



Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 51

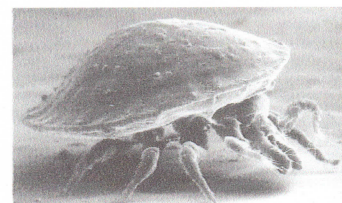
January 2009

NATURE NOTES 44



Someone once said that God must have had an inordinate fondness for beetles as he had created so many different kinds. I know several beetle collectors who have spent much of their working lives, and their retirement, identifying beetles. I dabbled in a whole range of small creatures when I was studying the effects of pesticides on soil fauna in the 1960s, and recently I came across some drawing of springtails I had made when trying to get to

grips with identifying them. If you sieve some leaf litter and soil from under a tree onto a white tray you will quickly notice a number of these springtails skipping about like tiny fleas, together with larger woodlice and millipedes and other less familiar groups. Look closer and you will notice many tiny soil mites, less than a millimetre in size, creeping about. One really needs a good hand lens or a low power microscope to appreciate the variety of form, and a high power one to distinguish one species from another. The lower picture is of a fungal feeding soil mite taken with a scanning electron microscope. At this time of year these are all busy disposing of nature's bounty in the form of fallen leaves.



Brian Davis

BRITISH LEGION APPEAL

Christopher Nixon again gave up his time last November to sell Remembrance Day poppies in the village and collected £88.46 for the British Legion Poppy Appeal. This is a new record, so special thanks are due to everyone who made this possible – not least to Christopher.

49 CLUB WINNER

The lucky winner of the 49 Club draw in November was Vicki Arbuthnot and the December draw was won by Caroline Wood.

FIVE PARISH ADVENT FAIR

The Five Parish Advent Fair, from which Easton benefits, was a great success on 22 November last. Representing Easton, Peter and Brian had a wonderful honey, pickles, chutney and jam stall. The total raised was £920.00! Very many thanks to everyone who contributed in any way.

CHURCH NEWS

A big **thank you** to everyone who helped in any way with the Christingle Service and Carol Service and to those who decorated the Church and provided delicious refreshments on both occasions. A special thank you to the children who read the prayers and helped at the Christingle. The collection at this service raised £64.77 for The Children's Society.

Thank you also to those who so generously supported the Christmas Card Delivery service round the village. This raised the grand sum of £92 for the Church Fabric Fund.

Services during January will be:

4 th January	-	9.30 a.m.	Eucharist
11 th January	-	6.00 p.m.	Evensong
18 th January	-	9.30 a.m.	Sunday Worship
25 th January	-	8.00 a.m.	Eucharist