

# Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 120

October, 2014

## FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK



I really like this time of year as the harvest is finished and the crops are safely in MY barn! 2014 was kind to us as we didn't have to dry any wheat, letting the sun do it for us instead. We had a good harvest with most wheat fields managing 4 ton an acre (that is what we hope to yield in a good year) but it is needed as wheat prices are down £60/ton on last years' prices!

We have been busy preparing the land as it will not be long before we drill next years' wheat crop (the turn round time is very short). As I mentioned in a previous article, we have problems with black grass on clay land so extra work is needed to get it to germinate, then I can try to kill this weed before sowing our wheat seed.

I am pleased that the rape I drilled a month ago looks really well apart from one area being eaten off!? I was worried that I had flea beetle or pigeon damage but later found out that it

was my pheasants (that's alright then!!). Rape has been a problem for some farmers to germinate this year and some have had to re-drill (extra cost, seed and time). We are still waiting to see how this crop will be affected by the change in law on seed treatment with some sprays being banned. This is the first year that rape seed is not dressed with an insecticide, therefore this crop is widely open to flea beetle damage. Flea beetles are blue/black to brown in colour and up to 5 mm in length. The adults chew the leaf margins of seedlings and create a shot hole effect in these leaves. The adults lay eggs Sept/Oct near the soil surface; when hatched the larvae bore into the lower stem and later the main stem. A severe early attack can result in total wipe-out of crop so I am on the lookout hourly!! Prices for rape may also be down this year as many more farmers are growing this crop after Brussels have brought in a rule that farmers have to grow 3 crops or lose 30% from annual direct payments. This is meant to benefit the environment but some producers believe it will force changes in farming practices which could wreck their businesses and do little for the environment. (Don't forget rape oil makes brilliant roast potatoes!)

## CHURCH SERVICES DURING OCTOBER

### Sunday Oct 5<sup>th</sup> - Trinity 16

08.00 KIM Holy Communion (BCP)  
09.30 COV Eucharist (CW1)  
09.30 SPA Morning Worship  
09.30 EAS Morning Worship  
10.45 KIM Family Service  
11.00 BAR Family Service

### Sunday Oct 12<sup>th</sup> - Trinity 17

08.00 KIM Holy Communion (BCP)  
09.30 TIL Family Service  
09.30 SPA Eucharist (CW1)  
10.45 KIM Matins (BCP)  
10.45 EAS Eucharist (CW1)  
18.00 STO Evensong (BCP)

### Sunday Oct 19<sup>th</sup> - Trinity 18

09.30 COV Matins (BCP)  
09.30 SPA Family Service  
10.45 KIM Family Communion  
18.00 EAS Evensong

### Sunday Oct 26<sup>th</sup> - Trinity 19

09.30 TIL Eucharist (CW1)  
09.30 SPA Eucharist (CW1)  
10.45 KIM Parish Communion (CW1)  
18.00 STO Communion (BCP)  
18.00 KIM Evensong (BCP)

## RIDELONDON 100

Sunday 10th August 2014 has come and gone:

it is a day that I will not forget for a very long time. Rising at 04:30 for a pre-race breakfast in my hotel along with hundreds of others, all the talk was about the weather – no rain yet, but would the remnants of hurricane Bertha show up to cause problems? I decide to err on the cautious side and prepared my gear for wet weather riding and set off with thousands of others to cycle my 4 miles to the starting point at the 2012 Olympic site. I have never seen so many cyclists in one place before!

07:17 starting time, Zone Black, Wave D: 5 minutes before starting, the crowd started to pass on the message that the organisers had cut out the two steepest climbs of Leith and Box Hill for safety reasons. This reduced the course length to 86 miles. Still no rain... The ride started well, heading west along the Thames through the many underpasses and into the centre of London; roads closed to other traffic and free to use left and right lanes. It took a while to realise you didn't have to stop at junctions or traffic signals, but people soon got used to this and the average speeds raised with that confidence. About 15 mins into the ride the rain started and would be there for approx 5 hours. Through Richmond Park and out into the countryside the weather worsened and started to take some casualties, but spirits were high

Alan Johnson





and people were being very careful in the conditions. Standing water on the roads was building and the number of punctures was unreal. I talked to some people after the ride who had suffered 2,3 and up to 5 punctures. Luckily, I was spared! On the ride we cycled through many villages and towns and I was surprised and thankful for the public coming out in such terrible conditions to support the riders and shout encouragement when it got tough. The organisation and marshals were fantastic and my fellow riders were doing a great job at supporting each other.

The rain stopped at about mile 65 and the crowds increased in numbers as we entered London, building to a crescendo in Trafalgar Square and The Mall: an incredible atmosphere – it was unbelievable. With the sun shining, I finished the ride in a time of 5 hours 37 minutes. My actual riding time (without stops) was 5 hours 7 minutes, giving an average speed of 16.8 mph. I even managed to find my way back to the car park (another 7 miles) on the bike with the roads open. This was a completely different experience!

To date I have managed to raise £2,000 for The Anthony Nolan Trust. I would like to thank you all for your generous support and words of encouragement. This was one of the most satisfying experiences I have managed to date and I sincerely hope that the whole event goes on to raise more than last year for the many different causes. Last year this was in excess of £12 million.



#### 49 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of recent draws of the 49 Club who are: May - Mike Baker; June - Malcolm Halliday; July - Chris Charlton; August - Rebekah and James Bell. The September draw will be made on Saturday 27th September and as usual will be the bonus ball from the Lotto draw. This is the last draw in the current annual cycle. However, it is hoped to continue the 49 Club with a new cycle commencing in October. I hope those who have supported the 49 Club will continue their support and if anyone wants to join we do have numbers available, so please contact Peter Gould or John Maith if you are interested. The annual cost will remain at £12 (£1.00 per month) and each monthly winner will continue to receive £22.50.

#### WAR MEMORIAL

John Hill

I am sure that a number of villagers are aware that the War Memorial in the village is starting to “die of old age”. It is almost a hundred years old. Over the past year or two I have tried to rejuvenate it by painting in the lettering, but because of the weather and because the inscription is facing north, this soon faded. Some of the lettering is now almost illegible and will almost certainly disappear completely over the next twenty years or so. The EFSC have decided to act now and do something about it before it is too late. We have called in an expert stonemason and he feels that even re-cutting the existing lettering will only be a short term solution. What we have decided is that we are going to ask him to go ahead and put exactly the same inscription as the current inscription in Westmorland slate and attach it to the south side of the memorial. This should then last forever and ever amen. It is worth reminding ourselves that if it were not for the sacrifice made by Oliver Clarke, Ben Harrison and William Seward and those others that gave their lives in the cause of peace, NOT ONE OF US IN THE VILLAGE TODAY WOULD EXIST.....NO! NOT ONE. In addition to their names the inscription reads “let those that come after make sure that their names are not forgotten” so, Ben, Oliver and William (who incidentally died leaving behind five young children under 12), we will make sure that you are not forgotten. The EFSC will be fundraising over the next year to pay for this memorial and we would ask you to give us your support, or even a donation. We will have to raise well over a thousand pounds.

#### RIGHTDRIVER

The Parish Council have passed on information about “Rightdriver”, who have a contract with the Driver & Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) enabling them to provide free Highway Code education for car, motorbike and lorry drivers via their website, [www.rightdriver.co.uk](http://www.rightdriver.co.uk). No registration or payment is required. The site is preferred and used by a large number of driving instructors, youth organisations such as scouts and army cadets, community organisations and more, to help people get their driver’s licence due to its free official Highway Code questions.

#### WOOLLEY HILL WIND FARM

Easton Parish Council has been asked to identify two representatives to sit on a panel to consider grant requests for funding from the Woolley Hill Wind Farm Community Fund when it gets under way in 2014. At the request of the wind farm developer, the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation will manage the Fund. The first meeting of the panel is proposed for 6.30pm on Monday 24 November and will be held in one of the local village halls. It will look at the terms of reference for the panel and consider how the fund can be advertised locally. They will also set a date for the first grant decision-making panel which will take place in April/May 2015 (subject to the wind farm construction timetable). Thereafter the panel will meet annually. If you are interested in representing the village on this panel, please let Anthea Beer know by 16<sup>th</sup> October by email at [clerk\\_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clerk_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk) or 01480 890332.

#### PLEASE CAN YOU HELP?

For many years now your Newsletter has been delivered to every house in the village by one of our retired residents. However, advancing years are taking their toll and it is becoming increasingly difficult to carry on with this. We are looking for someone younger (perhaps even a responsible pre-teen?) who could take on the task of delivering the Newsletter to every home in the village towards the end of each month. There is normally a “window” of 3 or 4 days in which to do this. If you can help, please contact Jenny Hyde on 891454 or email [j.hyde2@btinternet.com](mailto:j.hyde2@btinternet.com).

#### ELLIE’S GLITTER BALL

A ball is being held on 18<sup>th</sup> October at The Marriott Hotel in Peterborough in aid of The Elouise Keeling Asthma Trust. Details from Karen on 07834-564814 or at [kazjolly@btinternet.com](mailto:kazjolly@btinternet.com).

Copy deadline for the November newsletter is Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October.