



High Winds cause damage to tower See report in editors ramblings

Parish Magazine

issue 15

April 2005

*"O, to be in England
Now that April's there,
And whoever wakes in England
Tees, some morning unaware,
That the lowest boughs and brushwood sheaf
Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf
While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough
In England - now!"*

Church Directory

Priest in Charge

The Revd Jenny Parkin
The Rectory
West Street Ecton NN6 0QF
Tel: 01604 416326

Churchwarden

Walter Barty
1 East Butterfield Court
Northampton NN3 8JG
Tel: 01604 642117

Churchwarden

Marlene Green
63 West Street
Ecton NN6 0QF
Tel: 01604 407141

PCC Secretary

Mrs Sandie Simpson
31 Bentley Close
Northampton NN3 5JS
Tel: 01604 410541

PCC Treasurer

Angela Crabtree
Barton Fields Cottage
Ecton
Tel: 01604 404777

Electoral Roll Officer

Mary Dicks
Field House
West Street, Ecton NN6 0QF
Tel: 01604 407145

Parish and Village Organisations

Bell Ringers

Contact: Colin Tinston
Tel: 01604 412233

Fellowship

Contact: Joyce Orford
Tel: 01604 414245
2nd Tuesday in month
2.30pm Village Hall

Cricket Club

Captain: Steve Wheatman
Tel: 01604 401714

Ecton Village Hall

Contact: Tony Green
Tel: 01604 407141
Booking Clerk: Marlene Green

Mums & Tots

Contact: Vicky Chapman
Tel: 01604 788748
Most Wednesdays

1.30—3.15pm Village Hall

Short Mat Bowls

Contact: Maurice Creed
Tel: 01604 407864

Lunch Club

Wednesday, monthly
Contact: Sheila Ingram 406038

Parish Council

Chairman: Ty Moffett
Tel: 01604 407474

Pre-School

Now relocated to the school
Contact: Mrs Vicki Burrows

Primary School

Head: Vicki Burrows
Tel: 01604 409213

Womens Institute

Contact: Angela Crabtree
Tel: 01604 404777

1st Tuesday in month

7.30 Village Hall

Youth Club

Contact: Margaret Tinston
Tel: 01604 412233
Margaret@ectonvillage.co.uk
Wednesday

6.30-7.30 Junior Youth Club

7.30-8.30 Senior Youth Club

Village Hall

Badgers Group

Tuesdays 5.45 - 7.15pm Village Hall
Contact: Vicky Chapman 788748 or
Nita Gill 493455

Editors Ramblings

WELL IT IS APRIL 1ST. and all is well with the church, just me playing with a warp tool on the computer! Some more April cartoons on page 13.

On page 20 I have copied page 1 of the Editors chatter (as it was known then) from the Ecton Chronicle of 1955 which I was going to comment that the same problems exist now, however I have had lots of input from people about points raised in the last issue so many thanks to those who responded and were most helpful.

Mr Simco started at the village school in 1922 and retired in 1953. I hope to have a picture of him for the next issue. On page 18 there are school happenings in the 1920's put together by Betty Shearing, many thanks.

Regarding the West Wing of the Hall, it appears that it was demolished in the 1980's but one interesting fact to arise out of this question was that £2000 in old white fivers was found in a chimney breast during the demolition process. Col. and Mrs. Sotherby lived in the west wing after the war until his death. Originally the west wing contained the Billiard Room and servants living quarters.

Concerning the missing manuscript the Mr Wake (gentleman) mentioned could have been Henry Thomas Wake who gets linked with Carlyle and Everett on the US website. From the Kelly's Trade Directory of 1864 there was a Georgina Wake living at Ecton Cottage, again any help would be appreciated.

In this months magazine we have book, CD and DVD reviews so if you're looking to purchase they may make your decision easier. I bought the U2 CD on the strength of the review in this magazine and I was not disappointed.

For those of you who go to the Wellingborough Farmers market it is the 28th of this month.

Having just come back from France I have written an article on my visit to a French Recycling centre (beats Vine Yards) and this can be found on page 10.

Chris Petrie is running in the London Marathon this year for the ROUND TABLE CHILDRENS WISH APPEAL and would appreciate your sponsorship, this can be done direct or visiting his website

www.justgiving.com/christopherp

*Copy for The **May** Magazine to
Colin Tinston Rectory Farm House High Street
Telephone: 412233
e-mail: navigator@ectonvillage.co.uk
by 20th April*

Moderation is a fatal thing. Nothing succeeds like excess.

**BRITISH RED CROSS WEEK
1ST - 8TH MAY**

**PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY
THANK YOU**

***Sing into
SPRING***

***A singalong of seasonal songs
on***

***Tuesday 26th April at 2.30 pm
in***

Ecton Village Hall

***Tickets £2.50 including tea
available from Jayne the hairdresser or
Brian Saunders 18 Church View 409444***

Proceeds to the Village Hall

CLEANER WANTED

2 or 3 hours a week
general cleaning, hoovering, dust-
ing etc. and possibly some ironing

Ring Katy - 07773 818580

Rabbit Hutch with Run

available FREE to good home

Ring 414135

The Ecton Fellowship

Our next meeting is on Tuesday April 17th at 2.30pm in the village hall.
The Rev.d. Judy Craig will talk about her work as a priest and Deacon.

Everyone is very welcome
Joan Dickins

Christian Aid Week

14th - 21st May

Our Bread & Soup lunch will be on Sunday May from 12noon to
1.30pm in the church

John Parkin has very kindly offered to make "Home made Soup" for us.
Please support **Christian Aid** and enjoy John's soup and each others
company.

We would be very grateful for more 'envelope collectors'. If you can
spare a little time to help with this please phone Joan Dickins 415576

Ecton W.I. March Meeting

Betty Shearing was presented with a plant and warmly thanked for inviting members to use her home for the February meeting. Three guest were welcomed and we hope they enjoyed themselves enough to join us again. Sue Rands is still in the General Hospital and Joy Wilson gave a report to members on her progress. She is greatly missed at meetings and it will be lovely when we can welcome her back again. Members were reminded to contact Margaret Weddle if they wished to hear a talk by Tricia Steward, one of the original Calendar Girls, at the Cripps Hall. Once the business meeting was concluded the members enjoyed a very interesting talk by Jennifer Harrison illustrated by lovely examples of her work. The speaker next month is unable to attend due to illness so Mrs. Angie Cooksley who is a guide at Rockingham Castle and Boughton House, will talk about Guiding in a Stately Home.

CHURCH LOTTERY MARCH 2005		
£50	189	Vicky Carter
£10	139	W. Soames
£10	67	Brian Saunders
£10	106	G. Teale
£10	76	Jim Crabtree
£10	4	Caroline Montgomery

The April draw will be the last draw for 2004/5.
Thank you to everyone who has given us their support both with buying and the people who have sold numbers and collected the money.

As a result of having the full 200 tickets sold £1,000 has been paid out in prizes this year and £1,000 has gone to the Church Development Fund.

The Draw for 2005/6 will start in May

Jennys Page



Dear Friends,

THEY MISSED HIM! They were looking for a lion,
He came as a Lamb, and they missed Him.

They were looking for a warrior,
He came as a Peacemaker, and they missed Him.

They were looking for a king,
He came as a servant, and they missed Him.

They were looking for liberation from Rome,
He submitted to the Roman stake, and they missed Him.

They were looking for a fit to their mould,
He was the mould breaker, and they missed Him.

Will you? (Copyrite J.John & Mark Stibbe)

Whatever you believe, Jesus of Nazareth was a remarkable man.
For Christians he is life- pattern, life-changer, life-giver, Saviour!
The love that Jesus showed in dying for us cannot be destroyed.
It is love that demands a response; love for God and love for one another.

Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Love and prayers this Eastertide,

Jenny

Church Diary

Sunday 3rd April	Second Sunday of Easter
9.30am	Parish Communion: Acts 2. 14a, 22-32;
	Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1. 3-9; John 20. 19-31
6.00pm	Evensong.
Tuesday 5th April	
9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 10th April	Third Sunday of Easter
9.30am	Parish Communion: Acts 2. 14a, 36-41;
	Psalm 116. 1-3, 10-17; 1 Peter 1. 17-23;
	Luke 24. 13-35
Sunday 17th April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
9.30am	Parish Communion: Acts 2. 42-47
	Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2. 19-25; John 10. 1-10
6.00pm	Songs of Praise followed by AGM.
Tuesday 19th April	
9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 24th April	Fifth Sunday of Easter
9.30am	Parish Communion: Acts 7. 55-60;
	Psalm 31. 1-5, 15-16;
	1 Peter 2. 2-10; John 14. 1-14
Tuesday 26th April	
7.00pm	Holy Communion
7.30pm	PCC meeting

Church Cleaning Rota

Week Ending		Team	Area
April	2nd	Red	B
	9th	Purple	A
	16th	Pink	B
	23rd	Yellow	A
	30th	Blue	B

Coffee Rota

April	3rd	Marian Gleave & Joyce Orford
	10th	Margaret Weddle & Anne Henderson
	17th	Pauline Cook & Joy Wilson
	24th	Trudie Warner & Fiona Major
May	1st	Dorothy Creed & Christine Murray

Sidespersons		Morning	Evening
April	3rd	David Dicks & Alice Adams	Marian Gleave & Sylvia Saunders
	10th	Ken Jones & Nick Greene	
	17th	Margaret & Tony Weddle	Geoff Harlott & Joy Wilson
	24th	Marlene & Tony Green	
May	3rd	Brian & Sylvia Saunders	Marian Gleave & Sylvia Saunders

DVD Review by Adrian Pulford

'The Passion Of The Christ' – A Mel Gibson Film

It was always going to be controversial and a big critical and commercial risk, but having finally got round to viewing this DVD (on Good Friday of course) I have to say that personally I found it stunning in every sense of the word.

Using actors rather than 'stars' in the belief, I suppose, that the story is the star, Mel Gibson has created a passage back in time and immediately you are transported to the Holy Land of 2,000 years ago. I never thought once about the cinematography, the acting or the script, although all are superb – I felt I was involved in the reality of what society did to Jesus at the time. The scenes of his torture and crucifixion are reproduced in all their terrible reality, and whilst difficult to endure are entirely necessary to the story and finely judged by the director.

Filmed entirely in Hebrew and Latin with subtitles, this brave attempt to capture the essence of this amazing story is fabulously fulfilled by the filmmakers. The power of the scripture is faithfully reproduced and if you are a believer it will reinforce your faith and if you are not it will certainly make you question your wisdom.

I urge you to buy or rent this DVD and make your own assessment – as no major film studio would back him, Mel Gibson took a big risk with his own finances to produce it, and I am delighted that the film has been a huge worldwide success, vindicating his decision to embark on such a bold project.

Rating - 10/10

Don't worry about tomorrow..... God is already there.

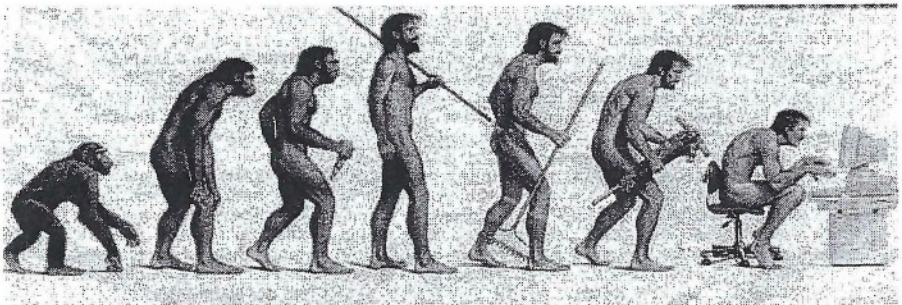
OUR CHURCHYARD

Our churchyard is a special place in our village and now that spring has well and truly sprung, and you have an urge to get your green fingers working, why not help with tidying up our churchyard from now until Autumn?

Tasks are not too onerous - raking gravel paths, tidying up grass edges, weeding and planting of the main borders and other general maintenance as required.

Our small but dedicated band of gardeners is rather depleted at the present time and if you feel you would like to spend a little time out in the fresh air your efforts will be appreciated by all - villagers and visitors alike.

Interested? Then please talk to Vic Lester or John Parkin who would be pleased to tell you more - or why not pop along on Wednesday morning from 9.30 - 11.30 and see for yourself what a difference you could make to this truly wonderful part of Ecton - a place of real peace and tranquility. Such a fitting tribute to Ecton residents of times past.



EVOLUTION DEFINITION: development of species from earlier form



The NEXT
Ladies Night
will take place on Friday 29th April
at
ECTON VILLAGE HALL
at 7.30pm
at a cost of £5 to include supper
as usual bring a bottle

Ring Vickie on 407112
or
email: postmaster@ectonvillage.co.uk

"Woman begins by resisting a man's advances and ends by blocking his retreat

Book Token

My approach to finding a new novel is like opening a box of chocolates. Everything looks like it might be yummy, but how, how to avoid the lavender creams without using some kind of guide to what is inside? It really spoils it for me to know what the story is in advance. But the disappointment of biting into a chocolate to discover it filled with lavender cream. Yuk.

This story begins with last year's Booker Prize nominations. I was intrigued by the description of 'Cloud Atlas', one of the finalists. So I went to Amazon's web site and looked at the reviews. Amazon reviews tend to be good at avoiding any spoilers. But a book must have several reviews for me to buy it because of one dreadful purchase, highly recommended by one single reviewer who must have been the author's mother.

The reviews for Cloud Atlas were mixed. Several of them said that it was like a Haruki Murakami novel, but not as good. So I went to look at the Murakami novels, and chose the most universally praised, "A Wild Sheep Chase".

While I was waiting for this to arrive, I read "The da Vinci Code". I was left feeling depressed that anyone was capable of writing such a good story while being such a bad writer. I went back to Amazon to see what the reviews were like, and about half of them agreed with me and recommended two alternatives, "The Rule of Four" and "Foucault's Pendulum". I ordered them.

A Wild Sheep Chase" arrived. Great Title. Good writing. Very original story...but, personal taste now, I am not crazy about novels that have a surreal bleakness to them, however artistic. If you don't mind that kind of thing, and most people don't, it is well worth reading. Someone must eat lavender creams or they wouldn't be in the box.

Next, "The Rule of Four" arrived. On the cover it said 'The da Vinci Code for intellectuals'. Bleh. That kind of marketing has me reaching for the sick bag. It seems that the two co-authors saw the success of The da Vinci Code and thought, "Hey, let's write a best selling novel about conspiracy theories and a missing mysterious old manuscript". It is a cracking good read, a wonderful story about four friends, but the mysterious missing old manuscript bit hardly seemed necessary to the story. If I hadn't been told it was supposed to be like the da Vinci code, I wouldn't have guessed. Still, a very good book.

The other novel, Umberto Eco's 'Foucault's Pendulum'. Oh, how I wish I had enjoyed reading this book. It is a wonderful story that is occasionally written brilliantly.

But Eco cannot resist showing off how educated he is. I don't mind the odd foreign language quotation, but he never translates them. When he started including entire pages in Latin and Hebrew, untranslated, I decided that he needed shooting. Just when I was ready to give up on it, he'd continue the story in a compulsive highly readable style. I think I hate him, but I'm glad I read it.

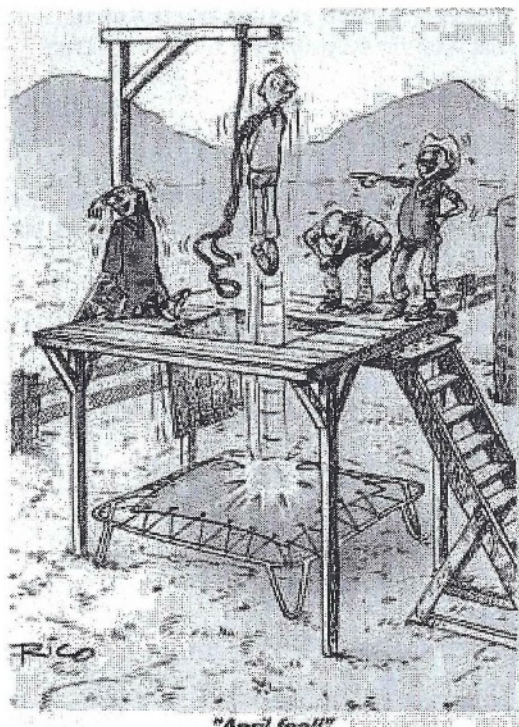
Following these disasters I feel I must share a few positive reading experiences lest this turn into a 'What not to read'. 'The K-PAX Omnibus' is actually 3 novels and a long appendix. Wonderful, inspiring, highly original story, beautifully written, compulsive to read. Don't be put off by the length of the combined 3 novels, it's nice to know the end and this is the only way. Only quibble - buoyed by the cult success of the first novel, the author starts to preach just a teensy weentys. How dangerous confidence seems to be to novelists!

Next up, "The Oxford Murders". A murder mystery where the detectives are mathematicians? Sounds fantastically dull, it is anything but. Good read, good story, short with some very nice, elegant twists. Only small quibble, I didn't like the narrator and can't work out how he got through the book without being slapped a few times for being arrogant and sexist, but other than that...

And, what now? I've just finished Cloud Atlas... I think it may be one of the best books I have ever read. Virtuoso writing, great stories, inspiring message - riveting read. Is it science fiction, historical fiction, mystery or thriller? Yes to all. I am struck dumb with admiration. Read it.

Vickie Jaffee





Bob and Steve noticed no one else was wearing a collar. Suddenly, they realized they were in a **stray bar**.



Record Reviews by Adrian Pulford

The Killers – Hot Fuss

Not the most obvious place for the hottest band of 2004 to hail from – Las Vegas - makes you think of very different music styles than the British-influenced pop contained here. However, if you like your popular music with a hard edge and driving beats – but are, like me, a sucker for a catchy hook you should listen to Hot Fuss, the debut album from The Killers (they took their name from an imaginary band in a New Order video).

The title 'Hot Fuss' is very apt; summing up the 120-degree Nevada desert heat that songwriter / lyricist Brandon Flowers (22) and co-writer Dave Keuning experienced developing the superbly crafted songs on this album in a Las Vegas garage that served as their rehearsal room.

The excellent 'Mr Brightside' was the first song they wrote together and a natural for selection as their breakthrough single. The album's opener 'Jenny Was A Friend Of Mine' sets the scene for a triumphant eleven-track journey through all that's great about pop music. It's as fresh as a daisy but influenced by all your favourite Brit's from Lennon to Oasis, from Bowie to Morrissey but with some Elvis thrown in too - in deference to their hometown I suppose.

Kasabian – Kasabian

Why a band from Leicester should name themselves after Charles Manson's getaway driver is beyond me. A youthful attempt at mystique I suppose, but at least it fits this month's K-themed review page!

This album sounds like the follow up to 'The Stones Roses' that 'Second Coming' never was with 'Madchester's second summer of love' running right through its catchy dance-pop songs. 'Processed Beats' and 'Reason is Treason' are stand out tracks and the whole album sounds great at the moment - but it is formulaic and will I be listening to it next year? Doubt it.

The Kaiser Chiefs – Employment

Like Franz Ferdinand? Buy this album. Don't like FF – don't buy it!

"Music is well said to be the speech of angels."

-Thomas Carlyle

PLACE NAME QUIZ

) Guess the town, city or place name from the clue!

 They are all in the British Isles or Ireland

- 1) What - No shower (4)
- 2) Dodgy old car. (6)
- 3) They all went hungry. (8)
- 4) Suicidal animal scores a century at the pool. (10,3)
- 5) Stupid Chips (8)
- 6) Makes a habit of leaving (6)
- 7) Finish mucking out the horses
- 8) Captain's men (5)
- 9) Sauce for Bertie. (9)
- 10) Feral? - No. (5)
- [11] What price true happiness? (9)
-]12] Problems arise after dropping the atom bomb. (9)
- 13] Feed the fire and make some tea. (5,7)
- 14] Traditionally the Best mans job. (9)
- 15] Hows your Ma? (10)
- 16] Above Gareths shoulders. (9)
- 17] Multiplying by two. (6)
- 18] Battled with Mr. Hague. (4,7)
- 19] Log pile for winter. (9)
- 20] Simpson boy meets watery end. (6,8)
- 21] Do croupiers live here. (4)
- 22] Hoist up Mrs Rantzen. (10)
- 23] 50 Ford Escorts (for example) surrounded by water (8)
- 24] Why - it's one of Tolkein's evil warriors (4)
- 25] Little Mr. Estelle. (6)

Youth Club Page

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
April 6th	6.30 - 7.30	Cookery	Village Hall
	7.30 - 9.00	Wildmagic demo	Village Hall
April 13th	6.30 - 7.30	Social	Village Hall
	7.30 - 9.00	Trampoline (14 max)	Benham
April 20th	6.30 - 7.30	Trampoline	Benham
	7.30 - 9.00	Social/Games	Village Hall
April 27th	6.30 7.30	Projector + playstation	Village Hall
	7.30 - 9.00	Projector + playstation	Village Hall

SOME YOUTH CLUB ACTIVITIES



Limited numbers for April Trampolining so
put your name on the list at Village Hall

FUTURE DATES: 27TH - 28TH AUGUST, WILDMAGIC OVERNIGHT CAMP COST £10
PLACES LIMITED. RESERVE YOUR PLACE WITH £5. NEED TO FILL IN FORM

These are details of the missing Ecton document as detailed on the American website
Database: Massachusetts Historical Society
Format: Manuscripts

Call number(s): P-295, 1 reel (microfilm)

Ms. N-1154 (Tall)

Creator: Ecton (Northamptonshire, England).

Title: Parish of Ecton (Northamptonshire, England) tithe book, 1646-1855; 1640-1700.

Description: 1 vol. in a case.

Scope: Account book recording tithes collected by the parish of Ecton in Northamptonshire, England, 1646-1700. Tithe book contains records of Benjamin Franklin's ancestors. Also includes annotations by Henry Thomas Wake, 1855; and transcripts of two letters written by Thomas Carlyle to Edward Everett regarding the provenance of the tithe book, 1853-54.

Additional forms available: On microfilm, P-295, 1 reel.

Letters from Thomas Carlyle to Edward Everett published in the MHS proceedings, Vol. III, pp. 175-177, 1857.

ECTON VILLAGE HALL **Annual General Meeting**

On Tuesday 19th April 2005
in The Village Hall at 7.30 pm
This meeting is open to everyone
and your support would be very
welcome

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL

In April 1922 Horace Simco was appointed Headmaster of Ecton Primary School with a Salary of £317.3s.6d per annum. From the time the school was founded the head teacher would have kept a 'log book' entering anything of note. Unfortunately the 'log books' for Ecton School seem to have been lost. They are not at the school or the records office, however what does survive at the records office are some minutes of the schools management committee meetings. Here are some extracts from these minutes from 1922 when Mr. Simco was first appointed headmaster to September 1925.

July 1922

Managers granted half day holiday on July 14th (Sunday School treat) and a half day holiday was given on July 19th on the occasion of a visit from the Bishop.

October 1922

Rev. Canon Jephson gave 150 books to form a new school library.

November 1922

Fee from school for the purpose of 'entertainment' during first week of childrens holiday to raise funds for the school library.

May 1923

Celebration of Empire Day.

The school bought a record costing 5s. 6d. of an address by their Majesties, the King and Queen to the children of elementary schools throughout the Empire. Mr. Dicks promised the loan of his gramophone.

July 1923

It was decided to set up an Evening School. Curtains were obtained to divide the large room into two portions. The ownership of the piano which had previously belonged to the school was transferred to the education authority who would be responsible for it. The piano had to be hired out separately to the rooms.

May 1924

May Day Celebrations. The headmaster conducted the children round the village and the proceeds Of £3 went to Northampton Hospital.

June 1925

The headmaster inaugurated a Schools Sports Day. The event took place on Friday 31st July on Colonel Sotherby's lawn. The previous day there was an open afternoon for parents. Parents day passed off in a very successful manner.

September 1925

Proposed that electric light should be installed in school premises rather than purchase 4 new paraffin lamps.

Schools Inspectors report September 1925

Much sickness interfered with progress of scholars especially the younger children. In the infants class reading is taught on good lines but the children had apparently not recovered from the holidays, a lot of revision is needed. Number is weak, in order to improve it the headmaster intends to recast certain sections of the scheme. The children in standard 1 are hampered in arithmetic by the inadequate preparation they received in the infant class.

HAVE SCHOOLS CHANGED SO MUCH IN THE LAST 80 YEARS

Country Matters
by
Stuart (lofty) Harrington
Eton Gamekeeper



I was pleasantly surprised to pick up my first egg on the 25th March this year, a couple of days earlier than last year. This is the first of around 10,000 eggs I will be collecting and incubating this season, and the early spring weather helps me get on with the general chores of looking after the estate. I am pleased to say that my birds are all in good condition with no sign of disease rearing its ugly head.

Clearing dead trees, getting the huge rabbit population under control and keeping on top of the squirrels that do so much damage to the trees and steal the bird's eggs are just some of the jobs I have been able to get on with. The early spring helps everything and I was pleasantly surprised to see rooks carrying sticks for nest building at the beginning of March at South Lodge. It's very early to see that.

Three nights ago I saw a short-eared owl north of the A45 and this is too unusual, as I haven't seen one around the estate for two years or so. It would be nice to see a pair of these rare owls nesting around the village as they can often be seen hunting in daylight.



THE ECTON CHRONICLE

Vol. 1. No. 5 Price 3d November 1955

EDITORIAL CHATTER

The Chronicle

Sincere apologies are offered to you all in that there was no Chronicle published for October. It just could not be helped. There was no news for one thing. No one sent in any literary works in either prose or poetry, nor did we receive any letters like most newspapers do either flippant or even contentious. We would welcome such letters and gladly publish them so long as they kept within the laws of libel! The Editor himself found himself faced with a great deal of unexpected work at Michaelmas just before the Church starts her winter activities. There was - for one thing - the great Conference summoned by the Bishop at New College, Oxford, to discuss.

Plans for the Royal Banners

All keen Christians and especially those of us who are loyal Churchmen and women will want to give our whole-hearted support to our great Bishop in this undertaking. He feels as many of us must feel that we may have been born into the world "for such a time as this". We have been preserved alive through two great wars. We are living