

Easton Village Newsletter

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Issue 7

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NATURE NOTES 1

by Brian Davis

Signs of spring are all around us now. Brimstone butterflies and Small Tortoiseshells appeared with the sunshine on 18th March, bumblebees were out gathering nectar from hellebore flowers, and the first ladybird of the season took wing. On the following Saturday I found a very fat, egg-laden frog on my drive, only the second frog I have ever seen in Easton since I came in 1963. (Has anyone introduced frog spawn to a pond in recent years?) Many toads have also been trying to make their way to a breeding pond this week, probably in the central field, but 12 have failed to make it across The Lane, Easton Road and Church Street. I also counted two black-and-yellow remains of Great Crested Newts, a protected species first recorded from a garden in Stonely Road last year. They probably move at night so do look out for them and give them a helping hand out of harm's way. A Chiffchaff arrived in our garden yesterday, the first migrant warbler from Africa. And did you see the Red Kite over Easton on 18th February? Kites were introduced into Northamptonshire from Wales a few years ago and are spreading eastwards. Finally, notice the patch of white Wood Anemones on the road verge near the gas pumping station on the Stonely Road. They probably mark a former woodland edge.

This is the first of what I hope will be a regular note on features of local interest. I would be pleased to receive any information by word, note or email to BDavisNK@aol.com.

(Brian is also kindly offering a tour of Shepherds Close nature reserve on the Stonely Road, which has had a lot of management work this winter. If you are interested, please let him know.)



COMPOST CORNER!

To encourage the signs of spring, Scott Wallis of 3 Grange Croft is offering a special deal to residents of Easton: he can supply 80 litre bags of All-Purpose Organic Compost and 80 litre bags of Woodland Bark delivered to Easton residents at the special price of 3 bags for £9.00. If you would like to take advantage of this offer, please telephone Scott on 01480-896242 or 07932-657888.



CHURCH NEWS

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in March, thanks were expressed to all those who kindly help with church cleaning and the altar flowers throughout the year. We could not manage without your support and are most grateful.

Thanks are also due to everyone who so kindly helped to decorate the Church so beautifully for Easter.

The next Pram Service is scheduled for Friday, 22nd April. Services in May will be:

May 1	9.30 a.m. Eucharist	May 8	6.00p.m. Evensong
May 15	Pentecost service – time t.b.a.	May 22	8.00a.m. Eucharist
May 29 Services in Spaldwick and Barham.			