

# Easton Village Newsletter

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Issue 16

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### NATURE IN EASTON 10



Authorities differ on the number of species of elms in Britain, but my latest British Flora says six: Wych Elm, Huntingdon Elm, English Elm, Dutch Elm, Small-leaved Elm and Plot's Elm. This last is distinguished by its tall narrow shape and I believe that the three on the left as you approach the A14 are the only examples in Huntingdonshire. Until 15 years ago, the two largest Huntingdon elms in the village were on the corner of the Playing Field and in 'Avens' garden near the sewage pumping station, but both died from Dutch elm disease. The largest surviving elm in the Parish stands alone prominently on the skyline in an overgrown elm hedge. It has a girth of 10 feet and a perfect crown with a spread of 50 feet. Can you identify where it is? At Shepherds Close, the beautiful and uncommon Scarlet Elf-cap fungus has now appeared. Go straight up the ride to the tree marked J+8 and look at the moss-covered log on the ground. This also has a little black and white branched fungus with the delightful name of Candlesnuff. Marilyn Jolly saw a Red Kite near Shepherds Close on 30<sup>th</sup> December, and Nina saw one later on the road verge near the Weir, just where I put up a buzzard on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January. The best news, though, is that a barn owl is widely reported in Easton again – by members of the Jolly tribe, by Anthony Bowman and by early birders Ray and Val Ellis at 7.40 a.m. 'most mornings'. I have had nine Long-tailed tits on my bird feeder. Beat that!



### KIMBOLTON BYSTANDER

Most residents will be aware that Perry Stores deliver daily newspapers to Kath Goodwin's porch for collection by those with a regular order. Recently, however, the 'Village Bystander' (produced monthly by Kimbolton) has also been made available to Easton and a limited number of copies are available free from Kath's porch (6 The Lane). This is a substantial and informative little magazine running to over 50 pages and the next issue is due out shortly, so if you are passing, you may like to look and see if they have arrived. Please help yourself!

### CHURCH NEWS

Services during February are expected to be as normal – i.e.

5<sup>th</sup> Feb. - 9.30 a.m. Eucharist; 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. - 6.00 p.m. Evensong  
19<sup>th</sup> Feb. - 9.30 a.m. Morning Worship; 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. - 8.00 a.m. Eucharist.

Any changes will appear on the Church Notice Board. The Rector's telephone number is 891695. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March and any special Lenten activities will appear in the next newsletter.

### REMINDER!

The editor welcomes any contributions to the Newsletter, for which the deadline is 28<sup>th</sup> of the month.