

Easton Village Newsletter

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December 2019

Issue 171

FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK



If you turn on the news, you can't get away from two issues which affect farming: the General Election and flooding, and I don't know which is worse! Some areas of the country have had a month's rainfall in 24 hours. Long term water-course neglect has compounded the situation, many flood plains have been built on and some farms were sacrificed to protect homes from rising floodwater. The flooded land will lose a year of cropping on it! Another crop being affected is Oilseed Rape. Cabbage Stem Beetle destruction is forcing arable farmers to stop growing this crop, with a UK drilled area down 53,000 Ha on the previous year. Our weather has also not helped either, due it being really dry when it was drilled in August. It has been predicted that the UK will need to import 500,000 tonnes of OSR (oil seed rape) in 2020 to meet demand and this would be supplied by non-EU countries where the use of Neonicotinoid pesticides is still permitted, such as Ukraine. It is an unfair playing field for UK farmers.

The NFU has called for UK environmental, animal welfare and food safety standards to be protected, as it warned against allowing cheap food imports to flood our market. Their Chairman, Minette Batters, launched a manifesto seeking clear public support. They have set out 3 tests for the next government: (1) A commitment to protect standards of production; (2) A long term investment programme to support British farmers, and (3) Guaranteed access to a skilled and competent workforce. Farming is one industry that is being really hit by Brexit uncertainty!

At this time of year, most farmers would have finished drilling their Winter Wheat and busy lifting their sugar beet and potatoes but there are thousands of acres which have not been drilled because the land is so wet and as a result the beet and potatoes are still in the ground with not much hope of

being lifted for the foreseeable future. I have planned to grow Spring Wheat and Barley, so I am less stressed than many of my neighbouring farmers as I'm sure that by April time will be a bit drier!

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

Easton PCC

You will all have noticed the scaffolding around the chancel of the church; there is more inside. The Church Commissioners are responsible for the fabric of the chancel and are covering the cost of the necessary work to the chancel roof. The builders will be replacing the lead roof which is now about 120 years old and was beginning to cause leakage problems. The uncovering of the old roof has allowed a thorough examination of the roof timbers underneath. In a recent memo from our architect David Llewellyn, he confirmed that the timbers are structurally in good condition but the masonry walls in places are moving outwards causing some distortions to the wooden frame. The builders are expecting to complete the internal work and to have removed the scaffolding in time for our Christmas festivities.

ROAD CLOSURE – ADVANCE WARNING

Easton Parish Council

Notice has been served of a road closure affecting the village from Monday 6th January 2020 until Tuesday of the following week, 14th January 2020. The closure will be from the junction of Stonely Road and Church Lane (by *Avens*) to the junction of Stocking Lane and Bigrams Lane. It will be during the working day only (8.30 – 16.00) and the diversion will be via the A14 to Spaldwick and south through Stow Longa. It is believed to be due to overhead repairs required by BT.

59 CLUB

John Maith

The recent winners of the 59 Club were: August - Simon Malivoire; September - Mark & Charlotte Payne; October - Margaret Halliday. Congratulations to the winners! The next draw will be Saturday 30th November, so good luck to all!

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



At the end of October, Clare Hindmarsh, Vicky Arbuthnott and Pam Bell organised a coffee morning in the church in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. The event was well-attended and very much enjoyed by everyone and – even more importantly - raised the splendid sum of £319.57 for Macmillan. Well done, Clare, Pam and Vicky and thank you!

Above is a selection of the delicious homemade cakes on offer, and the picture on the right shows some of the supporters enjoying the occasion!



CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

<p>Sunday 1st December - Advent I 09.30 COV Parish Communion – Revd. Phil Howson 09.30 SPA Morning Worship – Revd. John Rawlinson 10.45 KIM Family service / St. Andrew’s Day Celebration with Great Staughton – Revd. Phil Howson and Revd. Nicky Bland 15.00 STO Evensong – Revd. Phil Howson</p>	<p>Sunday 8th December - Advent II 09.30 TIL Family Service – Churchwarden 09.30 EAS Parish Communion – Revd. Phil Howson 10.45 KIM Christingle Service – Pamela, with Phil and others</p>
<p>Sunday 15th December - Advent III 09.30 COV Morning Worship - Churchwarden 09.30 STO Family Communion - Revd. Phil Howson 09.30 SPA Parish Communion – Revd. John Rawlinson 10.45 KIM Matins - Revd. Ron Lancaster 11.00 BAR Parish Communion - Revd. Phil Howson 18.00 KIM Nine Lessons and Carols - Revd. Phil Howson</p>	<p>Sunday 22nd December - Advent IV 09.30 TIL Parish Communion – Revd. John Rawlinson 09.30 EAS Morning Worship – Warden/Jill Dighton 10.45 KIM Parish Communion – Revd. Phil Howson 15.00 STO Carol Service – Revd. Phil Howson 16.00 COV Carol Service - Revd. John Rawlinson 18.00 EAS Carol Service - Revd. Phil Howson</p>
<p>Tuesday 24 December - Christmas Eve 16.00 SPA Crib Service - Revd. Phil with Jill and Amba 23.30 SPA Holy Communion - Revd. John Rawlinson 23.30 KIM Holy Communion – Revd. Phil Howson</p>	
<p>Wednesday 25 December - Christmas Day 09.30 EAS Family Communion – Revd. Pamela Soult 09.30 TIL Holy Communion – Revd. John Rawlinson 09.30 COV Holy Communion – Revd. Phil Howson 10.30 STO Holy Communion – Revd. John Rawlinson 10.45 KIM Parish Communion – Revds. R. Lancaster and Pamela Soult 11.00 BAR Parish Communion – Revd. Phil Howson</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 29th December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10.45 Tilbrook - Group Service - Revd. Pamela Soult</p>	



NEW A14 BY-PASS OPENS ON 9TH DECEMBER

Highways England

The new 12-mile bypass which will run between Ellington and Swavesey – part of the UK’s biggest road upgrade – will open to traffic a full year ahead of schedule. It is part of a £1.5 billion project to upgrade 21 miles of the A14 between Cambridge and Huntingdon.

Like any new road, it may take some time to get used to driving on it. Below is some essential information to help you drive safely and enjoy your new journey. A map is available from Highways England (see below) which shows how you can join and leave the new bypass, and which junctions have been renumbered. At junctions, **it is not always possible to join or leave the new road in all directions**. This is to help discourage long distance traffic from using smaller, unsuitable roads through local communities. More details are on the map. All A14 junctions east of and including Girton, as well as the A1 junctions, will maintain their existing junction numbers.

The map shows that drivers travelling eastbound on the new bypass will still have to join a section of 40mph, narrow lanes roadworks from the Swavesey junction. Please look out for the signs as you

approach. **Slow moving vehicles are prohibited** from using the new bypass and will be directed to alternative local access roads. Variable speed limits displayed on overhead gantries will help to reduce congestion and ensure safety. Please remember that a red roundel around a speed limit means it is mandatory. Work on the rest of the project, between Swavesey and Milton, continues and is on schedule to be completed as planned by December 2020. The work we are carrying out at Huntingdon including the removal of the old viaduct over the railway line, will complete after this. For map and further information, please see: <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/a14-cambridge-to-huntingdon-improvement-scheme-home>, or by following [@A14C2H](#).

NHS - GET INVOLVED IN THE BIG CONVERSATION

NHS Cambs. & Peterborough

Local residents are being encouraged to have their say on the future of local NHS services as part of The Big Conversation. Funding for healthcare across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is under pressure. More people are using NHS services locally, and resources are limited. At the moment, the local NHS is buying more than it can afford which means that some difficult decisions need to be made about the services it can afford to provide in the future.

The Big Conversation has been created to help Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), who buy the healthcare services in the local area, to understand what is most important to the local community. Feedback received will be used to create a set of principles that will inform our future plans and help shape our local NHS.

Local residents can give their feedback by attending one of the events taking place across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough during October and November, or by completing a short survey online at <https://bit.ly/NHSBigConversation>. Find out more about The Big Conversation and local events online bit.ly/NHSBigConversation.

CHRISTMAS BIN COLLECTIONS

Hunts. D.C.

As is usual at this time of year, during Christmas and New Year residents will have a change of collection day for their waste. All residents will receive a bin hanger at the beginning of December advising of the changes; the principal one affecting Easton is that the black bin collection due on Tuesday 24th December will be made on Monday 23rd December instead.



Deadline for the January 2020 Newsletter is 20th December 2019