

Easton Village Newsletter

August 2022

Issue 202

EASTON WILDLIFE

STEVE THOMASON

Dragonflies

Chris Packham and Monty Don would fully endorse yet another article on the benefit of garden ponds in Easton (if asked!!). They are the single most effective draw for wildlife anyone can have in the garden, whether it is 3ft in diameter or 30 feet.

Dragonflies are some of the most mesmerising and beautiful examples of wildlife that our ponds can encourage with names such as; Hawkers, Chasers, Skimmers, Clubtails, and Darters. They are divided in 2 broad groups; Dragonflies and Damselflies. 17 species of dragonflies are known to breed regularly in garden ponds. Even a small pond can harbour impressive



dragonflies such as the large Southern Hawker! Sadly, once emerging from a pond, the life expectancy can be as short as one week, with the longest still only 6-8 weeks. When our pond had been built in late

summer 2 years ago, common Darter dragonflies were observed around the pond just 1 week after it was filled. Within 3 weeks, egg laying pairs were already getting down to business!

Damselflies will also colonise the pond quickly, and typically in our area it will be the Azure Damselfly that will be present.

However, correctly identifying some species of Damselflies can be a black art even with the aid of a magnifying glass or macro lens! Over the course of a year normally Damselflies will be the first to be seen in the spring, any time from



May onwards. This year, the pretty blue coloured Wide-Bodied Chaser (see photo on first page) was a constant visitor from June onwards. Following this, large numbers of

the Common Darter (see photo above) will be seen right through to September.

The British Dragonfly Society have produced a very good field guide, and have a very useful website where assistance is given in identification.

RIDE AND STRIDE FOR CHURCHES – SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 10TH. 2022

Peter Gould

The Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust (CHCT) supports churches throughout the county whenever they need help with repairs and improvements (Easton has been very grateful to receive their help for recent projects). They are now asking us to support their annual sponsored “Ride and Stride Day: if anyone is able to cycle, walk or ride (by horse or by car!) round to some of our beautiful local churches, and obtain sponsorship for the number of churches visited, it would be very much appreciated. Half the money raised goes to the church of your choice and the other half to the CHCT. In the past we have had a group of cyclists, young and old, from Easton - it was very enjoyable, stopping for lunch at a pub on the way round! - and quite a lot of money has been raised from this for our church. Most of the churches are open and there are light refreshments at many of them, including Easton (where

there is also the option of the big breakfast which happens to be taking place on that day).

Even if you cannot ride and stride, you can simply make a donation to the CHCT for which they would be very grateful.

For further details please contact Peter Gould on 01480891043 or e-mail gould.ptr@gmail.com

The Lincoln Imp

Beth Davis



The Lincoln Imp projects from the south aisle wall of Easton church between the wonderful series of rain-water shoots of farm animal heads. Why is it there? Our parish of Easton in Saxon times was part of a large estate which included Ellington and Woolley; Stow Longa, part of the estate was then the minster church. In 991 the estate was shared between Ramsey abbey and Ely abbey and later when Ely became a diocese in 1109 the bishops of Lincoln became the new lords of their share. The Soke of Spaldwick, included Barham, Stow Longa, Little Catworth and Easton. There was a bishop's palace in

the grounds near Spaldwick church where bishops are known to have resided on their visitations until 1547. They were given hunting rights in the Forest of Spaldwick and also instituted a market and fair in the village. Easton had a manor farm but not a manor house, but was part of the manor of Spaldwick. Hartham Street was the green lane that linked Spaldwick with the other manor of the bishops of Lincoln at Buckden Towers.



The Bishop of Lincoln was probably the first to build a stone church in Easton in c. 1220, possibly replacing a small timber church. The lovely 4-bay arcade

dates from then. Inskipp Ladds and his father John Ladds, church architects, restored the church in the late 19th/early20th century, they would have been aware of the association of Easton with Lincoln cathedral, and had the small imp carved and placed where it is for everyone to see him as a reminder of the original imp in Lincoln cathedral.

SPEEDWATCH

Pam Bell

Speedwatch has started up again in Easton. A merry band of willing helpers are already zapping the camera and trying to slow down traffic coming into the village.

If anyone would like to join our fun group then please contact Sharon Saunders (saunders.sf@btinternet.com) or Pam Bell.

REMINDER

Parish Council

Don't lose your right to vote.

Residents in Huntingdonshire are urged to check their voter registration details. If you don't hear from the Council, you can register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

59 Club

John Maith

Two more rounds of the 59 Club have passed since my last update. The winners in May were Claire and Michael Lawson, and the June winner was Claire Lawrence. Congratulations to the winners. The next draw will be on Saturday 30th July, so good luck all. If anyone would like a number in the monthly draw, please let me know at maiths60@hotmail.com and I will arrange this.

Church Services in August

Sunday 14th August

Easton 9.30 am
Parish Communion

Sunday 28th August

Easton 9.30 am
Morning Worship

For more local services go to the following website

<https://www.kymchurch.org.uk/wp2/index.php/church-services>

Deadline for September's Newsletter is July 26th