

Easton Village Newsletter

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Issue 148

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FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK

Who would keep chickens?? If it's not foxes, rats or red mite, now it's Avian Flu!! As many of you will know, all free-range poultry has to be kept indoors or separated from wild birds as a precaution against Avian Flu. Not easy for many farmers who have a lack of space and some very unhappy chickens!

Avian Influenza started in Europe and has been reported in 14 European countries with many cases in wild birds who are at their peak of migration between December and January. The H5N8 strain has now appeared to be established in the UK, with cases reported at the sites on the map. This highly-contagious disease has several symptoms ranging from swollen heads, blue discoloured neck and throat and loss of appetite to respiration distress. To many birds, it is fatal. The following link will take you to a regularly-updated map displaying the spread of avian influenza in the United Kingdom:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1lvWulXtzN6IDgWwXMZH8zIKYfG8&ll=52.94786023105351%2C-2.157813449999935&z=7>



DEFRA is urging poultry keepers to remain vigilant and all members of the public to report any deceased wild birds they find (as long as the Easton cats weren't to blame!). Public Health England advises that the risk to public health is very low and the Food Standards Agency has said there is no food safety risk for UK consumers.

Many farmers are concerned about the future of farming post Brexit. For an industry that has been around for as long as mankind, farming is bracing itself for change! The NFU is now seeking urgent talks with the government. Let's hope that the politicians come up with a plan that is both achievable and with some goodwill and common sense on both sides.

The battle against Blackgrass has become a constant thorn in the sides of many farmers. I have been (and plan to go) to many breakfast meetings with fellow farmers, agronomists and agrochemical suppliers to discuss ideas to defeat this problem but there is only a certain number of bacon/sausage sandwiches I can eat (although it is pretty high!). Moving from Winter sown to Spring sown cereal crops is seen as one of the best ways to solve a runaway BG problem, but the weather is a vital part to successful Spring crops as without rain the crops can completely fail.

59 CLUB

Happy New Year to you all. The winners for November and December 2016 were Malcom Halliday and Caroline Perry - congratulations to both. December was the last in the current round so I will be collecting from those who wish to continue in the 59 Club during January. If anyone new wishes to join, please let me know (John Maith - Tel. 891647 or e-mail maiths60@hotmail.com) as we do have a few spare numbers. The annual entry fee will remain at £12 (£1 per month) and on the last Saturday of each month the bonus ball from the National Lotto draw is used to decide the monthly winner, who will receive £25. The surplus funds are used to help maintain the village church. Best of luck for 2017!

John Maith

SUNDAY SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

<p>Sunday 5th (Fourth Sunday before Lent) 09.30 COV Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring) 10.45 KIM Family Service (Rev S Bowring) 10.45 SPA Parish Communion (Rev Dr. J Rawlinson) 15.00 STO Evensong (Rev S Bowring)</p>	<p>Sunday 12th (Third Sunday before Lent) 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>Sunday 19th (Second Sunday before Lent) 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)</p>	<p>Sunday 26th (Sunday next before Lent) 09.30 TIL Parish Communion (Rev S Bowring) 09.30 EAS Morning Worship (Mr Mike Baker) 10.45 KIM Parish Communion (Rev R Lancaster) 15.00 KIM Evensong (Rev N Bland) 17.00 SPA Prayer & Praise (Rev S Bowring)</p>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

John and Nina would like to sincerely thank their friends in the village who sent cards, letters of condolence or sympathy wishes to them just before Christmas when John's son Paul died. A big "Thank you" from us both.



The British Heart Foundation (BHF) has a mission to create a Nation of Lifesavers by training people to be able to perform effective and immediate cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Following the success of last year, when a fifth of the adult members of the village received CPR training, further sessions will run in 2017, starting on Monday evening 20th March. Training will take place in the church community room and will start at 8.00pm and will last about an hour. Each session is for a maximum of 10 trainees. If you are interested and want to attend, please email alasdairwpgraham@gmail.com. Unfortunately, we live in an increasingly litigious society and villagers may wish to read the document found at the link below, before volunteering. <https://www.resus.org.uk/cpr/legal-status-of-those-attempting-cpr/>. It would be good to report next year that one third of all adults in Easton are CPR trained!

KINKY BOOTS FOR EASTON?

There are a few spare tickets for the hit musical "Kinky Boots" at the Adelphi Theatre, London, on 29 March 2017 at 2.30pm. The trip has been organised by the Welcome Club and at £69.50, includes a luxury coach from Spaldwick mid-morning. No food is provided so taking a picnic (or a Fortnum and Mason hamper!) would be appropriate. This award-winning musical tells the story of Charlie Price who inherits a failing footwear factory that comes up with an outrageous idea to turn around its fortunes, resulting in a heart-warming tale about being true to yourself. Contact Ed Sloper straight away on 891364 if you would like tickets.

DON'T FORGET...

The annual Quiz Night will be on **11th February** 2017 and will take place in Spaldwick School starting at 7.30 p.m. The cost is £6.00 per head, plus the cost of the usual fish-and-chip (or sausage or chicken) supper. Bring your own drinks. Tickets are now on sale and all proceeds will go to St. Peter's Church Fabric Fund. Donations of raffle prizes would be gratefully welcomed, please, by Stephanie Silcock.

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. (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.