

FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK

**Scene it. Herd it.
Speak up about it.
Anonymously.**

Crimestoppers Rural Crime Campaign



I spend most of my life travelling up and down the Stonely Road to the farm (could be worse!!) and over the last few months many of you will have witnessed great change along this road. Michael Picton has 'taken the bull by the horns', as us farmers say, and has embarked on a big drainage project on his land. Many of you will remember that last year these fields were waterlogged for several weeks, which meant the land could not be accessed at vital times to apply fertilisers and sprays and became difficult to farm.

There are many options for draining land and in the past I have talked about mole draining, but this will not work if drains need laying or ditching need doing. Michael has had the land drained using a trenching machine to install drains made of perforated pipe. This is followed up by using an excavator to clean out the ditches to allow enough flow of water off the land. Work like this should be done about every 10-15 years and is a big cost to the farmer. It can look drastic at the time to the hedges, but unfortunately this is the only way of gaining access to the ditches. They will recover and are maintained on a rotational basis, so any environmental impact is kept to a minimum. I have a ditch to do on my farm but may put it off 'til next year!

The barn on the left, down the Stonely Road, has been broken into several times now and a new gate has been put up to help. I went to a Countryside Watch meeting recently where they informed us that even gates are getting stolen now!! Rural crime is becoming an increasing worry to all farmers, with many neighbours having problems. I really appreciate it when friends from Easton contact me if they see anything out of the normal.

With spring just around the corner, I have just applied some Nitrogen fertiliser to take hold of the crops as the weather warms up and I will then need to get on the land to do some spraying.



CHURCH SERVICES DURING APRIL

<p>Wednesday 1st April (Holy Wednesday) 10.30 KIM Holy Communion 19.30 TIL Stations of the Cross</p>	<p>Maundy Thursday 2nd April 19.30 KIM Maundy Eucharist & Watch</p>
<p>Good Friday 3rd April 10.00 TIL Ecumenical Service 12.00 KIM Procession of Witness 14.00 SPA Children's Workshop 19.30 EAS Proclamation of the Cross</p>	<p>Saturday 4th April (Holy Saturday) 23.30 STO Easter Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter</p>
<p>Sunday 5th April (EASTER DAY) 09.30 COV Easter Communion 09.30 TIL Easter Communion 09.30 EAS Easter Communion 10.45 KIM Easter Communion 10.45 SPA Easter Communion 11.00 BAR Easter Communion</p>	<p>Sunday 12th April (Easter 2) 09.30 TIL Family Service & APCM 09.30 EAS Parish Communion 10.45 KIM Parish Communion 10.45 SPA Family Service</p>
<p>Sunday 19th April (Easter 3) 09.30 COV Matins 09.30 STO Parish Communion 10.45 KIM Matins 10.45 SPA Parish Communion 11.00 BAR Morning Worship 18.00 EAS Evensong</p>	<p>Sunday 26th April (Easter 4) 09.30 TIL Parish Communion 09.30 EAS Morning Worship 10.45 KIM Parish Communion 10.45 SPA Morning Worship 18.00 KIM Evensong</p>

EASTER

We should be very grateful for any offers of help to decorate the Church for Easter on Saturday, 4th April, and for gifts of spring flowers and/or flower arrangements. Many thanks.



ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The APCM will be held on 15th April 2015 at St. Peter's Church at 7.30 p.m. Churchwardens and PCC members will be elected. Reports will be given on Church finances and activities in the Church. Anyone is most welcome to attend this meeting but, if you wish to vote, you need to be on the Church's Electoral Roll. There is a list of those at present on the Roll on the notice board in the church porch. If you would like your name to be added, please contact Stephanie Silcock (890455) before the date of the meeting.

CARDS FOR SALE IN EASTON CHURCH

Many thanks to Iris Brooker for kindly producing some more of her beautiful cards. Some of these depict different scenes around the village of Easton, while others are for special occasions such as birthdays. When you next have a chance to visit the church you will find them on display at the back. Proceeds are in aid of the church.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The annual open village meeting of the parish council will be held on 26th March 2015 at 8.00 p.m. in the Church. Jo Philpott, manager of HACT (Huntingdonshire Association for Community Transport) will be present and has been invited to speak to the meeting. This is the opportunity for residents to ask any questions of their council representatives and all are welcome to attend.

NOMINATIONS FOR PARISH COUNCIL

Town/Parish Councils have scheduled elections this year which will be combined with the UK Parliamentary and District Council elections on Thursday, 7 May 2015. The Notice of Election will be published on Monday, 23 March 2015 and nomination papers can be delivered on any day following the publication of this Notice with the statutory deadline for submission by 4.00pm on Thursday, 9 April 2015. If anyone is interested in standing for the Easton Parish Council, please contact Huntingdon District Council - tel: (01480) 388004 or the clerk to Easton Parish Council 01480 890332 or clerk_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk



The Parish Council has been asked to draw attention to The National Plant Monitoring Scheme, which is seeking volunteers to collect data to provide an annual indication of changes in plant abundance and diversity. A notice will be posted on the village notice board giving more information, but basically, NPMS is a new, habitat-based plant monitoring scheme designed by BSBI, CEH, Plantlife and JNCC. The aim is to collect data to provide an annual indication of changes in plant abundance and diversity. Thanks to volunteers, we have a very good understanding of changes in the populations of birds, butterflies and bats, but plants are the foundation of habitats and ecosystems and currently we do not have a good measure of changes in plant populations across the country. Anyone interested in nature who can identify plants, or who is keen to learn, can take part. You do not have to be an experienced botanist. More information will be on the poster and you can sign up or get more information via the NPMS website, www.npms.org.uk.

LAST CALL FOR THE CHIMNEY SWEEP!

The deadline for registering your interest in having the sweep on 20th or 21st April is **Monday 13th April**. If you have forgotten about this but would like him to call, you still have time to let Jenny Hyde know (891454 or j.hyde2@btinternet.com).



A new peer support and education service called *Type 2 Together* will connect people who have diabetes in their local area. Relaxed and informal group sessions will be led by volunteers who are themselves living with diabetes and who are trained to share their advice and experiences. The free service will provide information leaflets to help people live well with Type 2 diabetes, and it is available to anyone living with Type 2 diabetes. Anyone interested in joining a local group should call the Diabetes UK regional co-ordinator on 0345 123 2399 or email Type2Together@diabetes.org.uk. For more information visit the Diabetes UK website at [http://www.diabetes.org.uk/How we help/Talk-to-someone/Type-2-Together/](http://www.diabetes.org.uk/How_we_help/Talk-to-someone/Type-2-Together/).

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