

Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 143

September 2016

NATURE NOTE 96



Brian Davis

Paul Minney has sent me this fine photograph of a Kingfisher seen for several days around their pond in Chapel Lane. Jill Burton has seen the same one, probably, at one of the ponds in the central field recently. This is one of our more uncommon and most beautiful birds, so people tend to comment and remember when they see one. Thus, Gwen Tomline used to see one occasionally around her pond at Oversland, and Michael Picton once recalled finding a dead one that had flown into his drawing-room window. Many years ago Stephanie Silcock saw one flying along the village brook, in the days when it held water all year round, and this may, indeed, have contributed to Easton winning the 'Best Kept Village' award that year, when Dr and Mrs Herzog came round as judges and heard about it! They nest in burrows in the banks of rivers and streams and gravel pits. The UK

population is around 4,000 pairs and the estimated population for the whole of Cambridgeshire is 50 to 200 pairs, distributed along the main rivers, but young birds may turn up anywhere. They feed on small fish and insects. I have occasionally seen small fish in our brook – minnows or sticklebacks – but they must have to migrate when the stream dries up, like now. Old field ponds, like those in the back gardens along Chapel lane, do retain water and must support fish and the aquatic larvae of damselflies and dragonflies, such as this Broad-bodied chaser that perched on my runner bean poles recently. This group of insects has survived since the Carboniferous era so know a thing or two about survival!



SUNDAY SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

Sunday 4th September (Trinity 15) 09.30 COV Parish Communion (Rev Dr J Rawlinson) 10.45 KIM Family Service (Rev N Bland) 10.45 SPA Parish Communion (Rev R Lancaster) 18.00 STO Evensong (Rev S Bowring)	Sunday 11th September (Trinity 16) 09.30 TIL Family Service (Mrs L Bowring) 09.30 EAS Parish Communion (Rev N Bland) 10.45 KIM Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring) 16.30 SPA Messy Church (Rev S Bowring)
Sunday 18th September (Trinity 17) 09.30 COV Matins (Rev S Bowring) 09.30 STO BCP Communion (Rev N Bland) 10.45 KIM Matins (Rev S Bowring) 10.45 SPA Parish Communion (Rev N Bland) 11.00 BAR Family Service (Mrs L Bowring) 18.00 EAS Evensong (Rev S Bowring)	Sunday 25th September (Trinity 18) 09.30 TIL Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring) 09.30 EAS Morning Worship (Mr M Baker) 10.45 KIM Parish Communion (Rev R Lancaster) 10.45 SPA Morning Worship (Rev S Bowring) 18.00 KIM Evensong (Rev S Bowring)

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Please do join us for our Harvest Festival service in St. Peter's Church on Sunday, 18th September at 6 p.m. All are very welcome, especially children (there will be an opportunity during the service for them to take up any produce to the altar if they would like to do so). Light refreshments (cider & nibbles) will be provided afterwards. We should be most grateful for extra help with decorating the church on the afternoon of Saturday, 17th September from 2.30 p.m.; also for gifts of fruit and vegetables which will later be taken to the Manor Cheshire Home in Brampton. (Please would you delay leaving anything in the church or porch until after 2 p.m. as a wedding is being held at 12.30 p.m. on that day. Thank you.)

CAMBRIDGE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST 2016

The national Ride, Drive and Stride event will take place on Saturday 10th September. Sponsorship goes half to the participant's nominated church and half to the CHCT for the maintenance of other churches in the county. There is no set route; we welcome anybody who would like to take part. Please contact your village organiser, Roger Silcock (890455).



FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Village Skip – on Saturday 3 September a large skip will be available for one day only, situated near the Playing Field, for Easton residents to get rid of unwanted junk (plus anything that doesn't sell at the Car Boot Sale!). Assistance will be available to carry items to the skip. There are some restrictions on what can be placed in the skip and again, full details will be circulated nearer to the event.

Family Fun Day – unfortunately the Easton Family Fun Day will not be held this year, because of clashes with holidays. It will be back next year complete with "Toss the Welly".

Ed Sloper

Barn Dance - Fun for all the family. Suitable for ages 9 to 90. Come along with a picnic supper to "Strip the Willow" and do the "Virginia Reel" to the music of Parson's Nose. No previous skill or experience is required. This event is organised by Friends of France a local exchange group which is holding the Barn Dance on 1 October 2016 at Mandeville Hall in Kimbolton. Further details from Ed on 01480 891364.

THE CROWN INN

There are probably now only a few people in Easton who will still remember our house when it was the village pub. For many years it was owned by Huntingdon Brewery, at some time by Phipps Brewery, and finally by Watneys. It must have been a sad day for the village when Watneys eventually de-licenced the Crown in 1968. In the days before everybody had a car, it would have been the hub of village life – apparently not much notice was taken of the official closing time in the evenings! Cricket matches were held in the field behind the pub and teas provided in the garden. During harvest time the Crown was open all day for the people who came from outside the village to help to get the harvest in, before the days of combine harvesters.

Roger & Stephanie Silcock

We have a small collection of old photographs etc. relating to the pub and village and will be displaying these here at Crown Cottage from September 12th-30th. There are also still a few features in the house from the days when it was a pub. Please do feel free to contact us if you would like to call in. You will be very welcome. Crown Cottage, Stonely Road. Tel: 01480-890455.

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Copy deadline for the next newsletter will be earlier than usual, on **Saturday 17th September 2016.**