

Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 85

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NATURE NOTES 67

Brian Davis



It must be a good insect year as we have had a first Swallow nesting in our garage, and this has successfully reared young to join in the hunt for aerial plankton. Certainly, there have been some interesting things about: Steve Harrison next door showed me a giant Willow Sawfly larva on his weeping willow, over two inches long and quite a rarity it seems, and I had a Tree Bumblebee in our garden – a species that only arrived in Britain from the Continent in 2000. And butterflies have been fantastic, with 21 species in our garden alone, including less common species like Brown Argus, Essex Skipper and White-Letter Hairstreak. My little 'meadow' has been particularly attractive for butterflies because I have sown seed collected by hand from a range of wildflowers and grasses. Of course, to see more specialist

butterflies I've visited one of the many nature reserves that the Naturalist Trust owns or manages. For the rare Grizzled Skipper and for this lovely Marbled White, for instance, I visited Wood Walton Marsh reserve, a narrow strip of old grassland tucked beside the railway. For Black Hairstreak, White Admiral and Silver-Washed Fritillary, I went to Brampton Wood, and for Chalkhill Blue butterflies – by the score – we went to Devil's Dyke near Newmarket. The flight periods are often very specific and confined to a few weeks, so you need a diary note, but this year they were a fortnight or more early. Next year I want to add Dingy Skipper and Small Blue to my list and for these I will probably have to go to one of the Bedfordshire chalk grassland reserves. The Beds/Cambs/Northants/Peterborough Trust has a long term policy for managing and extending reserves to allow for climate warming and the northward spread of plants, insects and other animals.

THANK YOU

Kathy Yates

I would like to say a big thank you to the village from my family and myself for all the love, support and practical help we have received since Ivan's illness and death. Hannah, Ian and I have been truly over-whelmed by the love and kindness shown to us by so many people in the village. Easton is indeed a very special place.

FIVE PARISH AUTUMN FAIR

Please support The Five Parish Autumn Fair which will be held in Grafham Village Hall on Saturday, 24th September from 1 o'clock until 4.00 p.m. Sue Young (tel. 453350) would still welcome offers of additional stalls or general help; individual stallholders will be very grateful for offers of help, contributions and prizes. Items for any stall can be left in a box in Kath Goodwin's porch or at the Rectory in Ellington. Stallholders so far are:

Refreshments: Martin & Kirsty (tel. 890852)

Raffle: Martin T. (tel. 891600)

Plants & produce: Roy (tel. 890169)

Cake stall: t.b.a.

Treasures & White Elephant: Ann (tel. 891372)

Toys: Amba (tel. 890565)

Bottle Stall: Jonathan (tel. 891695)

Games: Jill (tel. 810157)

Pickles, chutneys & jams: Peter (tel. 891043)

CHURCH SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

N.B. Please note that there is a change to the advertised service on **SUNDAY NEXT, 28th August**. Instead of the Eucharist at 6.00 p.m., there will be **Sunday Worship at 9.30 a.m.**

4 th September	11.00 a.m.	Sunday Worship with Baptism of Olivia Purser – all welcome.
11 th September	6.00 p.m.	Harvest Festival
18 th September	9.30 a.m.	Eucharist
25 th September	6.00 p.m.	Eucharist

On **Sunday 4th September** there will be an open air service at **Woolley Churchyard at 3.00 p.m.** followed by tea at Maggie Harris's (New Manor Farm).

BIG BREAKFAST

The next of the very popular "Big Breakfasts" will be held in the Church on Saturday 3rd September from 9.30 a.m.

C.H.C.T. ANNUAL BIKE RIDE/WALK/DRIVE ETC.

This sponsored event takes place on **Saturday 10th September** and is a wonderful opportunity to visit some of our beautiful old churches in the West Huntingdon deanery. Most of them should be open between 10.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m., and many will be manned and offering refreshment to visitors. This is the only fund-raising event for the Trust, which gives grants and loans towards the repair of these ancient buildings and Easton received help from them for our recent alterations. If you are not a cyclist, there is no reason why you should not travel on foot, horseback or even by car, just as long as you obtain some sponsorship! Half of any funds raised go to the Church nominated by the participant and half to the general funds of the Cambridge Historic Churches Trust. For local churches, there is a very useful and informative leaflet and map available via the www.stopwoolleyhillwindfarm.org website which is helpful. Go to *Visual and Other Amenities* on the right hand side and scroll down until you come to Cycle Route 6. For further information please speak to Roger Silcock (890455).



HARVEST FESTIVAL



On **11th September** Easton will be celebrating **Harvest Festival** at **6.00 p.m.** The Church will be decorated during the afternoon of Saturday 10th and helpers are sought to arrange produce and flowers. If you can spare an hour or so, please just turn up at the Church from around 2.00 p.m. Any gifts of produce, flowers and foliage will be most gratefully received. There will also be an opportunity for produce to be brought up to the Altar during the service; this is later given to The Manor Cheshire Home in Brampton which always appreciates our support.

FUTURE EVENTS

It is hoped to hold another “Tutored Wine Tasting” in the Church with Philip Amp of Amps Fine Wines in Oundle. This will be followed by a hot supper. The proposed date is still subject to confirmation with Philip when he returns from holiday but it is currently planned for Friday 14th October. If this date is not suitable for him then it will be postponed until February or March next year. Places will be limited to 40 tickets so please pencil in this October date now and further details will be provided as soon as they are available.

ROAD SAFETY

There are a number of young children now living in The Lane and motorists are kindly asked to watch their speed when driving round the village, especially when approaching the bend by *Fiddlers*. You could encounter unexpected horse-riders, people cutting hedges or children on bikes, scooters, pedal cars etc. A little extra care will prevent an unthinkable accident.



DOGS

The Parish Council has received complaints of an increase in the number of dog-owners who fail to clear up after their pets when they foul the neighbourhood verges and drives. It is an offence to allow your dog to foul the pavement and open spaces, as well as to walk a dog off a lead within the village “envelope”. Dog-owners are asked to be considerate to other villagers and to clear up after their pets, as required by law.

WOOLLEY HILL WIND FARM

As many people will already know, RES (the developers) have now sent an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate and to Huntingdonshire District Council against the decision at Determination to reject their planning application. The Woolley Hill Action Group now have a new website at <http://stopwoolleyhillwindfarm.org> and there is much there of interest (as well as the link to the map of the cycle routes!).

KIMBOLTON SURGERY

The surgery would like to inform patients that they will be able to book appointments for Flu Clinics from the first week in October. If you are eligible for a “jab”, please make an appointment. As well as the usual flu clinics, there will be some late Tuesday evening clinics available until 7.30 p.m. Surgery website: www.kimboltonmedicalcentre.nhs.uk.

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