, one of the most common flowers in the village at the moment, on grass verges and in the church yard. It is commonly cultivated and is sometimes referred to as 'an uninvited guest' in gardens. It is certainly hard to get rid of when it establishes tough roots in your rockery. There are, actually, some eight different British violets, including Hairy violet, Marsh violet,

three Dog violets and the rare Fen violet (restricted to Cambridgeshire). To botanists they are all species of *Viola* together with four pansies, which are yellow and have a more open 'face'. The individual scientific names can often give clues to a plant's character or discovery, as they are usually based on Latin or Greek roots, or someone's name. Thus, *Viola canina* clearly means dog violet (perhaps because it is common at one's heel), while *Viola reichenbachiana* takes its name from the Reichenbach Falls in the Bernese Oberland – where Sherlock Holmes and Moriarty had their final encounter. One name that has always amused me is Bearberry, a low-growing mountain plant. Botanists know it as *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*, which, translated, means bear-berry (in Greek) berry-bear (in Latin). And that well-known butterfly-bush *Buddleia davidii* is named after the Rev Adam Buddle and a French missionary/explorer Armand David in the late 19th century.



ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting and Annual Meeting of Parishioners will take place on Tuesday, 30th April at 7.30 p.m. in St. Peter's Church, Easton. All are welcome at this meeting and your support would be very much appreciated. Refreshments will be served. Church wardens and PCC members will be elected and reports given on activities in the church and its finances. All those on the Church Electoral Roll are eligible to vote at the meeting; a list of those already on the Roll will be displayed on the noticeboard inside the church porch - if you would like your name to be added please contact Stephanie Silcock (tel. 01480 890455).

59 CLUB

John Maith

The 2019 round is up and running and the first winner in February was Melissa Nixon – congratulations, Melissa! I would like to thank all those supporting the 59 Club and wish you good luck in the monthly draw. The next draw will be Saturday 30th March and as usual, the winning number will be the same as the bonus ball drawn in the National Lottery on the same day.

CHIMNEY SWEEP

This is the last call for the sweep, who will be in the village on 29th & 30th April this year. If you would like the sweep to call, please let Jenny Hyde know as soon as possible and certainly no later than Good Friday, 19th April! (j.hyde2@btinternet.com or 891454). Thank you.

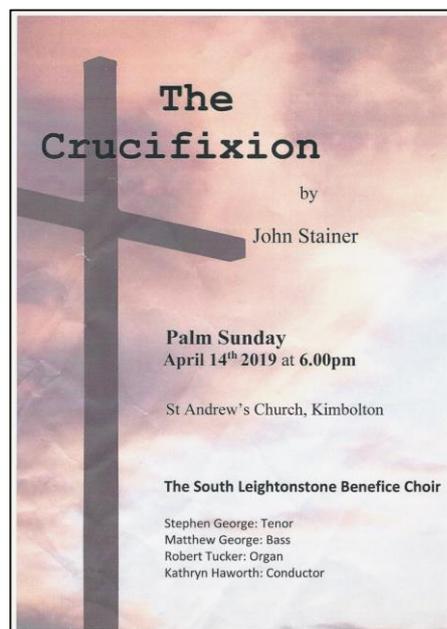
CHURCH SERVICES FOR APRIL

<p>7th April Lent 5 (Passion Sunday)</p> <p>09.30 COV Parish Communion Revd R. Lancaster 09.30 SPA Morning Worship Jill Dighton 10.45 KIM Family Service Revd N. Bland 15.00 STO Evensong Revd R. Lancaster</p>	<p>14th April (Palm Sunday)</p> <p>09.30 EAS Parish Communion Revd C. Owen 10.45 KIM Family Communion following Procession from Castle Green. Revd R. Lancaster</p>
<p>HOLY WEEK</p> <p>Wednesday 17th April 7.30 p.m. Tilbrook Stations of the Cross Revd. B. Atling Thursday 18th April 7.30 p.m. Kimbolton Holy Communion with dramatised reading Revd. R. Lancaster Good Friday 19th April 12 noon Kimbolton Procession of Witness from Castle Green</p>	
<p>21st April <i>EASTER DAY</i></p> <p>09.30 COV Parish Communion Revd R. Lancaster 09.00 SPA Parish Communion Revd J. Young 10.45 KIM Communion/Service of Light Revd R. Lancaster 11.00 EAS Parish Communion Revd J. Young.</p>	<p>28th April Easter 2</p> <p>09.30 TIL Parish Communion Revd J. Rawlinson 10.45 KIM Parish Communion Revd J. Rawlinson 18.00 KIM Evensong Revd R. Lancaster</p>

HGVs IN THE VILLAGE

Recently there have been a number of HGVs entering the village, sometimes late at night, which appear to have been searching for the Williams overnight lorry park. If they miss the correct turn and take the Easton turn-off, they have to continue into the village looking for somewhere to turn around. Verges are being damaged more than usual, especially in the winter months. Some village hedges and signs have also suffered. Without specific details of the vehicles concerned, it is difficult to establish why the HGVs were here. We would like to collate any details of large HGVs in the village so we can confirm with Williams or the HGV operator the reason why the vehicle was in an area with an 18T restriction. If anyone sees a large HGV entering or turning in the village, it would help if you could make a note of the registration number, date, time, and any other detail of the vehicle, and forward to the parish clerk (clerk_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk). If these lorries are subsequently found to have used the lorry park, then it will enable us to have a dialogue with the lorry park to improve the signposting and online information, also to prevent other HGV operators from using the village road as an illegal shortcut. Thank you.

Easton Parish Council



SPRINGTIME COMPOSTED HORSE MANURE FOR THE GARDEN

It is the time of year for us to start digging out the composted horse manure. Each year we offer free horse manure from Springfield, in Chapel Lane. The manure is left for at least 18 months to fully compost, which gives the maximum benefit for horticultural use. It is then dug out and transported by the narrow-gauge railway for spreading back onto the fields and is also left on the driveway for neighbours to help themselves. It provides excellent compost for a wide range of flowers and vegetables. It will be available from the last weekend in March, throughout April, so for about 5-6 weeks. You can bring your own wheelbarrow and take as much as you wish from a wagon left in the driveway each weekend, or alternatively just bring your car and load up with the bags of compost which will be left in the driveway. For those who wish to have the bags delivered (within Easton) at the rate of £1 per bag (minimum delivery 5 bags), just ring Steve or Jan on 01480 891516 or email: thomsk@btinternet.com.

Steve Thomason

Deadline for May newsletter is 22nd April 2019