

EASTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Issue 100

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FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK

23rd Jan. 2013



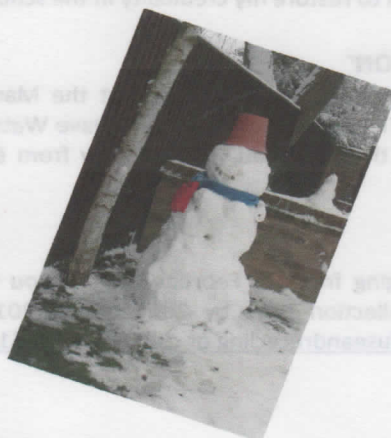
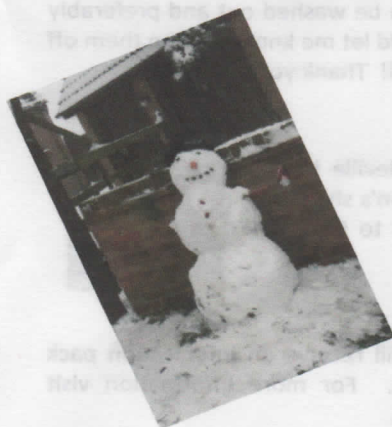
At the start of any New Year, I often look back at the year that has just passed, and, boy, what a year! A record drought affected most of England in the early spring, one so severe it prompted a series of emergency meetings with the Government. All farmers prayed for rainfall and our prayers were answered in the worst possible way, with the wettest summer ever recorded! The rain and lack of sun stopped crops from growing and from ripening. We then struggled to prepare the land for sowing the autumn crops and the rain kept falling (maybe I should grow rice instead?!).

2013 has started with flooded, water-logged fields, so wet that I have not been able to spray my wheat or oilseed rape with herbicides to stop the weeds competing against the crop. It then received heavy snow and frosts down to -10C. I am worried that when the thaw comes, that 12cm of snow will thaw to the equivalent of 25mm of rain. Add to this the massive flocks of pigeons that are very hungry and heading for my rape...

Food prices have risen, vegetables difficult to buy and already analysts are predicting a poor harvest for 2013. Who said farming was easy? Yes, you guessed, Geoff Prigmore! I hope that the weather is kind and that we all get a spring and summer this year.

WINTER!

By the time this newsletter is delivered it is quite possible that we shall have seen a complete change in the weather and that we will be celebrating the first spring bulbs, but as this is being put together we still have snow, ice and fog, and of course snowmen!



SERVICES DURING FEBRUARY

3 rd February	-	9.30 a.m.	Candlemas Worship
10 th February	-	6.00 p.m.	Evensong
13 th February	-	6.00 p.m.	Eucharist for Ash Wednesday at Ellington
17 th February	-	9.30 a.m.	Eucharist
24 th February	-	No service in Easton. Nearest services 9.30 a.m. in Spaldwick and 11.00 a.m. in Ellington.	

PLEASE NOTE NEW CONTACT

After 27 years' service, Jenny Hyde has decided it is time to step down from the PCC and is most grateful to Malcolm Halliday who has agreed to take over as Treasurer of the Parochial Church Council. He has also kindly agreed to take on the booking of the Meeting Room in the Church so, with immediate effect, for any matters concerning bookings or church finance, please get in touch with Malcolm. It is obviously important that one nominated person controls the booking in order to avoid clashes of use, and he can be contacted by email at malcolm.halliday@virgin.net or by telephone on 890125. Jenny is going to continue to produce the monthly newsletter for the village, so please keep sending your newsletter contributions to her.

TREE PLANTING



On Sunday the 6th January the Easton Parish Council started the year off with some local tree planting, an activity which had been held over from last year due to the drought conditions. With help from Chris Charlton and under the watchful eye and guidance of our resident tree and environmental expert, Brian Davis, nineteen trees including Cherry Plum, Wild Service, Field Maple and Oak were planted along the approach road to the A14 and around the boundary of the playground.

They are certainly not going to suffer from drought conditions at the moment and we can all look forward to enjoying them for years to come.

2-LITRE POP BOTTLES WANTED

The children and teachers of Alconbury C E Primary School are collecting 2L plastic bottles to build a greenhouse. There is a competition between classes and at present my class are second... from last! As a result, I thought I had better up my game and launch an appeal to the pop drinkers in our village. The bottles need to be washed out and preferably without the bottle cap and label. If you have any, I would be ever so grateful if you could let me know or drop them off at my house, 4 Broadweir. Please help me - I need to restore my credibility in the school! Thank you.

Rebekah Bell

'LORD MAYOR OF LONDON VISITS KIMBOLTON'

Dick Whittington and his Cat is this year's Melodramatics pantomime at the Mandeville Hall, Kimbolton from February 20th to 23rd inclusive. Tickets are available from Dave Watson's shop in the High Street or John Hill on 896444 can get them for you. Tickets vary from £8 to £5 (for concessions) depending on the date.



REFUSE & RECYCLING DAYS ARE CHANGING



Waste collection days are changing from 25 February 2013. You will receive an information pack informing you of your new collection days by 20 February 2013. For more information visit www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/refuseandrecycling or call 0800 3896613.

ROAD CLOSURE

It is anticipated that Church Road will be closed from 18th February until 10th March 2013 in order for strengthening repairs to be carried out to the bridge between the playing field and the Church.

LOST PROPERTY

During the course of a walk round the village on 26th January, David Hyde has dropped a Parker black and gold pencil somewhere. If you should spot this outside your house he would be most grateful for its return.

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