

# Easton Village Newsletter

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Issue 152

June 2018

### FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK



When I last wrote, I was desperate for some dry weather so I could get on the land to drill (sow) our Spring Barley crop. I had accepted the thought that I was not going to get any crop in the ground this year because of the wet, cold, weather but it suddenly dried up mid-April and I started drilling the following week and finished on April 26<sup>th</sup>. If I hadn't got drilling by May 1<sup>st</sup> it would have been too late to start because of the length of growing season that Spring Barley needs, so it was getting very close! The barley went in the ground well and we rolled it before the weather turned for the worse again. Today I have been applying some Nitrogen fertiliser to get it growing and it needs a rain - am I never satisfied??!

Last week we were cutting grass for haylage and hay (for the latter you need a good week of drying, sunny weather). Hay is a grass legume or other herbaceous plants that has been cut, dried over several days by turning regularly, throwing out and rowing up until it is as dry as possible and then baled. This is used by livestock and horses over the Winter months when food is in short supply or if the land is too wet to turn the cattle out onto the fields in the Spring. Haylage is different as it is dried for a short time but then baled and wrapped in plastic to aid fermentation of the grass. It is about 45-75% dry matter, whereas silage (which is usually fed to cows) is much wetter at 35-50%. Haylage must be stored for several months before it can be fed to livestock as, if not fully fermented, it would make the animal very ill.

I have also been busy fencing around a grass field that I have drilled with a herb-rich sward, which is part of my Countryside Stewardship. I will be able to let the cattle graze in the field but will need to remove them for 6 weeks in the Summer to allow the plants to seed.

Thank you to everyone in Easton for their kind wishes and wonderful support to Rob over the last few weeks. (We loved the sign!). Rob had a wonderful time and was thrilled to get to the final.

### SAVE THE CHILDREN COLLECTION

The house-to-house collection raised £136.57. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously. Your help is so much appreciated. SCF works tirelessly in many countries around the world, alleviating poverty and sickness and helping in refugee camps, as well as running UK projects. The total raised in the Kimbolton area this year was £2,889.28 so we really can make a difference to children's lives.

### DIARY NOTE – SAFARI SUPPER

Please note that the popular Easton Safari Supper has been moved from 21 July to **18 August 2018**. The format will be similar to before, with starters in the Grange Croft Courtyard followed by a main course at four different homes and finishing in the Church for drinks and desserts. More detail and ticket prices will be issued nearer the date. There will be an Italian theme.

Numbers will be limited to 50 people so if you want to make a reservation ahead of ticket sales please ring Ed Sloper on 01480 891364.

Ciao – Ed Sloper

## SUNDAY SERVICES FOR JUNE

<p><b>Sunday 3rd June – Trinity 1</b>            09.30 COV Parish Communion            09.30 SPA Prayer and Praise            10.45 STO Matins            10.45 KIM Family Service</p>	<p><b>Sunday 10th June – Trinity 2</b>            09.30 TIL Family Service            09.30 EAS Parish Communion            10.45 KIM Family Communion            16.30 SPA Messy Church</p>
<p><b>Sunday 17th June – Trinity 3</b>            09.30 COV Morning Prayer            09.30 STO Parish Communion            09.30 SPA Parish Communion            10.45 KIM Matins            15.00 STO Evensong (St Botolph's Day)</p>	<p><b>Sunday 24th June – Trinity 4</b>            09.30 TIL Parish Communion            09.30 EAS Morning Worship            10.45 KIM Parish Communion            18.00 KIM Evensong</p>

## BROOK HOUSE OPEN GARDEN/LECTURE

On the Sunday of the Spring Bank Holiday weekend, about 70 people foregathered in the Church for an excellent and informative lecture on bird migration, with particular emphasis on our local Spotted Flycatchers, before adjourning to Brook House for a strawberry tea. The sun shone, the garden looked magnificent and a thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all. After deducting expenses, the splendid sum of £570 was raised for the British Trust for Ornithology.

The event was also noteworthy for being the first use of the new projector in the Church, which proved its worth very well, and an involuntary contribution to the occasion was made by one unfortunate Spotted Flycatcher which sadly completed its 4,000-mile journey back to Easton by flying into a window, thus meeting its untimely end.

Warmest thanks are due to Brian & Beth Davis, and to all their helpers for a lovely afternoon.

## EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Mike Baker**

Charles Nixon volunteered to refurbish the two old cast iron Hunts County Council signposts in the village. This involved washing and cleaning them and then repainting the posts and the lettering in black and white paint. He has done an excellent job and they now look much more attractive. We are grateful to Charles for his work – thank you, Charles, a good job – well done! The finger pointer which was snapped off by a reversing HGV has now been replaced.

Please note that there is a new web address for the Parish Council, which is [www.eastonpc.co.uk](http://www.eastonpc.co.uk). This should be much easier to remember.



**Deadline for the July Village Newsletter will be 25<sup>th</sup> June**