

Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 44

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NATURE NOTES 38

Brian Davis



Well done those energetic souls who rose before 5.30 a.m. two Saturdays ago to hear *the small birds' melodies...*, first uttered from my orchard trees! (I hope, though, you did not lie sleepless all night, like Wordsworth). Interestingly, it was almost exactly the same group that toured the village on 4th May 2002, and with very similar results: we heard 2 Chiffchaffs this time against 1 Willow warbler and a Spotted Woodpecker drumming last time, but seven species out of ten were the same top scorers. Has anyone heard a cuckoo in the village this year? The 4 or 5 pairs of nesting Dunnocks are probably not enough to attract a cuckoo and the only one I have heard myself this year was at Holme Fen. I do remember the excitement of finding a cuckoo egg in a Dunnock nest in Hampshire when I was a boy. Turning to bees again, Heigham Jarvis invited me recently to investigate a strange phenomenon in his greenhouse. One plant pot had a cluster of circular leaf-cuttings sticking out of the compost. Carefully levering out the plant, we found half a dozen little cigar-like cylinders made of the same cut leaves each with a lid, and one that I opened was filled with a bright orange 'gum'. These were clearly the work of a leaf-cutting bee *Megachile*, which constructs these cells from rose leaves, usually underground, fills them with nectar, lays an egg on top and seals them. Heigham has now placed these cells in another pot of compost to see the adults that emerge in due course.



FARM WALK

Richard Burton

At Lodge Farm we have diversified into an environmental stewardship of our land called 'Higher Level Stewardship'. This means that part of the land that we would normally farm to produce crops has, instead, been put down to features that will deliver significant environmental benefits. Examples of these are fallow plots for ground nesting birds, wild bird covers and pollen and nectar margins to name a few. Brian Davis and I have arranged to hold an evening walk to take a look at these, on Sat 21st June at 5.30pm, meeting at Eversden Cottage. The walk will take approx 1 ½ to 2 hours at a leisurely stroll and all are welcome who could manage this. For further details contact Richard on 891848.

EASTON GARDEN AND HISTORY DAY

Beth Davis

The gardens at Brook House, and The Grange will both be open on Sunday, 1st June from 2.00-5.30 p.m. for the National Garden Scheme at a cost of £4 for both gardens, so please do support us. Cream teas will be served in the church with another display by Sam Malt of the latest photographs of *Easton Folk and Places* collected from friends and families in the village or those who have moved away. Come and add to Sam's collection if you can.

49 CLUB

The winner of the May draw – the last for the 2007-2008 "Club Year" - was Janet Thomason.

CHURCH NEWS

Services in June will be:

1 st June	-	9.30 a.m.	Eucharist (N.B. swapped with the 3 rd Sunday)
8 th June	-	6.00 p.m.	Evensong
15 th June	-	9.30 a.m.	Sunday Worship (swapped with 1 st Sunday)
22 nd June	-	8.00 a.m.	Eucharist
29th June	-	11.00 a.m.	Group Eucharist



June is a month with five Sundays and as usual when there is a 5th Sunday in the month there will be one service for all our parishes. As **Sunday 29th June is St. Peter's Day** and therefore our **Patronal Festival**, there will be a **Group Eucharist in Easton at 11.00 a.m.** This will be designed as a service accessible to all, so please come and support this special event.