

# Easton Village Newsletter

Issue 149

March 2017

## NATURE NOTE 99

**Brian Davis**



In my last Nature Note I showed a picture of a Knopper gall on an oak acorn cup. This is the tiny insect (2-3 millimetres long) responsible. It rejoices in the scientific name of *Andricus quercuscalicis*; the second name simply means ‘of an oak cup’, referring to the acorn cup. The long, segmented antennae clearly distinguish it from flies, but this individual is a male as it does not have a long, sting-like, ovipositor for laying eggs in the acorn bud. An interesting feature of this insect is that it depends on two different kinds of oak tree in alternate generations – the common Pedunculate oak and Turkey oak; it cannot survive on either one of these alone. By a happy coincidence,

this month’s issue of the journal British Wildlife has an article on Turkey oak in Britain. I did not mention this oak since it is not native in Britain but it was introduced into Britain in 1735 and has spread widely throughout England and into Wales and even Scotland. I knew it at Barnack Hills & Holes nature reserve, where it had spread from Walcot Park near Stamford, but I had not seen it locally. However, I have now been told by our Huntingdonshire Plant Recorder that it is known from Brampton Wood, Hamerton and Alconbury Weston, all within the 10-mile flight range of this insect from our Easton oak trees. So there you have it. These immigrants do get around!

## SUNDAY SERVICES FOR MARCH

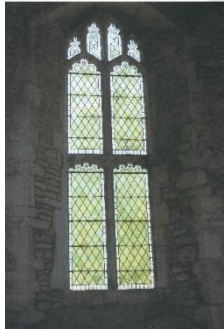
<p><b>Sunday 5th (Lent 1)</b>            09.30 COV Parish Communion (Rev N Bland)            10.45 KIM Fairtrade Family Service            (Rev S Bowring)            10.45 SPA Parish Communion (Rev N Bland)            15.00 STO Evensong (Rev S Bowring)</p>	<p><b>Sunday 12th (Lent 2)</b>            09.30 TIL Family Service (Mrs L Bowring)            09.30 EAS Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring)            10.45 KIM Parish Communion (Rev N Bland)            16.30 SPA Messy Church (team)</p>
<p><b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> (Lent 3)</b>            09.30 STO BCP Communion            (Rev Dr. J Rawlinson)            09.30 COV Morning Worship (Mrs. L Bowring)            10.45 KIM Matins (Rev S Bowring)            10.45 SPA Parish Communion            (Rev Dr. J Rawlinson)            11.00 BAR Family Service (Rev N Bland)            18.00 EAS Evensong (Rev S Bowring)            17.00 SPA Prayer &amp; Praise (Rev S Bowring)</p>	<p><b>Sunday 26th (Mothering Sunday)</b>            09.30 TIL Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring)  <b>09.30 EAS Mothering Sunday Service</b>  <b>(Mr Mike Baker)</b>            10.45 KIM Mothering Sunday Communion            (Rev S. Bowring)            15.00 KIM Evensong (Rev R Lancaster)            17.00 SPA Prayer &amp; Praise (Rev S Bowring)</p>

## MOTHERING SUNDAY

You are warmly invited to our special Mothering Sunday service on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30 a.m. in Easton Church. There will be posies for all the ladies in the congregation and refreshments will be served afterwards. Please bring your families and friends to join us on this special occasion.



## CHURCH WINDOWS



**Malcolm Halliday - PCC Treasurer (890125)**  
Keeping the church and its Community area looking good costs money on top of that in our Fabric Fund which is generally used for repairs and maintenance – e.g. replacing a broken heater could cost over £1000. The Victorian windows are dirty and dull and can only be refreshed by a specialist cleaner. Last year, the large window behind the keyboard was cleaned at a cost of £600. We now would like to have the window in the Community area, plus a small one in the Chancel, cleaned but the cost will be £600 in total. We would very much welcome donations (gift aided if possible) to enable this work to be carried out this Spring. Can you help, please?

## BIG BREAKFAST - HELP PLEASE

The Big Breakfast takes place every 2 months on the second Saturday of the month. The next breakfast is on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017. It helps to raise funds to pay the insurance for the Church building including the community facilities. It was a condition of the grant for the community facilities that the building is kept insured. The insurance premium is approximately £2,000 per year. Profits from the Big Breakfast contribute approximately £1,000 towards this significant bill.

**Kathy Yates**



We are looking for a volunteer please to cook half the bacon for the Big Breakfast on the following Saturdays in 2017: 11<sup>th</sup> March, 13<sup>th</sup> May, 8<sup>th</sup> July, 9<sup>th</sup> September and 11<sup>th</sup> November. There are approximately 35 rashers. The bacon would be dropped off on the Friday evening and needs to be cooked and brought to the Church by 9.15 a.m. on the Saturday morning or we could collect it from you at that time. If you come to the Breakfast then, as a helper, you would pay half price for your meal, i.e. £2.50 instead of £5.00.

If you can help please contact Kathy Yates on 891656, Ed and Maureen Sloper on 891364 or Peter and Alison Gould on 891043 or email [ivan\\_kathy@hotmail.com](mailto:ivan_kathy@hotmail.com) or any other member of the Big Breakfast team. Many thanks.

## EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 23rd March, 2017 at 8.00 p.m. in St. Peter's Church. The various village committees will make their annual reports. This is the meeting open to everyone where anyone is welcome to speak or raise any village matter. As notified previously, from time to time the Parish Council now email village news to residents who have recorded their names with the Clerk. If anyone else would like to be included, please advise by email to [clerk\\_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clerk_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk). ([clerk\\_underscore-eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clerk_underscore-eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk)). Also, please note Huntingdonshire District Council has reviewed its waste collection rounds. Details will be advised to householders after 6th February and changes will be in effect from 27th February 2017. Further information will be obtainable from [www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins](http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins).

## OUR LOCAL FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

Easton Parish Council

We are fortunate to have a large number of footpaths, bridleways, and other rights of way in our parish, and many of us make use of these, for walking, running, cycling, and horse riding. The majority of the time this is an enjoyable and relaxing experience. However, many people do not know what to do or who to turn to, when they find problems using their local rights of way. Until recently there was a small team in the Cambridgeshire County Council responsible for managing our byways. This team has slowly reduced in size over the years, until the last dedicated post was closed down last year.



Now, the best way to report an issue with a footpath or bridleway is online via the Cambridgeshire Rights of Way Portal which can be found at: <https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/>. When the web page opens, click on the 'Continue' button, and a local map will open. Double clicking on the area you wish to report will enlarge the map area each time until you zoom into the map sufficiently to left click once and add a red pin to the map at the location you wish to report. A dialog box will pop up on the left for you to then report the details of the problem. You can also see where existing issues have been reported. Currently, there are a couple of reports on the portal that are assigned to the wrong location, so if you have lodged a report recently, please re-check to confirm you have selected the correct byway.

Alternatively, our local Parish Council have a nominated councillor that will take a lead in assisting with any issues with the rights of way in our parish. One right of way regularly under review by the Parish Council is Hartham Street (part of the Three Shires Way), leading to Grafham Water. The Parish Council was directly involved in ensuring this remained closed to all vehicles with a Temporary Order during the last season. Potentially it is due to open to all traffic again at the end of April, depending on the condition of the surface of the byway.

There have been other routes where recent problems have been reported and the Parish Council has liaised with those involved to aim to resolve the issues. So as a user of our footpaths or bridleways if you want to report an issue with the condition of the route, an unsafe bridge, a blocked footpath, concerns about farm or other animals, etc., please let us know and we will do our best to assist. The Clerk of the Parish Council can be contacted on: [clerk\\_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clerk_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk).

### CHIMNEY SWEEP

With signs of spring now all around us, our thoughts should turn to having the chimney swept. This year Rob Brooks will be coming to the village on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April** and the cost of a normal clean (i.e. no nests!) will be £38. If you would like the sweep to call, please let Jenny Hyde know **by Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April** please. Contact details: [j.hyde2@btinternet.com](mailto:j.hyde2@btinternet.com) or 891454.

**Deadline for April newsletter will be  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Melodramatics Present  
**Jack and the Beanstalk**  
a GANG of a pantomime  
28th February - 4th March 2017  
@ The Mandeville Hall, Kimbolton

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/melodramaticspanto](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/melodramaticspanto)  
or Call the box office on 07572 731477  
Tickets also available from: Bytes Café, Mandeville Hall on Fridays  
20th - 27th January and 3rd February 2017, 10am to 12 noon

Themed Table Nights: Tuesday 28th February and Wednesday 1st March  
Kimbolton Rotary Gala Thursday (Call 01480 890650 for tickets)  
Friday Evening, Saturday Morning and Afternoon Performances  
Saturday Night Spectacular (Contains more adult themes)