

Easton Village Newsletter

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NATURE NOTES 17

Brian Davis



Where have all the kestrels gone? When and where did you last see a Windhover? – *Morning's minion, kingdom of daylight's dauphin, dapple-dawn-drawn Falcon, in his riding of the rolling level underneath him steady air.* There always used to be one or two in the village, and one or more perched on wires or hovering beside the road to Kimbolton. Colleagues from Monks Wood say that they too have noticed their scarcity this year. They suggest that the long cold winter and dry summer have both been bad for voles and thus for kestrels, and the scrubbing up of road verges may also hinder kestrels feeding. Buzzards, too, have been less reported in Easton this year though they are now thought to be the most common raptor in the country and there are more than enough rabbits for them surely! Moles have gone berserk in my garden, invading my lawn on three fronts and even one of the raised beds – probably young ones in search of pastures new. But has anyone seen a hedgehog this year? Ted and May discovered an unusual and attractive flower by their back gate last month. This was Moth Mullein, which I last saw by the former cottage in what is now the Burton's front garden in September 1967! The seed can survive for decades waiting for some disturbance to germinate. It's a bumper year for migrant butterflies, I'm told, and hundreds of Camberwell Beauties have been seen in Norfolk, so look out for a very large butterfly with purple wings and creamy borders on your Buddleias.



49 CLUB WINNER

The July draw was won by David Hyde.

CHCT BIKE RIDE - 9th SEPTEMBER 2006

If you have not already committed yourself to taking part in this event, now is the time to do so! If you do not wish to do the hard work of cycling yourself, then do consider sponsoring one of the riders. All details are available from Roger Silcock (890455). Half of the funds raised will go to the Church nominated by the cyclist and half to the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust.

CHURCH NEWS

Services in Easton during September will be:

3rd Sept. 9.30 a.m. Sunday Worship

10th Sept. 6.00 p.m. Harvest Festival

17th Sept. 9.30 a.m. Sunday Worship

24th Sept. 8.00 a.m. Eucharist



An Alpha Course has been arranged for this area on Thursday evenings commencing on 14th September in Alconbury. The course will last for 10 weeks and each evening will consist of supper, a talk and coffee in small groups. The Alpha Course is for everyone, especially newcomers to the church. For more information, please contact David Scott on 890286.