

July 2020

online edition

The Grapevine

your community news

Colton, Easton
& Marlingford

The Parishes of Easton, Colton, Marlingford & Bawburgh

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The Grapevine

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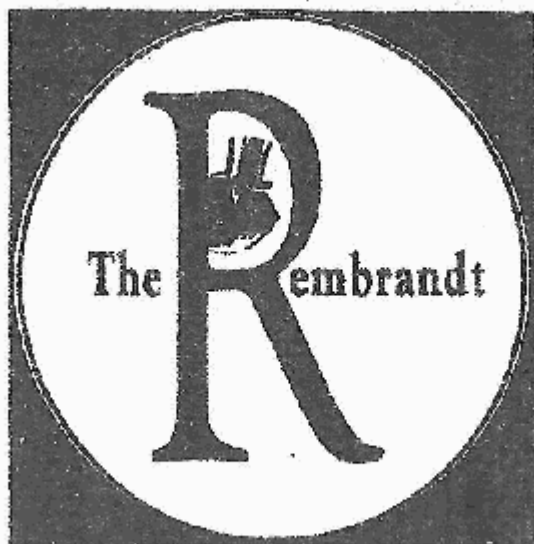
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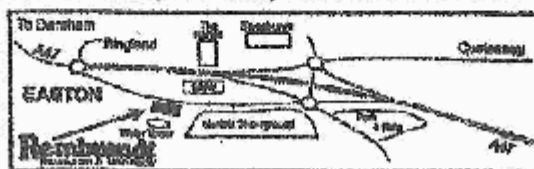


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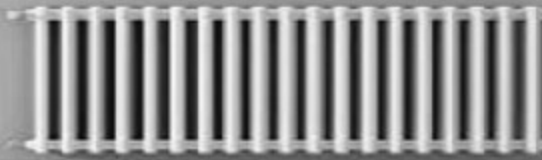
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The Rambling Vine

When I was 17 years old, and right in the middle of my A-levels, my Mum was diagnosed with cancer and went on to have treatment. I remember having no idea what to do, except to pray.

I remember one day, finishing my studies at 6th Form and making my way across Norwich to the Cathedral to pray for her and for us as a family. I am not sure what drew me there, to the Cathedral building. At that point in my faith journey I was fairly evangelical / charismatic in my outlook – I would have believed in the power of prayer in any place and definitely wouldn't have considered the Cathedral to have been 'my thing' or more special in any way... and yet it was there I went. I think there was as much prayer in the pilgrimage, the going to the Cathedral and the taking time out, as there was in the actual prayers I uttered in that place when I eventually found my way there. Our Church buildings and Cathedrals have offered that to people down the centuries. A place to stop and rest, to seek and find God's comfort.

You may have heard the government announce recently that our Church buildings will be open to the public for individual private prayer once again. We, as clergy and wardens, heard the news along with every one else as it was announced – there was no prior warning!

Our Diocese has wisely taken the approach of 'slowly and safely' and that is also what we are sticking to here in the Easton Benefice. We have been examining the lengthy guidelines, carrying out risk assessments and preparing the Church buildings for reopening. There is a certain weight of responsibility to it and we want to get it right.

It is our hope, as I am typing this, that following the guidelines we will be able to reopen three of our

Churches at the start of July for private prayer on three days of the week.

Thursdays: St Mary's and St Walstan's, Bawburgh

Fridays: St Mary's, Marlingford

Saturdays: St Peter's, Easton

There will be certain rules in place within our Church building to help keep visitors safe:

- It goes without saying that if you, or any members of your household, are displaying any Covid-19 symptoms, you must not come to Church to pray until your isolation period is over.
- There will be sanitiser to use as you enter the building and again as you leave.
- There may be a one way system in place within the church building
- There may be designated places where you must sit.

We ask that you keep to all these rules so that we can keep the buildings open and possibly even extend the times we are currently able to offer.

So if there is something weighing heavy on your heart, if you want to sit for few moments in silence to give thanks, or you would like to remember a loved one, do come and take some time in one of our Church buildings to rest a while. My prayer is that when you do, you will find God's comfort and peace there.



STOP PRESS! *The day after I wrote this article, the Prime Minister announced that places of worship can reopen for services from 5th July, if they can do so safely. However, we have not yet received any guidance from the national Church or the Diocese on how to proceed. Once the guidance has been published we will be working to reopen our Churches as quickly*

as possible whilst also making sure we have put in every measure possible to help keep everyone safe. We are not in a position to say at present when this will be, but we are looking forward to joining together as a worshipping community across the benefice once again.

Rev Laura Montgomery

Bibles: St Peter's Year 6 Leavers

This may seem like a begging letter after the article in the Grapevine last July, and I suppose it is in a way.



We still wish to give the Bibles to all 26 Year 6 pupils. Last year you were very generous and covered most of the cost. However, this year is different with the Coronavirus pandemic having closed the church, so we have less income but some expenses still have to be covered.

The cost is still £280 and the school has promised a donation towards this.

Any donations would be gratefully received and, as last year, can be sent or given to Peter Pease or Margaret Seely the Easton Churchwardens (*contact details on page 2*).

Peter Pease

Supporting Local Food Producers

Many people now make a conscious effort to try and buy Norfolk's amazing produce, and this helps everyone, not just farmers, benefit the local environment and local economy.

There is a website which aims to make it easier to source great local produce:

www.findlocalproduce.co.uk/Norfolk. It includes everything from Norfolk fruit and vegetables, meat, veg boxes, pick your own, farm shops, farmers' markets and artisan bakers.



Clare Howard

Marlingford & Colton Parish Council

www.marlingfordandcoltonpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Welcome to the Marlingford and Colton Parish Council section of Grapevine.

Coronavirus Support and Information

South Norfolk's Help Hub (HH) will continue to offer help and support to residents. They are able to support those that are in need of essential items, including medication as well offering financial and business support. They can be contacted on 01508 533933, Monday to Friday 08:15 - 17:00. Additionally, they can be contacted Saturday and Sunday 10:00 - 16:00 for assistance with essential items

Keeping Fit

As the days become longer and the weather (hopefully) is warm and dry, becoming or staying active is generally more appealing.

Since lockdown there has been a marked increase in people exercising in the fresh air. Walking, running and cycling are all great ways to keep fit and can be done on your own, with family or socially distanced with friends. If that is not your thing workouts for your home and garden can be found at www.activenorfolk.org/active-at-home to motivate you.

Being active helps reduce the risk of some cancers, lower blood pressure, reduces the risk of trips and falls and can help with weight loss amongst other things.

Adults should be aiming for 150 minutes of moderate physical activity a week. This could be



five 30 minute walks a week. For those not exercising currently, build up slowly, blocks of 10 minutes is a great starting point. Remember if you are new to exercise to always check with your doctor and work at an appropriate level.

Being active is also beneficial for your mental health; cutting the lawn, hoovering and weeding, pilates, circuit training or jogging on the spot whilst the kettle boils – it all counts!

Walking in Marlingford, Colton and Beyond

Displayed on Marlingford and Colton Parish Council's website is a map detailing footpaths within the parish.

<https://marlingfordandcoltonpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/files/2015/09/NCC-RegisteredPROW.pdf>

There are nine public rights of way to enjoy exploring. If you fancy venturing a bit further visit:

<https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/index.php> where there are links to lots of walks across Norfolk to discover.



Next Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th July at 7pm virtually via Zoom. Members of the public who would like to contribute are asked to contact the Clerk by 12 noon on Tuesday 14th July

Maria Hutson,
Clerk to Marlingford and Colton Parish Council,
telephone: 07759 534885
email: marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com
website: marlingfordandcoltonpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Marlingford Village Hall

Washing up in a good cause

Marlingford Tea Towels are on sale for just **£5**.

All profits will go towards the upkeep of Marlingford Village Hall - an important cause as we have no income at present.

To purchase your tea-towel, and support your community, please contact Sue Stubbs: suestubbs8@btinternet.com



What Do YOU Think?

Grapevine welcomes your contributions

With lockdown easing, what would you like to see included in the August/September Grapevine?

What are you looking forward to? What have you learnt? What changes are you making to your life? Have you read or seen anything that has given you food for thought or amused you? Articles, tit-bits, poems, thoughts or ideas are all welcome. Don't worry about spelling or grammar - have a go!

At this time we are not sure whether the next issue will be published in printed or online form, but the deadline is **15th July**.

Please send your articles and suggestions to the Editor: **Clare Howard**, email: clare@ragbagprojects.co.uk .

Moving Through Epidemics

My first holiday by international flight was in 1968. It was a chartered return trip to Australia to visit relatives. The planes were powered by propeller engines (no jets) which needed to refuel in wonderful places where you only stopped for half an hour and took off again: Frankfurt, Teheran, Rangoon (an unscheduled overnight stop) then Hong Kong.

Days before departure you were required to have inoculations for typhoid, smallpox, cholera Sitting next to me for the journey so far, was a lady going to visit family: grandchildren she had never met.

Her doctor did not give her one of these jabs as it would upset a condition she had.

At Hong Kong she was 'impounded' as we had stayed in Rangoon where there was

an outbreak of cholera. We had to continue without her!

When the holiday was over and the passengers gathered at Sydney Airport to return home, we had the news that the lady was quarantined for a few days and then continued the journey to see her family.

In the early 1990s there always seemed to be an outbreak of some kind of 'flu when I was in my dream job, travelling abroad to make television programmes for Sunday viewing.

The pattern was: in winter to visit the proposed places where the filming would take place and do the research. Then with the crew and presenter, Roy Castle, we would 'make the movie' on a tight schedule in spring and summer.

As we arrived in Oberammergau in Germany we were issued with face masks, as several residents were quite ill with an unknown strain of 'flu – not the Plague! We were to film the village's preparations for the season of many performances of their Passion Play. The orchestra and choir rehearsals were



done in separate groups. The interviews with the actors: two Marys, two Jesus's, two Judas's agreed to be filmed together, taking a risk though we wore our masks. Ten minutes was allowed to film the interior of the huge open-air stage and auditorium while it was being overhauled. There was a fear that the Play season would be cancelled. It wasn't and we obtained scenes taken during the Press preview.

The following year we went to Malta, needing to film in public places, but found the streets of Valetta were filled with masked and (not quite) distancing mostly locals. We were allowed on to the island as it would be good for Malta to have their celebration of Easter on British television! We were not allowed to film in the churches there but once we moved out of the capital mysteriously the 'lock down' evaporated. We were able to capture scenes and very moving celebrations with total cooperation and enthusiasm.



Another year and we filmed Easter in Corfu – we just missed the worst of a 'flu epidemic, so we were greeted with a welcoming feeling of release from isolation.

In 1996 I went on holiday in Spain with cousins from Australia. We met in Madrid, which was in 'lock down' to our surprise. The hotel issued face masks so we could visit galleries, etc: one out, one in. Cafés were doing take-aways and you had to self distance as you ate. At the main train station, although we had booked tickets pre-paid, to travel to southern Spain, we arrived two hours early to be near the head of the distancing queue. We just got on board with seconds to spare.

Were these experiences rehearsals for what is happening now? They were local epidemics. The present one is

world-wide. It has always been hard to cope with restrictions but we managed then to overcome the challenges.

I pray you keep well and comfort comes to all those who are suffering because of this invasive infection.

Felicity Maton

BEAT News: Be Fraud Aware

Do you know about Courier Fraud?

Do your loved ones?

Fraudsters are deliberately targeting older and vulnerable people in our area.

Courier fraud happens when a fraudster contacts a victim by telephone claiming to be a police officer, bank or government agency. A number of techniques will then be adopted in order to convince the victim to hand over their bank details or cash, which may then be passed on to a courier.



Remember

- Neither your bank nor the police will ever ask you to withdraw money or purchase items.
- Your bank or the police will never ask for your PIN, bank card or bank account details over the phone – never give these details to anybody.
- Neither the police nor the banks will send a courier to collect money or bank cards from you.

Please let us know if you have received a similar type of telephone call or have any information about these incidents.

Finally, please keep talking to your friends, parents and grandparents and make sure they know about #CourierFraud.

PC460 Andrew Hudson, South Norfolk Engagement Officer



In July

Why do I make no poems? Good my friend
Now is there silence through the summer woods,
In whose green depths and lawny solitudes
The light is dreaming; voicings clear ascend
Now from no hollow where glad rivulets wend,
But murmurings low of inarticulate moods,
Softer than stir of unfledged cushat broods,
Breathe, till o'er drowsed the heavy flower-heads bend.
Now sleep the crystal and heart-charmed waves
Round white, sunstricken rocks the noontide long,
Or 'mid the coolness of dim lighted caves
Sway in a trance of vague deliciousness;
And I,...I am too deep in joy's excess
For the imperfect impulse of a song.

Edward Dowden

(Did you know that 'cushat' is an old name for a wood-pigeon?)



"July is the seventh month of the year according to the Gregorian
(our current) calendar.

It was the fifth month in the early calendar of the ancient Romans: the Romans called the month Quintilius, which means fifth. The Roman Senate renamed the month to Julius (July) in honour of Julius Caesar, who was born on 12 July.

The Anglo-Saxon names for the month included Heymonath or Maedmonath, referring respectively to haymaking and the flowering of meadows."

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Easton Parish Council

www.eastonparishcouncil.co.uk

Welcome to news from Easton Parish Council.

We are delighted to announce that Martin Betts has agreed to join the Council. Martin will be actively supporting the Council in progressing issues particularly on the topics of young people, schooling and St Peter's Primary School.

We still have a further vacant position, so please get in contact if you are interested in finding out more about the role of a parish councillor.

The Easton Community Emergency Plan

The Easton Community Emergency Plan is changing the way it works to now be solely overseen by the South Norfolk Council Community Help Hub but it will be active for the foreseeable future. This service offers basic help to those who are living alone, or without the support of friends and family. There will be help available in the form of shopping, collecting medicines, posting letters or walking a dog, for people who are at risk and continuing to self-isolate. Many thanks to the helpers who have given up their time and made this service possible thus far.

The SNC contact number remains **01508 533933** and will be answered Monday to Friday 08.30–16.00, Saturday and Sunday 10.00–16.00.

Playgrounds reopening

Playgrounds and all play equipment were still in lockdown as this article was written towards the end of June. However easing measures are being announced weekly and as soon as government restrictions are lifted the Parish Council will communicate this to all residents via their website and facebook page.



Allotments



We have had a lot of enquiries for vacant plots. Sadly they are all taken for this year but please put yourself forward to go on the waiting list by contacting Councillor Mike Jobling by email at mike.jobling@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk .

Continuing Council discussions over issues regarding St Peter's Primary School

The Chairman reconfirmed the fact that the Parish Council was not involved with education policy and the decision-making process for overflow arrangements for school places regarding the Ormiston Victory Academy from St Peter's Primary School.

Martin Betts agreed to take on the role as spokesperson for the Parish Council and engage with the various stakeholders on the issue. District and county councillor Margaret Dewsbury had been asked to write to the Head of Education at Norfolk County Council to clarify arrangements for secondary education in the future with the large increase in house-building planned for the area and the monies made available from the builders for CIL.

The Chairman had already written to the Norfolk County Council regarding the issue of school transport should pupils need to be bussed some miles to the City Academy.

The idea of a junior council forum was raised and there was general agreement to support this with funding made available in the future.

Persimmon development

The Parish Council are working hard to ensure that the proposals put forward by Persimmon will be in line with the Easton Neighbourhood Plan.

Correspondence received from Persimmon on 28th May 2020 for Phase 1 comprising 292 dwellings and associated works, gave notice of changes to their original planning application. It is referred to as a 'Reserved Matters' application and relates to

access, appearance, scale, landscaping and layout details. The outline Planning Permission 2014/2611 (for all 890 dwellings) can be found on the planning section of the South Norfolk Council website.

In other news

Artwork: A big thank you to everyone involved in the artwork competition where entries have been exhibited in the windows of the village hall, and a special mention and thank you to Natasha Newton for all her hard work running the competition.

Facebook page: A decision was taken to relaunch the Facebook page 'Easton Parish Council' to include information also made available on the parish council website, including the council meeting video and links to relevant sites for detailed proposals and schemes affecting the Village, such as the Orbit and Persimmon developments, as work on these sites progress. Parishioners are encouraged to raise parish council issues through participation in the public consultation section of forthcoming council meetings but responses via Facebook will be made to give clarification where matters have already been discussed and agreed by the Council.

Council meetings

Easton Parish Council will now be holding virtual meetings on the first Monday of every month online via Zoom - next meetings are due to be held on Monday 6th July 3rd August and at 7.30pm. Please see the parish council website to obtain details for signing up before 3pm on the meeting day. If you would like to log in to view or participate, a passcode will then be sent out.

Take care and be safe.

*Francis Woodcock, Easton Parish Clerk
Flat 2 Kimberley Hall, Barnham Broom Road, Wymondham
Email: clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk
Telephone: 07879 379181*

Easton Women's Institute

Well, we are going into yet another month of lockdown and it isn't easy to work out when life will ever get back to something more familiar and easy to understand.

The WI has had to cancel our meetings for the time being and to tell the speakers that had been booked to come and speak to us that we cannot hear what they have to say ...yet! In the meantime I learned on the WI Facebook page that we shall not be asked to pay another WI subscription until next April instead of in January. Also, subscriptions will be collected in April in all future years. While that is good news, it does not wholly compensate for what we have lost this year because of not being able to meet together once a month.

We are trying to keep in touch with each other and six members of the committee even had a socially distanced meeting in my garden this week to discuss the way forward. We did not come to many conclusions except that we need to continue to keep members informed and to only do what we are told is safe. We would be interested to hear from our members how they will feel about coming back to meetings when the time comes and how safe they will feel. We can consider ways to keep social distancing in place and perhaps ask people to wear masks if that is what would make you all feel safe once we can meet again officially. Please let me know what you think.

The committee members all agreed that we have been very impressed with and grateful for the way the community of Easton have supported each other. There has been the volunteer scheme which has helped people with shopping and other tasks and the innovative activities for children and their families not to mention the clapping on Thursday evenings for the NHS and Carers. It is one of the benefits of living in a village that you forget until something like this happens.

Also, we should remember that the school has been open throughout lockdown for Key Workers' children, and for vulnerable children, and staff have been in regular touch with the families and pupils who are educating at home. So well done to all the people involved, **you** deserve a round of applause from all of us.

Let's hope that as the country edges slowly back to a more normal way of life that we shall all emerge safely from this having learnt a new skill or two. At least I can say I have learnt to use Zoom and have perfected making a decent Coffee and Walnut Cake.

Mary Blathwayt

St Swithin's Day

Tradition says 15th July is an important date, as whatever the weather is doing on this day it will be the same for the following 40! Have you heard this old rhyme?

**'St Swithin's day if thou dost rain
For forty days it will remain
St Swithin's day if thou be fair
For forty days 'twill rain nae mair.'**
(*'nae mair' means 'no more'*)

St Swithin was a Saxon Bishop of Winchester, famous for good deeds. Legend says that at his death he asked to be buried outside in the graveyard, as he wished people to be able to walk on his grave and for the rain to fall on it.

His wishes were granted, but nine years later, on 15th July 971, the monks reburied him in a shrine inside the Cathedral. It poured with rain, apparently a sign of the saint's displeasure. From then on it was believed that the weather for 40 days will be set on the anniversary. Luckily, this isn't true: weather patterns following St Swithin's Day have been tracked on 55 occasions!

Source: www.projectbritain.com



EASTON GOOD COMPANIONS CLUB

Hope everybody is keeping well and not too bored being at home now. Hopefully this will soon be over and we will all be able to meet up again.

We would like to say a **BIG THANK YOU** to all the Door Stop Shoppers who have helped so many people in the Club, as well as families and neighbours.

The Committee had a meeting around Pam's garden (keeping the right distance) to discuss the Club and when we will be able to start up again. Of course not at the present but we will give you all the details when this will happen.

If you need to speak to any of us just give us a ring. Keep smiling and, as the song goes, *"we'll meet again don't know where don't know when but I know we'll meet again some sunny day"*.

Jean Ditton

☐ Rest is not idleness,
and to lie sometimes on
the grass under trees on
a summer's day, listening
to the murmur of the
water, or watching the
clouds float across the
sky, is by no means a
waste of time.☐

John Lubbock



Tales from the River

This week was very exciting as our regular pair of swans were back with eight cygnets. This is always a nail biting time, as the cygnets seems to disappear over night, usually from foxes or other predators. Every day I count eight and they are growing quite fast, grey and fluffy with black beaks squeaking away as they follow mum and dad up river.

Its usually July before we see the damsel flies. They are a beautiful blue with black spots on their wings, but this year they started appearing in late May. Now there are so many that if you sit in the garden you can be sure one will land on your head or arm whilst you drink your coffee. Of course the bigger species of dragonflies are about too.



Nature is so wonderful, and it seems with this lockdown period I have taken even more notice of what is going on around me. I expect that is the same for a lot of us, so just enjoy what is out there, it helps with calming your mind.

Sally Neale

Norfolk Wildlife: July

Many of the warblers which arrived in the spring are raising their 2nd broods while ungainly black-headed gull chicks are all over coastal marshes. This is also a fine time for watching butterflies. On some heaths clouds of tiny male silver-studded blues are flying low over bare patches among the heather; in coastal sand dunes dark green fritillaries are active around flowering privet bushes; and in woods white admirals are darting through sunny glades while tiny purple hairstreaks flash around the oak canopy. In freshwater marshes, the 2nd wave of dragonflies is reaching its peak. Look now for common and ruddy darters, southern and brown hawkers, and common blue damselflies.

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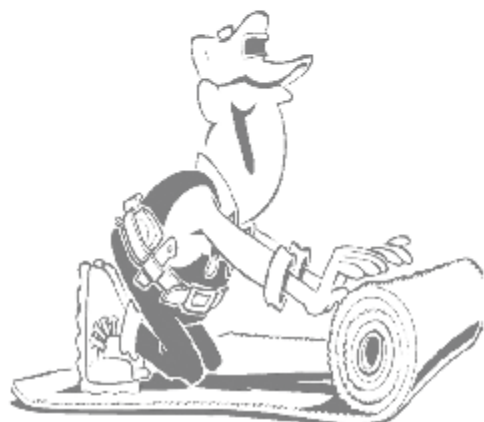
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Norfolk County Councillor	Mrs Margaret Dewsbury (as above)	
Colton Village Hall – Bookings	Rosie Castle, Darwin, Norwich Rd, Colton	01603 880191
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Easton Badminton Club Sec	Mrs.C.Brown, 22 Marlingford Way, Easton	01603 880433
Easton Bowls Club Sec	Mrs. M. 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
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