

Easton Village Newsletter

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February 2020

Issue 173

FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK



Big changes ahead for farmers!!

Farm leaders and environmental campaigners have joined forces to secure a fair deal for British Agriculture and the countryside. New alliances are needed to ensure British farmers can continue to deliver high quality food at affordable prices while looking after the environment, as we head out of the European Union.

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Agriculture accounts for 12% of all UK greenhouse gas emissions but with work this is hoped to reach net zero by 2050. The recommended policy includes planting up to 120 million trees every year to increase UK forestry cover from 13% to 17%, encouraging bio-energy crops and supporting low carbon farming practices. We will need to cut beef, lamb and dairy by 20% per person: that could mean 10% fewer cattle and sheep grazing in East Anglia. Expanding bio-energy crops to about 23,000 Ha/year will include Miscanthus (also known as Elephant Grass and can be seen in fields around Grafham Water - you can't miss it, it stands about 10 feet tall! - and short rotation coppice, such as Willow that would be cut and burnt at power stations.



Global Warming

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These are only a few areas that farmers will need to change. Personally, I would rather eat locally-farmed beef and lamb that grazes on ancient pasture than fly thousands of miles on holiday every year, and enjoy seasonal vegetables that have not been flown half-way round the world!! We have the highest standard of food in this country which everyone needs to support, as farming is one business that is being really hit and not just with Brexit.

On the farm we have had a little drier weather recently, which is great because we have seen ponds appearing in fields that my Dad has never seen flooded before, and we won't be drilling our Spring crops until March/April so the ground has plenty of time to dry out. We have our Cock Shoot this Wednesday and the Game shooting season ends on February 1st. We haven't had a very good season on the pheasants, getting less than 30 on both our previous shoots, but that doesn't really matter. All the beaters enjoyed themselves, the guns had some testing birds to shoot at, we renewed old acquaintances and Jill fed us with wonderful roast meat baps and cake!! Sounds perfect to me.

THE 22nd EASTON QUIZ NIGHT

Our annual quiz will take place on Saturday February 8th. starting at 7.30p.m. at Easton in the church. Cost is £7.00 per person, school age children £3.00, plus the cost of the usual fish and chip supper. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Tickets will be available shortly.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

<p>Sunday 2 February (Candlemas) 09.30 COV Parish Communion – Revd. John Rawlinson 09.30 SPA Morning Worship – Revd. Phil and Jill 10.45 KIM Family Service – Revd. Pamela, with Phil 15.00 STO Evensong – Revd. Pamela Soult 16.00 SPA St. James’s Re-start Celebration – Revd. Phil Howson and Jill</p>	<p>Sunday 9 February 09.30 TIL Family Service – Revd. John Rawlinson 09.30 EAS Parish Communion – Revd. Phil Howson 10.45 KIM Family Communion – Revd. Phil Howson 15.00 COV Family Service – Revd. Phil Howson</p>
<p>Sunday 16 February 09.30 COV Morning Worship – Warden 09.30 STO Holy Communion – Revd. John Rawlinson 09.30 SPA Parish Communion – Revd. Phil Howson 10.45 KIM Matins – Revd. Ron Lancaster 11.00 BAR Parish Communion – Revd. Phil Howson</p>	<p>Sunday 23 February 09.30 TIL Parish Communion and Dedication Service - Revd. Phil Howson 09.30 EAS Morning Worship – Warden 10.45 KIM Parish Communion – Revd. J. Rawlinson 15.00 KIM Evensong – Revd. Ron Lancaster 16.00 SPALDWICK COMMUNITY ROOM: All Age Worship – Philip and Spaldwick team</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 26 February (Ash Wednesday)</p> <p>08.00 KIM Ash Wednesday Communion and Ashing – Revd. Phil Howson 10.30 KIM Ash Wednesday Communion and Ashing – Revd. Phil Howson 14.00 SPALDWICK: School visit for Ash Wednesday – Revd. Phil Howson 19.00 SPALDWICK: Ash Wednesday Communion and Ashing – Revd. Phil Howson</p>	

59 CLUB

John Maith

Happy New Year to all, hope you had a lovely holiday period. The winners of the 59 Club in November and December were Helen Mayer and Rona Graham, so congratulations to both Helen and Rona. The January draw will be on Saturday 25th and will be the last in the current round, so I will again be doing the rounds in early February and hope you will all continue to support the 59 Club in 2020. Please let me know if you would like to join as we do have one or two numbers available.



Deadline for the March Newsletter is 25th February 2020