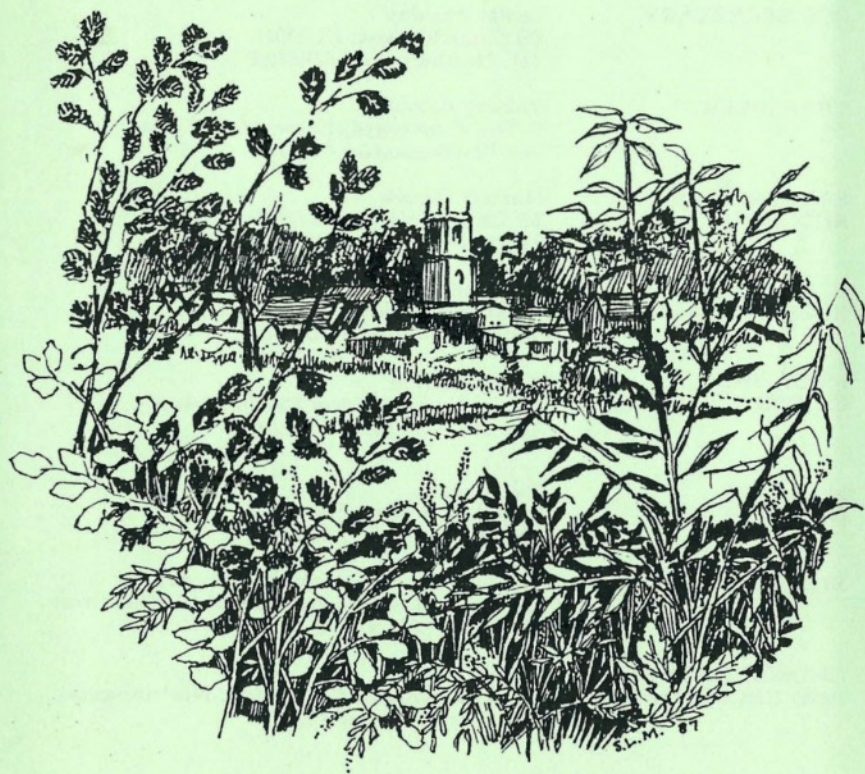


ECTON CHURCH AND VILLAGE NEWS



February 1993

ECTON CHURCH DIRECTORY

RECTOR	The Reverend Peter Naylor Ecton Rectory, West Street, Ecton Tel: Northampton 416322 (Home) Northampton 406442 (Ecton House)
CHURCHWARDENS	John Strange Silver Howe, Barton Fields, Ecton Tel: Northampton 409306 Graham Jordan Pear Tree Cottage, Church Way Tel: Northampton 410255
PCC SECRETARY	Leslie Murdin 20 Church View, ECTON Tel: Northampton 409422
TREASURER	Robert Allson 9 The Courtyard, Ecton Hall, Ecton Tel: Northampton 409467
STEWARDSHIP RECORDER	Marlan Gleave 19 Church View, ECTON Tel: Northampton 407889
ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER	Mary Dicks Field House, West Street, Ecton Tel: Northampton 407145
MAGAZINE EDITOR	John Strange Silver Howe, Barton Fields, Ecton Tel: Northampton 409306
MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTOR	Pat Baylis 34 West Street, Ecton Tel: Northampton 407707
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Contact Patricia Naylor - Tel: 416322 Every Sunday (except Parade Service first Sunday) 9.25 a.m. In Rectory Room
CHURCH ORGANIST AND CHOIR MASTER	Frank Brown 40 The Scarplands, Duston, Northampton Tel: Northampton 752266

FROM THE RECTOR'S STUDY

There has been much talk in recent years about the need for fitness with the result that a great deal of money is made by those who devise special diets and the manufacturers of exercise machines. There has also been much concern about what constitutes a right and healthy diet. We in the West, who have had too much for too long, are now realising the dangers of personal gratification. Little doubt remains that physical fitness enhances the quality of life provided it is not taken to excess.

Soon Lent will be upon us. The "Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church" defines the season as "a time of penance by abstaining from festivities, by, arms giving, and by devoting more than the usual time to religious exercises". Lent is a time when the Christian soul is exercised seeking a higher degree of fitness. It is, of course, based on the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness before beginning the active ministry that led to the Cross. In the desert, where He fasted alone, He became at one with God. He had time to sort things out and discover his unique destiny.

Two thousand years of Christian practice has not diminished the importance of Lent, especially now that there is great affluence in the rich countries of the world. We must also remember that even in poor countries there are the immensely well-off whose lives are in vivid contrast to the desperate poor. To have too much is dangerous for spiritual growth and the attainment of everlasting life.

What are you going to do for Lent? I will soon be making up my mind as to what I must give up as an act of discipline and what I must give. My advice, as we respond to the challenge of Lent, is that we should sit down in a quiet spot and give due consideration to our lifestyle, and then put down on paper a kind of "Code of Practice" for the forty days leading to Easter. It may mean that we make a to go to Church once each Sunday, thereby if we miss in the morning, a serious attempt will be made to attend Evensong. The giving to charity will also be important as we will save money from what we have given up, and God knows, there is massive need all around us, brought home by the many charities. In our Church at Ecton we concentrate upon the Church of England Children's Society, but there are others like the Missions to Seamen, Christian Aid and Save the Children. Above all is the need to give greater attention to one's prayer life. Without this essential communion with God, whatever we do will be of diminished spiritual importance. The grooming of the soul is carried out by simple spiritual exercises and should anyone need help in this matter, I am always available or will be happy to recommend someone else. Let's make Lent a time of Christian renewal. May we find our faith blossoming in the glow of the Ressurrection on Easter Day.

Every Blessing
Peter Naylor

RECTOR'S NOTES

Patricia joins me in thanking all of those of you who were so kind to send Christmas greetings. It is most encouraging to know that we are in your thoughts and prayers.



After more years than I care to count I am handing over the editorship of a parish magazine. In my last parish it was difficult to find an editor even though there was never any shortage of volunteers to fill other Church posts. John has decided to give ★ years to the job, and I know that you will cooperate to the full. In my experience the task of editing the magazine is one of the most difficult and time consuming tasks in the local Church. Thank you John for giving me a break.



The next Ecton house-meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 16th, at 7.30 pm in Ecton House (possibly the Franklin Room). Our guest on this occasion will be the Reverend David Johnson who is the Rector of Cogenhoe and Whiston. He is also well-known in church and journalistic circles as the television critic of the Church Times. Week by week his sharp and sensitive criticisms of religious television help towards a proper appreciation of what comes out into our living rooms when we seek enlightenment, encouragement and stimulation for our Christian discipleship.

He is also a gifted public speaker and humorist. The subject of his talk will be "*Communicating God*".





At the last Parochial Church Council meeting it was decided to give encouragement to those who wished to see the facilities and fabric of our Church improved. Very soon meetings will be arranged to see how money can be raised for various causes. The key people involved and their projects are as follows:

Paddy Macquire and

Dennis Strange - The Loop System for the hard of hearing

Ken Jones - The restoration of the Church Clock

Patricia Naylor - The restoration of the Church Brasses

The Parochial Church Council wished that there should be no anxiety about the raising of funds for these projects as, at this time, there are many demands of a more urgent kind on our giving. Sensible planning for the future and realistic targeting should see these ambitions achieved in the years that lie ahead. It will be possible from now on for anyone to make a donation and have it earmarked for one of the special causes.



A P C M

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place on Sunday, 28th March 1993 in the Conference Room at Ecton House at 7.00 p.m. to elect officers for the coming year. Church Wardens, Parochial Church Council, Sidesmen and Auditor. To hear reports of the previous years Church Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary and also Church Groups and presentation of Annual Accounts.

L Murdin
PCC Secretary

A PARISH PRAYER

Holy Spirit give us faith
Holy Spirit give us hope
Holy Spirit give us love
Convert the World and Start with me.

Many Parishes have a Parish prayer which links members of their congregation daily when they pray.

Do we need one and is the above prayer a possibility? Do let the Editor know.

SERVERS ROTA FOR FEBRUARY

7th February	Victoria Green
14th February	John Strange
21st February	Leslie Murdin
28th February	Charles Jordan

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC
CHURCHES TRUST**

We raised £168.90 by the sponsored walk/bike ride held last September. Ecton received £86.25 the remainder goes into the fund to help other Churches.

Many thanks to all those who gave up their time to make this event successful and to those who sponsored them.

Janet Hanna

ECTON HALL CRICKET CLUB

A dinner and cabaret will be held at Ecton House on Thursday, 22nd April.

This will be open to everyone and a limited number of 40 tickets will be available. Further details will appear in the March Magazine.

The 1993 Cricket Draw Pool will commence on 28th February. If you would like to join this please contact Steve Wheatman on 401714.

Recent winners were:

September	No. 23	H Kearsley	£20
	No. 111	W Sanders	£10
October	No. 80	M Savage	£20
	No. 46	M Richards	£10
November	No. 57	G Barber	£20
	No. 93	E Collip	£10
December	No. 14	M Kearsley	£50
	No. 64	C Wright	£25

Brian Saunders

"NOT-THE-PATHFINDERS"

The Parish Youth Group, which used to be known as the Pathfinders, is open to anyone between the ages of 11 and 18. We meet on Sunday evenings in the Rectory Room for a varied programme of meetings, sometimes for discussions or Bible studies, and sometimes for less serious games or quizzes. Last term we spent an evening bowling in Wellingborough, and other outings are planned for this term. A fund-raising afternoon raised over £90, most of which will help the families of cot-death victims.

For more information about the Group and our activities this term, please contact James Fraser (tel: 406442) or one of the other Leaders or Committee Members.

In February and March Sunday School will be held as usual at 9.25 a.m. in the Rectory Room. This is every Sunday except 7th February and 7th March when the Sunday School will go into the Church for the usual combined family service.

ECTON CHURCH GUILD

7th February	Orange
14th February	Blue
21st February	Pink
28th February	Yellow

OVER 60'S CLUB

In December we held our Christmas Dinner in Ecton House, and we were entertained by a Group called "Sweet Charity". The evening ended with gifts followed by Sherry and Mince Pies. I'm sure all members enjoyed the evening.

Monday Meetings: 1st and 15th February, 1st March in the Rectory Room at 2.30 p.m.

Whist Drive: Thursday, 18th February in the Rectory Room. 7.15 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. All very welcome.

Denise Langley

ECTON CHURCH GUILD invite
EVERYONE to a COFFEE MORNING
with BRING AND BUY
of House Bake and Tinned Goods

SATURDAY, 20TH FEBRUARY
10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon
in The Rectory Room - Ecton House
(for funds to restore
the church brasses)

ECTON VILLAGE MUMS AND TOTS

Meets every Thursday afternoon (during term time) in the Rectory Room.

Time: 2.00 - 3.30 p.m.
Contact: Kati Ward, Tel: 812622

All mums and pre-school children welcome.

ECTON - HOUSE GROUP

It is, of course, a Parish House Group but we are inviting Parishioners from Sywell and Overstone to join us and two have already done so.

Please note that all 1993 meetings will be held on the third Tuesday (not Thursday) of each month. The earlier time of 7.30 p.m. gives space for questions and a cup of coffee to finish at 9.00 p.m. Thereafter those who wish can go to the House Chapel to finish the day with compline. A short bedtime service whose peaceful worship ensures a good night and quiet rest.

February's speaker will be David Johnson Why not join us and bring a friend.

Dennis Strange

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WARREN

The Reverend Warren Warne is enjoying his holiday in Australia in lovely hot sunshine!!

On 16th February Warren celebrates his 70th birthday at Perth with his Brother, family and friends.

We wish him a very happy birthday and look forward to seeing his cheerful smile again when he returns in March.

THE LOOP SYSTEM

At Christmas I received two promises of generous donations each of £100 towards the cost of an induction loop system covering the whole Church, including the Chancel.

It appears that amongst our congregation we have one or two Parishioners who hear little if anything of the service and several others who despite the clarity of Peter's voice, have great difficulty in following the sermon.

Alas as age catches up on the middle aged, others will find hearing impairments. Hence the importance of your support to do something now.

Help from any fund raising events and donations will be welcomed. If you are willing to contribute on a weekly or monthly basis let me know so that arrangements can be made. 50p per week means £26 at the end of a year and twenty Parishioners would meet half the cost by giving in this way.

Do please help and start the New Year resolved to equip our Parish Church with this essential aid.

Dennis Strange

A big thank you to all of you who came to listen to me preach on 20th December. It is a very different experience when you are preaching to your home congregation rather than taking part in a sermon class to total strangers.

The session we had afterwards was very beneficial and helped me a great deal. I hope the improvements will be obvious when I next preach in Ecton. This will be on 18th April and if you can bear it do please come along and we shall repeat the exercise.

Some people did ask for a copy of the poem by Frances Croake Frank entitled "Did the Woman Say?"

Did the woman say,
When she held him for the first time in
the dark dank of a stable,
After the pain and the bleeding and the
crying,
"This is my body; this is my blood"?

Did the woman say,
When she held him for the last time in
the dark rain on a hilltop,
After the pain and the bleeding and the
dying,
"This is my body; this is my blood"?

Well that she said it to him then.
For dry old men,
Brocaded robes belying barrenness,
Ordain that she not say it for him now.

Mary Strange

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - Group 32

A well attended December meeting. Mrs Barrett brought tears of laughter with her tales of adventure and misadventure in her life as an organist.

A letter of thanks to our WI Members, who had contributed cakes and produce to the sale for the CYNTHIA SPENCER HOSPICE, was read. The sum of over £2000 was raised.

In the competition for a "Decorated Candle": First Prize Milly, Second Prize Denise and Third Prize Paddy.

Mr J Ellson provided coloured slides with accompanying music, such beautiful photography and our members relaxed and enjoyed this January programme.

The competition for a Short Poem about Ecton produced many entrants and the winner was our President, Stella Gibson, runners-up being Dorothy (Cross) and Paddy.

Our Annual Dinner will be held at Ecton House on 11th February; we will meet at 6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m. Names and payment will be taken at our meeting on 2nd February and we all look forward to an enjoyable evening.

Mobile Movies will be shown at our February meeting and the competition will be "An Animal from a Vegetable".

The speaker for our meeting on Tuesday, 2nd March will be Dianne Benarr and her subject will be "Cross Stitch". The competition will be announced at the meeting.

Mary Bane

ECTON VILLAGE PLAYGROUP

Sessions on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings in the Youth Club Building.

Time: 9.30 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.

Contact: Debbie Norwood, Tel: 414330

ECTON FELLOWSHIP

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 9th February at 2.30 p.m. we are having a talk on The Work of the Cynthia Spencer Hospice.

This will be a very illuminating afternoon on the wonderful work Hospice care does. Everyone is welcome.

We are still hoping to receive names of those who have lived in Ecton for many years with experience of the Village life as it was in their younger days.

Joan Dickins

COFFEE ROTA

FEBRUARY

7th	Jean Leigh and Brenda Jones
14th	Johann Pinney and Audrey Treloar
21st	Millie Harlott and Dora Reynolds
28th	Celia and Howard Carter

ECTON CHURCH AND VILLAGE NEWS

The response for donations to defray the costs of the magazine has been excellent, thanks. Contributions are still coming in, keep it up. I hope this thank you and reminder will continue to keep the ball rolling.

The magazine is obviously appreciated by many of you.

CAROL SINGING - ECTON 1992

On Monday evening, 21st December, a band of some twenty singers met at Ecton House at 6.30 p.m. to visit as many parts of the village as time and energy permitted singing carols.

The evening was dry and cold but the coldness of the weather was compensated by the warmth of friendship from singers and those visited alike.

We succeeded in visiting most parts of the village and a total of £146.00 was raised.

It was decided that the proceeds should be divided between the Church Army - Homeless Young Appeal and the Shelter - Crisis at Christmas. Cheques have been sent to both these organisations.

Everyone has been generous in giving their time and money and the effort involved is much appreciated.

Frank Brown

COLLECTIONS

NOVEMBER

1st	£237.50
8th	£180.64
15th	£129.55
22nd	£201.82
29th	£273.15

DECEMBER

6th	£309.70
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OFF TO COLDER CLIMES - SIBERIA 93

I have been lucky enough to win a place on an Operation Raleigh (now Raleigh International) expedition for 1993. This is a registered charity involved in all kinds of environmental and community projects in Third World Countries.

I am off to Siberia for my expedition which starts in June for three months. Project work will be mainly studying the effects of pollution on plants and animals in one of the World's last wilderness areas - Lake Baikal. It is the oldest, deepest and largest freshwater lake in the World and is unique for its animals and plants, as you might have seen in the recent TV series - Realms of the Russian Bear.

It is going to be tough and the hard work starts here for me. Before going I must raise nearly £3000 through several fund raising events.

More news soon - hope you can help.

Thomas Dicks - 40 West Street, Ecton
Tel: 0604 407145

IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD
AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD
AND THE WORD WAS GOD

Know your Bible. What a Challenge. This is the name given to the material produced by Christian Women Communicating. The aim is to enable women to study the Bible together and to grasp the Christian truths for themselves, to enrich their lives and to help them express their faith. It is a personal Bible study with group sharing questions. We are a small group, sometimes we fly with angels, sometimes we are in a mist but it is fun and we are learning to listen to God.

Place: 34 West Street, Ecton
Date: 2nd and 4th Thursdays in the Month
Time: 2.30 to 4.00 p.m.

Please come and join us if you want any further information ring Pat Baylis, Northampton 407707.

Ingrid will be contacting the holders of Childrens Society Boxes shortly. I would be good if yours was absolutely full!

The results of our Stewardship Campaign will be announced in next months magazine. If you have still not returned your Pledge Card or Covenant Form to Marion Gleave now is the time. Thank you to all our contributors.

CHURCH AND VILLAGE DIARY

FEBRUARY 1993

Monday, 1 February

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

2.30 pm Over Sixties meet in the Rectory Room

PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE : Tuesday, 2 February

7.30 pm Women's Institute meet in the Rectory Room

7.30 pm Holy Communion

Thursday, 4 February

9.30 am Holy Communion

NINE BEFORE EASTER : Sunday, 7 February

9.30 am Parish Communion and Parade Service
2 1 Corinthians 4: 8-13 : Matthew 5: 1-12

6.00 pm Evensong

7.00 pm Youth Group

Monday, 8 February

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

2.30 pm Over Sixties meet in the Rectory Room

Tuesday, 9 February

2.30 pm Ecton Fellowship meet in the Rectory Room

8.00 pm Parochial Church Council meeting in the Rectory Room

Thursday, 11 February

9.30 am Holy Communion

6.30 pm Women's Institute Supper

EIGHT BEFORE EASTER : Sunday, 14 February

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School
James 5: 13-16a : Mark 2: 1-12

6.00 pm Evensong

7.00 pm Youth Group

Monday, 15 February

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

2.30 pm Over Sixties meet in the Rectory Room

Thursday, 18 February

9.30 am Holy Communion

7.15 pm Whist Drive in the Rectory Room

8.00 pm Ecton house-meeting : "*Communicating God*"

SEVEN BEFORE EASTER : Sunday, 21 February

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School
Philemon 1-17 : Mark 2: 13-17

6.00 pm Evensong

Monday, 22 February

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

ASH WEDNESDAY : Wednesday, 24 February

9.30 am Holy Communion

7.30 pm Holy Communion (sung)

Thursday, 25 February

9.30 am Holy Communion

FIRST IN LENT : 28 February

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School
Hebrews 2: 14-end : Matthew 4: 1-11

6.00 pm Evensong

Monday, 1 March

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

2.30 pm Over Sixties meet in the Rectory Room

Thursday, 3 March

9.30 am Holy Communion

SECOND IN LENT : Sunday, 7 March

9.30 am Parish Communion and Parade Service
1 John 4: 1-6 : Luke 19: 41-end

6.00 pm Evensong

PARISH AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

PARISH COUNCIL	Chairman	Sheila Ingram Tel: Northampton 406038
ECTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	Headteacher	Helen Tite Tel: Northampton 409213
ECTON FELLOWSHIP	Contact	Joyce Orford Tel: Northampton 414245 2nd Tuesday in month 2.30 pm in Rectory Room
ECTON W.I.	Contact	Stella Gibson Tel: Northampton 405350 1st Tuesday in month 7.30 p.m. in Rectory Room
OVER 60's	Contact	Denise Langley Tel: Northampton 404173 Twice monthly on Mondays 2.30 pm in Rectory Room
YOUTH CLUB & SENIOR CLUB	Contact	Mary Beesley Tel: Northampton 810577 Y.C. Wednesday 7.00 - 9.00 pm S.C. Tuesday 8.00 pm, Club Hall, High Street, Ecton
MUMS & TOTS	Contact	Kati Ward Tel: Northampton 812622 Every Thursday 2.00 - 3.30 pm in Rectory Room
PLAYGROUP	Contact	Debbie Norwood Tel: Northampton 414330 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9.30-12 noon Youth Club Hall, High Street, Ecton
CRICKET CLUB	Captain Secretary	Steve Wheatman Tel: Northampton 401714 Hilary Kearsley Tel: Northampton 810922
BROWNIES	Contact	Tricia Fuller Tel: Northampton 403137
BELL RINGERS	Contact	Dorothy Creed Tel: Northampton 407864
YOUTH GROUP	Contact	James Fraser at Ecton House Tel: Northampton 406442

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ECTON HOUSE



PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN CONFERENCE
CENTRE AND RETREAT HOUSE

The Reverend Peter Naylor, Warden
Ecton House, Ecton, Northampton NN6 0QE
Telephone: Northampton (0604) 406442