

# Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 22

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## NATURE NOTES 16

Brian Davis



Strange phenomenon No. 2 from chez *Avens*: what bird of prey sits in a rabbit hole? Answer: a kestrel, not feeling very well. Jim Carolan saw it while taking his dogs for a walk (on the day *after* April's Fool Day!) and later took it to the Raptor Centre near Woodhurst. It seemed to improve for a time but suddenly died. Kestrels don't seem to have bred in Easton this year but Green woodpeckers have raised at least one young. Squirrels have bred, too: Dorothy Fairey saw a pair of young ones playing on her lawn – Ahh, how sweet! On the less cuddly side, Jenny Hyde watched a young Grass snake basking in the sun on a lily pad in her garden pond, while Allison Gould also found a young one in her garden, but this had obviously upset the Queen of Hearts for it had lost its head! (Grass snakes have a pair of yellow marks behind the head while adders have a black zig-zag pattern all down the back – but they do not occur in Cambridgeshire south of the river Nene.) What a nice drop of rain we had on the 22<sup>nd</sup> in Easton to revive the Brook, at least temporarily – it was 22 mm after a total of 17½ mm in dribbles since the end of May, according to Roger. Apropos grasses, I found the delicate Matgrass-fescue on Kimbolton Airfield last month – a new Cambridgeshire record! The new wooded footpath beside the Jolly's Charity Field will be cleared and open this month at last, thanks to many pairs of hands.

## 49 CLUB WINNER

Ted Mills was the lucky winner for the June draw.

## CHCT BIKE RIDE - 9<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006

The year has gone by like a flash and this is a reminder that the sponsored cycle ride in aid of the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust takes place this year on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September. The Trust makes grants and interest-free loans to assist with the maintenance and upkeep of the Churches in the County. Funds raised by the effort are shared between the church building nominated by the cyclist and the general fund of the Trust.

Most of the Churches in the district will be open and this is a wonderful opportunity to visit these Churches (and also to get some exercise!). Easton has always had an enthusiastic group of cyclists for this event. Please come and join us or sponsor a participant.

For more details and sponsorship forms, please see either Peter Gould or Roger Silcock.

## CHURCH NEWS

Services in Easton during August will be:

6 <sup>th</sup> August	9.30 a.m. Eucharist;	13 <sup>th</sup> August	6.00 p.m. Evensong
20 <sup>th</sup> August	9.30 a.m. Sunday Worship	27 <sup>th</sup> August	8.00 a.m. Eucharist

Advance Notice: Harvest Thanksgiving Evensong will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00 p.m. when the preacher will be Mrs. Jan Downey.

