

Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 32

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NATURE NOTES 26

Brian Davis



At this time of year our road verges are dominated by Keck, also known as Cow Parsley, Queen Anne's Lace or Bad Man's Oatmeal, depending on where you come from. Soon it will give way to Hogweed, less graceful to our eyes perhaps but a great attraction for insects. Later still the airfield verges will be white with Wild Carrot and the river banks hidden by the six foot stems of Hemlock – all members of the same plant family Umbelliferae taking their turn to flower with the changing seasons. The Turtle Dove is back in Easton (8 days late on 2006) and beaten by Cuckoos this year, while a Red Kite has been seen several times quartering the central field, tilting its tail in each sweep to make sure we could see the V shape. A Wren has nested in the bus shelter and a Bullfinch in Geoff and Gwen's garden. Little Paxton Nature Reserve has had a record 30 nightingales singing this May; and they don't just sing at night as people often suppose, it's just that they stand out

more clearly than when other birds are silent. How well do you remember last year's weather records? Quoting the London Weather Centre "...the wettest May in 30 years ... the driest June for 30 years ... the dullest August for 20 years ... the warmest September since records began in 1659 ... the sunniest November in East Anglia for 22 years ... [and overall] the warmest year since records began." It can't go on breaking records like that, can it?

49 CLUB

The lucky winner of the 49 Club draw at the end of May was Margaret Halliday.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting special thanks were recorded to all those kind people who help throughout the year by cleaning, doing the flowers and mowing the churchyard. We are very grateful for all your help.

JUNE SERVICES

For the second month running, there are one or two changes to the types of service taking place:

3 rd June	-	9.30 a.m. Sunday Worship*
10 th June	-	6.00 p.m. Evensong
17 th June	-	9.30 a.m. Eucharist*
24 th June	-	10.00 a.m. Group Eucharist at Alconbury with the Bishop of

Huntingdon, including adult baptism and confirmation. (No service in Easton).

**These two services are again swapped around this month.*

ST. PETER'S DAY

Please make a note that on **Sunday 1st July** we shall be celebrating our Church's Patronal Festival with a special service at **3.00 p.m.** followed by a strawberry tea, at which we hope to see as many people as possible! Sam Malt is putting up an exhibition of photographs from his extensive collection of our local villages and this is to be centred on Easton. The church will be open from 10.00 am until 4.00pm and Sam will be there all day to talk to you about the village.



EASTON MEMORIES

Beth & Brian Davis had an unexpected visit from Mavis and Derek Baker who spent their childhood days at Carrock Cottage during the war and had many memories of carrying water from the village pump for wash day, heating the copper and using the hot water for baths afterwards in the tin bath that hung on the wall in the wash-house. The farms were their playground, and work place for Derek who took Alf Burton's horses to be shod at the smithy in Spaldwick and herded the dairy cows along the lanes to graze in the evenings. They cycled to their schools in Kimbolton and Huntingdon.

CHURCHYARD TREES

You will be aware that work has started to take down the diseased chestnut trees in the churchyard. In order to keep the costs down, the tree surgeons are leaving the wood on site and it is the intention of the PCC to sell the logs when they are cut to size at £50 per trailer load. If you are interested in buying a load for next winter, please contact Jenny Hyde on 891454.