

Easton Village Newsletter

September 2023

Issue 215

FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK WEATHER!!

Last year, 2022 will be remembered for passing two significant milestones, a daily maximum

temperature of more than 40C and an average temperature over the year of more than 10C. It was the warmest year on record and my crops suffered from the heat and I bet everyone remembers their parched lawns? Well, 2023 has been very different. June was confirmed as the hottest June on record,



with an average temperature of 15.8C, then July was one of the wettest. Downpours and strong winds made it feel more like Autumn (while the Continent roasted)!

I was very lucky that my wheat didn't go flat but some farmers had crops that looked as though a steamroller had crossed them, making harvesting very difficult and making quality poor. Oilseed rape was a nightmare for many with storms knocking the seeds out, onto the ground. I am also fortunate that having only a few acres to harvest, I could wait until it was dry enough to combine and tip straight into my store, without having any additional drying costs. We finished the wheat on August 17th and it's always a good feeling when it's safely gathered in. The rain actually helped raise the yield of this year's crops, plumping up the grains and, on the advice of my agronomist, I applied Sulphur as a foliar feed during the Spring because there isn't enough Sulphur in the atmosphere now, since the Clean Air Act decades ago. I think this helped my yields also.

One of the hardest crops I have always struggled to establish are my wild bird covers, but this year I prepared all my land and drilled it at just the right time before the rains came down. I can honestly say that they have never looked so good, I only wish my dad could have seen them. Although he would have probably complained that they were too thick and we wouldn't be able to beat the pheasants out of them on the shoot!!

We've just got to prepare the stubbles now for next year's crops and discing them up started today

EASTON UNITED CHARITIES REMINDER

EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

The current four-year term is ending for the two Trustees who are representatives for the Easton Parish Council and the Parish Council would like to hear from anyone interested in taking these positions for the next term due to start imminently. If you would like to consider this opportunity to be a Trustee and participate in the management of the village Charities any of the current Trustees would welcome the chance to give you more detail.

The current Trustees are: John Maith, Chris Charlton, Kathy Yates, Helen Mayer and Brian Arbuthnot. Alternatively contact any member of the Parish Council for any further information (Parish Councillors: Michael Baker, Mrs P Bell, Richard Burton, Stephen Thomason and Clive Wood).

The appointment is to be considered at the next Parish Council to be held on **7th September 2023** in St Peter's Church, Easton. Please advise any member of the Parish Council or the clerk to the Parish Council before that date.

Clerk: Mrs A Beer clerk_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk 01480 890332

KIMBOLTON POST OFFICE

Sadly, we have been informed that Kimbolton Post Office in The Old Swan Pharmacy is to close at the end of September. It has been a great service and will be missed by many.

PINE CONES WANTED

GILLIAN GREEN

Gillian Green of the House, the Lane needs lots of pine cones for her garden mulch and is happy to collect them from gardens in the village if anyone would like to get rid

RIDE AND STRIDE

Saturday 9th September 2023

The annual Ride and Stride event will be taking place on Saturday September 9th throughout Cambridgeshire when many local churches, including Easton, will be open. You are encouraged to obtain sponsorship to visit as many as you



can either by bike, or on foot or even by car! Many churches provide light refreshments and it is a good day out for the family. Sponsor money can be divided with half going to a church of your choice and the rest going to The Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust, who have been very helpful to Easton in the past.

For further details please contact Peter Gould on 01480891043 or e-mail gould.ptr@gmail.com

HUNTINGDON DISTRICT COUNCIL POSSIBLE INDUSTRIAL ACTION

We have been made aware of the possibility of some industrial action from HDC. This could affect bin collection but the situation is changing constantly. For up-to-date information please go to the website

www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk

OR

Twitter:@huntsdc

Instagram:HuntsDC or FACEBOOK @huntingdonshire

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

SUNDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 6.00 p.m.

Please do come and join us for our family Harvest Festival Service. Children are particularly welcome. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Gifts of fresh produce, also packaged or tinned food will be very gratefully received and will afterwards be donated to The Manor Cheshire Home in Brampton

who are always grateful for our support. Gifts can be brought to the service or left in the church porch on Saturday September 9th. If anyone can help to decorate the church on the afternoon of Saturday September 9th. we would be most grateful.

Church Services September 2023

Sunday September 10th Easton 18.00 Harvest Festival

Sunday September 24th Easton 9.30 Morning Worship

For further information on Church Services please visit

<https://www.kymchurch.org.uk/wp2/index.php/church-services/>

Rector: Rev Philip Howson Email: revphiliphowson@icloud.com

Phone -01480 869081

AND FINALLY.....

-Following on from the barn owl photos of last month, we can confirm that barn owls have nested in the box that was put up as part of the Easton Wildlife Initiative in April 2021 and reported in Issue 186. They were first seen peeping out at the start of August and by the 20th of August when this photo was taken, all 3 owlets were bravely stepping outside at dusk and taking test flights, still being fed by the parents.

Steve Thomason



DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER IS FRIDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 2023