

Easton Village Newsletter

February 2023

Issue 208

Easton Fauna - The Wren = Troglodytes Troglodytes

Charles Nixon

Whilst the Robin may be the iconic bird of Christmas, the Wren is perhaps the most common as a run of mild winters has sent the number of pairs of the tiny bird in Britain soaring to around 11 million. Sometimes called the “King of birds”, it is one of the smallest weighing only the same as a pound coin and one



of the loudest! It is only 9-10 cm in length and brown with a distinct cocked-up tail. Its loud song is due to a syrinx or chamber that allows it to make two sounds at once! It is known for its

movements and ability to hide in undergrowth.

The Wren’s survival is partly due to its gregarious approach. In cold conditions wrens will share a nest with others in order to share body warmth. They are known to call to attract others and up to 60 birds have been observed crammed in nest boxes! In spring the male bird builds multiple nests and invites the female to select one.

The family name ‘Troglodytidae’ is derived from ‘troglodyte’, meaning cave-dweller – this may come from the tendency to construct their nests in dark crevices.

Folklore: The title “King of Birds” comes from a folk tale in which birds competed to choose their King by seeing who could fly the highest. As the other birds gradually tired, the eagle soared highest. But even he eventually began to tire and started to descend. At which point the cunning Wren popped out from under the eagle’s feathers and flew higher claiming the crown.

A14 Update

Easton Parish Council

A year ago, the Parish Council met with National Highways at the Easton A14 junction to focus on the safety improvements needed. The actions they took away for us were flagged in the Newsletter at the time.

We have requested updates on progress of the actions on a number of times over the year, but we have met with little success.

On the 9th January members of the Parish Council attended a meeting with National Highways, our local councillor, and other Parish Councils for the area. It was confirmed that there had been no real progress on the longer-term strategy for the junction. Once a strategy is agreed, any work on the Easton junction will be part of a larger project covering the A14 from Ellington to Thrapston. However, this is still many years away.

In the shorter term there has been an increase in the amount of grass/vegetation cutting close to the junction which has given better visibility when turning onto the A14 from Easton.

The agreed resurfacing and new road markings on the central reservation has obviously not taken place. We are advised that the proposed new road markings will not be going ahead following a Highways safety review which felt the markings could cause more issues than they resolved. The resurfacing of the central reservation is still planned, and the latest date given for this was at the end of January, weather permitting.

59 Club

John Maith

The December winner was Ruth Brooks with number 19, congratulations Ruth. The last draw in the current round will be on Saturday 28th January and a new round will commence at the end of February. Consequently, I will be doing the rounds late January/early February seeking your continued support. The draw numbers will remain at £12 for the year and if you are passing my house feel free to drop your entry through the letterbox.

THANK YOU!

Julia Cox

The residents of Hartham House, (English and Ukrainian) would like to express their heartfelt thanks to the Easton Fund and Social Committee for the amazing Christmas Hamper that was delivered on Christmas Eve. What a wonderful surprise for us all. We don't think we've ever seen a hamper with so much packed into it! Many thanks and best wishes to you all for 2023.

Bishop of Huntingdon visits Easton



The congregation of St Peter's were honoured to have the Bishop of Huntingdon, the Rt Revd Dr Dagmar Winter attend and preach at a service in late November 2022. Dr Winter is the first female Bishop to be appointed in East Anglia and works closely with the Bishop of Ely. She was previously a Rector in Hexham Northumberland and has a special interest in rural and

market town ministry. Dr Winter is of British and Swiss-German descent and studied theology at various universities including Aberdeen and Heidelberg, where she completed a PhD in New Testament studies. Dr Winter's visit to Easton was enjoyed by all those in the photo who met her.

(Photo kindly provided by Julia Cox)

Bingo Fundraiser

Kathy Yates

Our Bingo night on 14th January 2023 was very successful and over £450.00 was raised to help our Ukrainian family settle into the village. Many thanks to everyone who attended and those who made donations. The children particularly enjoyed it and the whole evening was really good fun.

THE 25TH EASTON QUIZ NIGHT

EFSC

Our annual quiz will take place on Saturday February 11th in the church

starting at 7.30, so please arrive between 7.00 and 7.30 ready for a prompt start. Cost is £7.00 per person, school age children £3.00 Plus the cost of the usual fish and chips etc. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Tickets will be on sale shortly.

Ultrafast Broadband Update

Steve Thomason

Jake Simons our County Broadband representative has provided an update on the rollout for the village. The cut-off date to sign up for advance orders was 21st November 2022. The good news is that 30% of the village has signed up which is well over the required threshold. They are now in the process of doing their designs for the project and once these are signed off, the physical build will begin. We have not been given any target dates yet.

Church Services

Sunday 5 February	09.30	Spaldwick	Morning Worship
Sunday 5 February	10.45	Kimbolton	Candlemas
Sunday 19 February	10.45	Kimbolton	Matins
Sunday 12 February	09:30	Easton	Parish Communion
Wednesday 22 February	07:00	Spaldwick	Parish Communion
Sunday 26 February	09:30	Easton	Morning Worship

For further information on Church Services please visit.

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

Reverend Philip Howson - Vicar of St. Peter's Church Easton

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Deadline for the next Newsletter is February 25th