50p

Colton, Easton & Marlingford

Your Community:

* Stories * News * Information *

Grapevine

Easter: April 2022



Local Information 2-5

General Community Interest 10-17

Colton and Marlingford 17-21

Easton 22-25

Church (Benefice) - incl Easter Services 26-28

Useful Contacts

St. Peter's VC Primary School, Easton 01603 880553

Easton College 01603 731200

Easton College Tennis Centre 01603 731302, easton.tennis@ccn.ac.uk

Colton Village Hall Vicky Green, vicky@mgarchery.co.uk 01603 881336

Colton Carpet Bowls Club Dennis Mickleburgh, Avalon, The Street, Colton 01603 880391

Easton Bowls Club Secretary Mrs. Cossey, 28 Woodview Rd, Easton 01603 880789

Easton Crafters Club Mrs Janet Morris 01603 471144

Easton Football Club Michael Cossey, 73 Marlingford Way, Easton 01603 880143

Easton Good Companions Pamela Hooker 01603 880867

Easton Gym Club enquiries@eastongymnasticsclub.com 01603 960511 **Easton Judo Club Coach** Chris Abel, 29 Goulburn Rd, Norwich chris@eastonjudoclub.co.uk 0845 388 6895

Easton Junior Football Gavin Tipple gtipple@easton-college.ac.uk 01603 731585

Easton Sports Centre 01603 731263

Easton Post Office Open Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am-2pm 01603 880007

Easton Village Hall Mrs Cossey, 28 Woodview Rd., Easton 01603 880789

Easton W.I. Sec Mrs Cossey, 28 Woodview Rd., Easton 01603 880789

Little Owls Colton VH Katie Kemp 07790276499 / Penny Nixon 07714255024

Marlingford Village Hall Bookings Pauline Baker 01603 881268 John Bailey, jaydeebailey@gmail.com 01603 880266

Doctors (Surgeries):

Costessey, Roundwell 01603 744014

 Beechcroft
 01603 746683

 Hethersett
 01603 811323

 Mattishall
 01362 850227

Police Non urgent 101 Emergency 999

Hospitals

Norfolk & Norwich, incl. West Norwich 01603 286286 Julian & Hellesdon 01603 421421

Dereham, Northgate 01362 692391

Kelling 01263 713333

Community Car Scheme Jean & Dave Ditton 01603 880857

Citizens' Advice Bureau Wymondham 03444 111444

Relate 01603 625333

Samaritans 01603 611311

Parish Council Clerks

Easton Gina Lopes 07879 379181

clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk

Marlingford & Maria Hutson 07759 534885

Colton marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com

Councillor: South Norfolk District & Norfolk County

Mrs. Margaret Dewsbury, 6 Park Avenue, Barford NR9 4BA 01603 759693

The Grapevine

Editor/Designer Clare Howard, clare@ragbagprojects.co.uk

Assistant Editor Felicity Maton 01603 880846

f.maton@btinternet.com

Please see Page 11 for the next deadline for submissions.

Treasurer Carol Chiles 01508 578352

carolachiles@gmail.com

Grapevine Advertising

Sally Neale, 01603 882110

Heronsbridge, Bawburgh Rd,

Marlingford NR9 5AG

heronsbridge20@btinternet.com

Rates for a year

Inside pages: 1/4 £35, 1/4 £60, 1/2 £100,

Full page £170,

Back page 1/4 £120, 1/2 £170.

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Advertisements are accepted as text documents with greyscale images, such as logos, submitted as separate files in a high-resolution standard image format (jpeg, png, tif, bmp). Please note that PDF files cannot be used.

The Parishes of Easton, Colton, Marlingford & Bawburgh				
Easton, Conto	on, Marinigioru & Dawburgii			
Benefice Rector	Revd Laura Montgomery	01603 744551		
	eastonbeneficeoffice@gmail.com 172 Fairways, Queen's Hills, Costessey, NI	R8 5GB		
Associate Priest	Revd Penny Goodman garry.goodman@btinternet.com	01603 279393		
Reader	Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton	01603 880255		
St Peter's Chur	rch, Easton			
Churchwardens	Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton	01603 880255		
	Margaret Seely, 8 Kennedy Close, Easton	01603 880888		
PCC Secretary	Anthony Perry, 7 Pegg Close, Easton	01603 882265		
Treasurer	Dave Batchelor, 9 Cleves Way, Old Costessey davejbatchelor@sky.com	01603 322987		
St Andrew's Ch	nurch – Colton			
Churchwarden	Sarah Smith Bickerston Cottage, Church Lane, Colton	01603 757865		
PCC Secretary	Liz Plater Church Cottages, Church Lane, Colton	01603 880556		
Treasurer	Judy Scrivener, The Old Post Office, Norwich Rd, Colton, NR9 5BZ	01603 881540		
St Mary's Church – Marlingford				
Churchwardens	Felicity Maton West Cottage, Barford Rd, Marlingford	01603 880846		
PCC Secretary	Felicity Maton West Cottage, Barford Rd, Marlingford	01603 880846		
Treasurer	Carol Chiles carolachiles@gmail.com	01508 578352		
St Mary & St Walstan's Church – Bawburgh				
Churchwarden	Susan Knight	07876 717487		

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Monday and Wednesday

9.40am

Longwater, Link Rd Shelter

Colton, Village Hall

Bawburgh, Church St

Marlingford, Bell

12.40pm

12.40pm

12.45pm

12.50pm

Marlingford, Bell	9.45am	Longwater William Frost Way	12.57pm			
Colton, Village Hall	9.50am	Easton, Bawburgh Rd	13.04pm			
Easton, Chez Denis	9.57am	Excel departs Norwich at	12.40pm			
Excel departs for Easton at	10.05am	Excel arrives Easton at	13.00pm			
Excel arrives in Norwich at	10.25am	Easton, Chez Denis	13.05pm			
Easton, opp Bawburgh Rd	9.58am	Colton, Village Hall	13.11pm			
Longwater William Frost Way	10.06am	Marlingford, Bell	13.15pm			
Longwater, Link Rd Shelter	10.08am	Bawburgh, Church St	13.19pm			
Tuesday and Thursday						
Colton, Village Hall	10.30am	Longwater, Link Rd Shelter	12.30pm			
Marlingford, opp Bell	10.35am	Longwater William Frost Way	12.32pm			
Easton, opp school	10.40am	Easton, opp Bawburgh Rd	12.38pm			
Easton, Chez Denis	10.41am	Easton, Chez Denis	12.39pm			

Excel Bus Services for Easton (Bawburgh Road)

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10.50am

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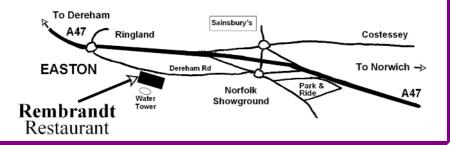
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Grapevine

Advertising

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for more information contact: Sally Neale 01603 882110 heronsbridge20@btinternet.com

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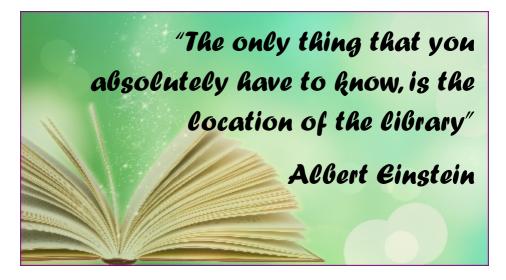
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For all enquiries relating to mobile libraries, call 01603 222303 or email the team at central.mobiles.lib@norfolk.gov.uk. *Please note this information is subject to change.*

Colton	Route No CEN 319.		Wednesday
Stop no.			20 April, 18 May 2022
38	17:00 - 17:15	Ex Post Office,	NR9 5DB
Easton	Route N	o CEN 419.	Thursday
Stop no			14 April, 12 May 2022
6	10:45 - 11:00	Parkers Close,	NR9 5EE
8	11:05 - 11:25	Marlingford Rd,	, NR9 5AD
10	11:30 - 11:50	Marlingford Wa	y, NR9 5HB
12	11:55 - 12:10	Kennedy Close	, NR9 5EY
14	12:15 - 12:45	St Peter's Drive	e, NR9 5HF
Marlingf	ord Route N	o CEN 317.	Wednesday
Stop no.			13 April, 11 May 2022
18	14:10 - 14:25	Colton Rd, Nr F	Home Farm, NR9 5HU
20	14:30 - 14:45	Mill Rd, NR9 51	HU



Grapevine: Your Community News

*News*Information*Observations*Memories*Activities*

Welcome to another edition of Grapevine

We hope that you enjoy reading it! We are very grateful to our team of volunteers in the three villages who help to put the magazine through your letter-box.

Please don't be backward in coming forward with contributions for Grapevine - we like to have as much local content as possible and anyone can send us an article or information.

Next month we are back to digital-only, and the next printed edition will be out in July. If you would like to receive Grapevine digitally, please contact Felicity Maton (f.maton@btinternet.com). Grapevine is also available on the Parish Council websites.

Paid freelance post: My time at Grapevine is coming to an end as my life gets busier, so we are looking for someone to take over from me. If you, or someone you know, enjoys using desktop publishing, working with words and communities, please have a look at page 15 for more information.

Clare Howard: Designer/Editor

Deadline: The next edition, covering May, will be digital only. The copy deadline is **9am on Friday 22nd April**. Please send your contributions to **clare@ragbagprojects.co.uk**.

Donations towards the production of the Grapevine are always welcome. Our Bank Details are

Sort Code 20-99-08

Account Number 20420956 The Grapevine Magazine. Please put your name as the reference

Wishing you a happy Easter

Carol Chiles, Felicity Maton, Sally Neale: Grapevine Board

Please note: information in The Grapevine is provided in good faith. The publication and its Board cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies and any opinions expressed are the author's own.

Beat News

Your Safer Neighbourhood Team

- Beat Manager Terry Ash PC 36. Tel: 101 Ext: 4162
 Email: terry.ash2@norfolk.police.uk

 Here to engage with the local communities and work to solve local issues and priorities within your neighbourhood, aiming to keep your neighbourhood as a safe place to live, work and visit
- Community Engagement Officer Vicky Bailey PC 1425.
 Tel: 101 Ext: 1113
 Email: victoria.bailey@norfolk.police.uk
 Here to provide communications and updates regarding your neighbourhood as well as coordinate volunteers, specials, community speedwatch and cadets. Contact for local enquiries that affect your neighbourhood.

A Message from the Chief Constable

As your Chief Constable, rural crime remains a priority for me and the constabulary. I urge you to report matters to us (on 999 in an emergency or use the 101 or online services when there is not an immediate threat to life or property). We will do all that we can to investigate crime and make Norfolk an unwelcoming place to those who seek to commit offences which cause our communities harm. I am continuing with work to improve visibility, including the use of drones, and I am working with our partners on achieving successful convictions and designing out crime.

Norfolk Chief Constable Paul Sanford

The Grapevine team wish you a happy Easter.

Our thoughts are with those who struggle in our community and throughout the world.

The Wellbeing Service

www.wellbeingnands.co.uk/norfolk

Throughout the last year lots of us have experienced mental health difficulties, or have seen someone struggle. We want everyone to know that they can reach out to us if they need support, or someone to just talk to. Living with mental health



problems comes with many challenges: it is often overwhelming and emotionally draining, and articulating thoughts and feelings can feel near impossible. We are here to listen.

The Wellbeing Service in Norfolk and Waveney offers help and support to improve wellbeing and manage stress, low mood, and anxiety. We aim to reduce the onset of mental ill-health, prevent deterioration and promote recovery by offering a range of flexible services tailored to meet your specific needs. Our services are provided in community settings throughout the region, and they include:

- One-to-one support
- Educational Workshops
- Social Events
- Employment Support
- Wellbeing in the Workplace Workshops
- Long-term condition support
- Self-help tips
- Podcasts... and more!

For general enquiries, or to register with the service, contact your local team:

0300 123 1503 (Monday to Friday - not Bank Holidays - 9am to 5pm) admin@wellbeingnandw.co.uk.



Parish Recycling Project The Recycle Boxes are in Place

I'm pleased to report that the recycle boxes for the tablet blister packs are now in place at the following locations:

- Church porches at Colton, Easton & Bawburgh
- The Bell Public House in Marlingford
- Village halls at Colton & Easton

I would like to covey my thanks to Ivan from OTW Imaging who very kindly made the boxes to fit my grant and to David Sweales from Totally Dynamic vehicle wrapping who supplied and printed the signage free of charge. Thanks also to Marie Hutson who assisted me with getting a grant from South Norfolk District Council and to The Bell public house for agreeing to have a box in Marlingford at a central location.



Profits from the end point of recycling will be donated to The Marie Curie charity, who offer end of life support.

Let's get those tablet blister packs out of landfill and into our recycling boxes! If anyone wants to contact me regarding recycling, my email is judy.scrivener@gmail.com. Thanks to everyone for their support so far.

Judy Scrivener

Easter Bells

I think of the garden after the rain;
And hope to my heart comes singing,
At morn the cherry-blooms will be white,
And the Easter bells be ringing!
Edna Dean Proctor

Looking for a rewarding freelance job? 'The Grapevine' Needs You!

- Interested in keeping communities together by sharing information of local interest?
- Editing and design skills (digital and paper publishing)?
 The Grapevine is looking for a new Designer/Editor.
 A fee will be paid for each edition: up to ten a year.

If required, the existing post-holder will work beside the successful applicant until fully confident.

for more information please contact Felicity Maton f.maton@btinternet.com 01603 880846

April on the Farm

The main priority in April will be calving, which happens until the middle of May. All calves have their ears tagged for identity purposes, and each one will need a passport as a further means of identification.

Lambing is mostly finished by the end of April, but the lambs are very vulnerable to foxes and crows so the farmer must try and prevent his stock being killed. Gimmer hoggs, which are female sheep that have finished weaning, will be dosed against worms and dipped in a chemical mix to stop the spread of disease and illness. During any countryside walk, it is very likely that you will pass a field of sheep grazing or lambs frolicking.



April sees fertiliser being spread on grazing fields to aid spring growth, which will be cut for hay and silage later in the year. Potato crops are planted, and drilling starts on oil seed rape and vining peas, while cereal crops will be top-dressed and sprayed, usually with fertilisers or pesticides.

© www.countryfile.com

An Easter Carol

Tomb, thou shalt not hold Him longer; Death is strong, but Life is stronger, Stronger than the dark, the light, Stronger than the wrong, the right, Faith and Hope triumphant say Christ will rise on Easter Day.

While the patient earth lies waking Till the morning shall be breaking, Shuddering 'neath the burden dread of her Master, cold and dead --- Hark! she hears the Angels say Christ will rise on Easter Day.

Up and down our lives obedient
Walk dear Christ, with footsteps radiant,
Till those garden lives shall be
Fair with duties done for Thee
And our thankful spirits say,
Christ arose on Easter Day.

And when sunrise smites the mountains,
Pouring light fom Heavenly fountains.
Then the earth blooms out to greet
Once again the blessed feet;
And her countless voices say
Christ has risen on Easter Day.

Philip Brooks

Fashion Fun

Have fun clothes shopping and help the Friends of Barford Primary School to raise funds!

A fabulous Ladies' Fashion Show, together with bargain prices at a pop-up shop, a raffle and refreshments, will take place on **Saturday 30th April** at the school. Doors open at 6.30pm and the show starts at 7pm.

Tickets £5. Purchase in advance from Bryony: 07585 034080 or bryony.barrett@hotmail.co.uk.



Marlingford Village Hall

presents

A Spectacular Indian & Curry Night

Saturday April 2nd 7:00pm

Tickets £15 (numbers limited - purchase by 27th March)
Enjoy a range of lovely curries from our home chefs in the village followed by traditional Indian entertainment from Bollywood Sparkles

Not licensed: feel free to bring your own drinks.

Tickets: Sue Stubbs, 01603 880479 suestubbs8@btinternet.com

Easter Bingo

- Colton Village Hall
- Saturday 9th April
- Eyes down at 8pm

Vicky Green



Marlingford & Colton Parish Council

https://marlingfordcolton.wixsite.com/mcpc

Welcome to the Marlingford and Colton Parish Council news.

Parish Councillors

Marlingford and Colton Parish Council has seven dedicated Councillors who voluntarily give their time to ensure the villages remain a lovely place to live. Find out more about your Councillors and how to contact them.

Paul Hammerton, Chairman

Contact Paul: 01603 881151, paul.hammertonpc@gmail.com
Born in Derbyshire, I have lived in Marlingford for over 25 years
having previously lived in Cambridge and Arizona, USA. I work
as a Mathematics Lecturer at the University of East Anglia, where
I am involved in research in the fields of Aerodynamics and Aeroacoustics. I have been a member of the Parish Council for
approximately five years and am currently chair of the Council.

In addition I am a governor of two local secondary schools. I still play cricket for Marlingford Cricket Club and can 'sometimes' be found in the front bar of The Marlingford Bell - which I consider to be a real centre of the village community. Bird-watching and following all kinds of sport fill up the rest of my time.

As a councillor my primary aims for the next year are to help villagers develop Marlingford play area for the needs of young people in the village, to try to ensure the future of Colton play area, and to scrutinise planning applications which may adversely affect the lives of parishioners.

John Morse, Vice-Chairman Contact John: jmorse mcpc@yahoo.com

I have served on the Marlingford and Colton Parish Council since April 2021. Now retired, I have previously worked in senior management and executive roles in the Oil & Gas and, subsequently the Offshore Renewables Sectors, having originally qualified as a geologist and marine geophysicist. Before moving to Colton 14 years ago, I spent a large part on my career living overseas, including an eight-year spell in Houston, Texas, and earlier periods living in Singapore and the Middle East. I transferred into the offshore renewables industry in 2005, initially based in Great Yarmouth, and most recently with my own company. It was in this latter capacity that I also served as a board member and President (Great Yarmouth) of the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce.

Until very recently, I also supported the development of schools, by serving as a Trustee Board Member for a local primary academy trust, as well as providing employment guidance and student mentoring to a Great Yarmouth Secondary School, through the Local Enterprise Advisor scheme, operated by the LEP, and was a founder trustee of the Norwich-based University Technical College.

I come from a rural background, having spent a great deal of my formative years on our family farm in Wiltshire. I therefore believe I am aware of many of the issues that face a non-urban setting.

Carol Farrow

Contact Carol: 01603 880612, carolannefarrow@gmail.com
I have been living in Marlingford, with my husband, since 2013. I am a retired pharmacist having spent 37 years working in the health service and with the UEA. During my working career I worked mainly as a hospital pharmacist working my way up to be the chief pharmacist for the pharmacy service at Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. I finished my career as the first non-medical Chief of Division where I was the clinical lead for all the clinical support services including Radiology, Pathology, Therapy Services and Pharmacy siting as the divisional representative on the Trust Management Board.

Since retiring I have been able to develop my many interests including gardening, and growing my own vegetables, and crafts mainly dressmaking and embroidery. Along with my husband I keep fit as a keen walker having enjoyed many holidays exploring areas of outstanding beauty across the UK as well as discovering the many walks in Norfolk.

Caroline Agate

Contact Caroline: carolineagate@hotmail.co.uk

I have always felt like Marlingford is my home, one which my family have been a big part of since 1934, where I have so many happy memories, and am hoping my family will always want to be a part of. In 1934 my grandparents bought a piece of land in Marlingford, built a bungalow and brought their family up. They were well respected, well known and involved themselves in not only activities in Marlingford but surrounding villages. I spent so much of my childhood in Marlingford with my grandparents, and in the 1970s my parents bought a piece of land from my grandparents and built a bungalow where I grew up. Three years ago, to be close to my parents, my husband and I bought a piece of land from my parents and are in the process of building our home.

I have been nursing for nearly forty years, and currently work in the community. My husband and I have two grown up daughters and one grandchild, who all enjoy coming over to Marlingford. I feel honoured to participate and contribute to the community of Marlingford and Colton by being a member of the local Parish Council.

David Woods

Contact David: 01603 880659,

davidwoods@millwoodmedia.co.uk

Colton has been my home since 1991, although I was born and brought up in Norwich and worked as a London-based publisher before retiring in 2011. I have a wide range of interests, including music, walking, current affairs, the environment, reading, gardening, writing, travel and the fortunes of The Canaries.

Steve Clarke

Contact Steve: 07503 238150, scclarke4@btinternet.com
Originally from Leicestershire, I have now been living in Norfolk
for 30 years and in Colton since 2010. I have been in the
Commercial Insurance world for nearly 50 years and have been
an active member of Great Melton cricket club for 20 years,
although I also enjoy golf, cycling and walking so do get around

the local area regularly and am keen to help maintain the local community life.

Liz Plater

Contact Liz: 01603 880556, ne.plater@btinternet.com

I have lived in Colton for over 25 years and am an active member of St Andrew's Colton where I serve as Church Secretary. I am a retired head teacher and enjoy my garden, walking, music, reading and spending time with family and friends. I have been a counsellor for two years

Website

More information about the Parish Council, including meeting agendas and minutes, can be found at https://marlingfordcolton.wixsite.com/mcpc

Parish Council Meetings and public inclusion

Parish Council Meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm (except August). Please note the May meeting will be held on the third Tuesday.

The next meetings will be held on;

- Tuesday 12th April at Colton Village Hall
- Tuesday 17th May at Marlingford Village Hall

The meeting on 12th April will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting. Local groups will be in attendance to share with residents what they have achieved during the past year. Residents are encouraged to attend the meeting, where refreshments will be served. Councillors look forward to welcoming residents to the next meeting.

Maria Hutson, Clerk to Marlingford and Colton Parish Council, telephone: 07759 534885

email: marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com website: https://marlingfordcolton.wixsite.com/mcpc

Easton Parish Council

www.eastonparishcouncil.co.uk

Welcome to news from Easton Parish Council.

Your Parish Councillors

- Cllr Stuart Renders Chairman
- Cllr Ben Moye Vice Chairman
- Cllr Peter Milliken
- Cllr Peter McCarter
- Cllr David Lewis



Orbit Homes development

Orbit homes look to start on site in April/May, Persimmon Homes have applied for discharge of conditions 26 and 44. After some negotiations and amendments to design the Parish Council has agreed that they are now acceptable.

Persimmons Homes development

Persimmons phase 2, 3 and 4 planning applications are on the SNC planning portal. It is not too late to provide your comments.

Safe crossings

We are looking for a safe crossing of the Dereham Road between the bus shelters near Bawburgh Road. We are hoping Persimmon Homes will cover this as part of their S.278 obligations.

Condition 22 safe crossing of A47 to Longwater is still to be agreed with Persimmons, hoping to start work in early July.

Play areas

The new fencing is being installed at the Jubilee Playing Field and hopefully, the new fencing for the main College Heights play area will be installed shortly and in compliance with the latest safety guidelines.

Allotments

All allotment tenants will shortly receive renewal documents. These are slightly delayed this year and return dates will be adjusted accordingly. Anyone who is no longer working their allotment and does not wish to renew please notify the Clerk as soon as possible as we have several residents waiting for plots.



Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Easton Parish Councillors feel it is important to mark the occasion of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year.

It is planned to install a new commemorative "Jubilee" bench, initially on the grassed area in Peacock Close. The bench will then be moved to the site of the new Village Hall once built. We will replace with a different bench in Peacock Close if residents wish: Councillors are keen for all residents to enjoy our different areas.



How you can get involved: https://platinumjubilee.gov.uk/get-involved-with-the-platinum-jubilee/

Councillor vacancies

There are still vacancies for Parish Councillors. If you are interested and would like further information please contact the Clerk - clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk.

Updates and Information

Planning updates and other information are regularly discussed by Easton Parish Councillors. Up to-date information is available on our website and in the Minutes for public information.

Ukraine – We Stand Together

Easton Parish Councillors, along with the people of the United Kingdom, stand together with Ukraine.



Ukraine: what you can do to help -

www.gov.uk/government/news/ukraine-what-you-can-do-to-help

Gina Lopes, Acting Clerk, Easton Parish Council Contact: clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk 07879 379181

Easton Good Companions

The Good Companions had an enjoyable illustrated talk on 3rd March by Paul Cooper about Costessey Hall and the Jerningham family. Such a shame that it is no longer there. It makes you wonder, if the National Trust had been in operation then, would it still be standing?



As I write in March we are looking forward to helping Dave and Jean Ditton celebrate their Diamond Wedding anniversary. We wish them well. Also during March Phyllida Scrivens will be giving us a talk about 'The Great Thorpe Railway Disaster in 1874'.

On **14th April** we will be holding Easter Celebrations with food, refreshments and a Bring & Buy sale.

On **28th April** Dr Jan Sheldon is giving us a talk about the St Martin's Housing Trust, which was our charity of the year.

We meet at the Village Hall every two weeks on a Thursday afternoon 2 pm to 4 pm. All new people are welcome.

Tony Perry

Easton Pop-In

12th April: Hot Cross Buns

- Easton village hall.
- Every Tuesday morning
- 10am 11.45am.

Come and meet your friends for coffee, tea and biscuits.

Brenda Daynes & Tony Perry



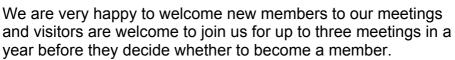
Easton Women's Institute

At our meeting on 10th March we celebrated the 69th birthday of Easton WI with a very amusing talk by Tina Chamberlain otherwise known as the 'Gal Tina' who told us stories of her life, read us some of her poems and told us lots of jokes, all in Broad Norfolk! I can honestly say that we had the best laugh we have had for over two years and we felt much better for it.

We had a very successful trip to the Old Feathers in Framlingham Pigot in February for the first meal we have had out together for a very long time. We really began to feel that things are getting back to normal: lets hope that they continue to do so.

At our meeting on Thursday 14th April we shall a have a very different evening as Felicity Maton is coming to tell us about 'Julian of Norwich'

This will be followed on Thursday12th May by Kevin d'Odemont teaching us about Laughter Yoga. In these worrying times anything involving laughter can only help to offset the awful things we see on the news from Ukraine a little.



Mary Blathwayt

The Rambling Vine

Our world seems to be going from one crisis to another. Just as we are hoping that the grip that Covid has had on us for the last two years is loosening, we are plunged into another humanitarian crisis, centred on Ukraine and Russia but affecting so much of the world.

2000 years ago, Jesus was not born into a world untroubled and free, it was a time of occupation of the land in which he lived where people struggled with oppression and unjust laws. The message that Jesus brought to the world in his three years of ministry, was summed up in the words

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself."

The Church is moving through the period of Lent, and as a child I remember the focus was on a time of austerity, more about going without and cutting down and taking away the good things of life, something that in the last two years we have come to have a greater understanding of in everyday life. However, in recent years the Church have tried to change the emphasis of Lent, looking outwardly, encouraging people to focus for 40 days on their lives, trying to improve the way they behave as Christians, tuning into God and doing the work he would have them do, helping others, both directly and indirectly.



Lent ends with Holy Week during which the darkest day is Good Friday, but culminates with Easter Day and brings us all, whoever we are, that joyous Resurrection story.

The darkness, the bleakness and the pain of death remembered on Good Friday is exploded into a myriad of shooting stars on Easter Day, when the risen Lord breaks the power of sin once and for all.

As I write, the signs of spring are at last appearing: buds and flowers breaking through the cold and sodden earth and despite all that is going on, nature once again brings forth the miracle of life. Since the end of February we have seen many people reaching out to others



across our world, supporting and caring in so many different ways.

As a child I thought that Lent went on for a very long time, just like the two years of Covid have felt for so many, just how winter can feel for some. Although we all know that the spring will come, when the darkness of winter descends and the wind chills one to the bone there are times when it is hard to believe. Sometimes life too can feel like that, all we can see ahead are dark times, sad times, painful times or even times when one should be happy but there seems to be no-one to share the experience with.

On Good Friday God shows how much he loves each one of us when he opens his arms wide to embrace us all. Easter Day is so much more than chocolate eggs and Easter bunnies: it is God's message to all of us that he wants to have a



living, loving relationship with each one of us, so that despite our winter experiences spring will always come again.

Easter Day will also see my last Service in the Easton Benefice in my current role, as I am retiring and come to the end of my

ministry in the Benefice. I thought I was coming for one year and ended up staying for four and a half years, during which time I have felt very much part of the community. I go thankful for my time spent amongst you and all the times that we have shared together and wish you well for the future.

God Bless, Revd Penny



Sunday Services: April 2022

Sunday 3rd	10am <i>Holy Comm</i>	Easton <i>union</i>
Palm Sunday	10th April 10am	Colton Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday	14th April 6.30pm	Bawburgh Holy Communion with foot washing
Good Friday	15th April 1pm 2pm	Easton Hunger Lunch (in aid of the Red Cross for Ukraine) Hour at the Cross Reflective Service
Easter Day	17th April 10am	Marlingford Holy Communion
Sunday 24th	10am	Bawburgh Holy Communion

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