

THE ECTON VIEW

December & January Issue 63



Christmas Greetings

R INGRAM

Parish and Village Organisations

Parish Council

Chairman: Chris Petrie
Tel: 01604 788810

Pre & Primary School

Head: Esther McIntosh
Tel: 01604 409213

Youth Club

Contact: Margaret Tinston
Tel: 01604 412233
Margaret@ectonvillage.co.uk
Wednesday @ Village Hall
6.30-7.30 Junior Youth Club
7.30-9.00 Senior Youth Club
Village Hall

Bell Ringers

Contact: Colin Tinston
Tel: 01604 412233

Crickets Club

Captain: Steve Wheatman
Tel: 01604 401714

Ecton Village Hall

Contact: Rodney Ingram
Tel: 01604 406038
Booking Clerk: Linda Richards 405888

Short Mat Bowls

Contact: Maurice Creed
Tel: 01604 407864

Church Directory

Priest in Charge

Chris Pearson
The Vicarage
72 High Street
Great Doddington
Wellingborough NN29 7TH
Tel: 01933 226711

Churchwarden

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

Churchwarden

Mark Aveyard
01604 811821

PCC Secretary

Mr. Tom Pearson
The Vicarage
72 High Street
Great Doddington
Wellingborough NN29 7TH
Tel: 07745 133867

PCC Treasurer & Churchwarden

Mark Aveyard
28 Clarke Court
Earls Barton NN6 0XX
Tel: 01604 811821

Electoral Roll Officer

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

**Our Local Police Constable
Elliot Lee. Tel:08453 700 700**

Editors Ramblings

I must be getting old as it seems not too long ago I was doing the last Christmas edition. Firstly can I thank all the people who sponsored the Ecton Christmas card that has allowed the Ecton View to produce a Christmas meal for our senior citizens, and to Rodney Ingram who did the great artwork. We look forward to a lovely event on the day at the village hall on 16th December. Invitations have been sent already. I will also take this opportunity to apologise if you have paid and your name is not in the card. I have received envelopes with money and no name and people have given me money and relied on my memory so combination of the two does not bode well. Let me know if this happens and I will print your name in the next edition.

The game supper was a splendid sell-out evening, the pheasants (provided by Colin Sotherby) were cooked to perfection and if you had lived in the village all your life (in excess of 60 years was the requirement) you had a chance of winning the quiz, I think a handicap system in place for the next.

I understand a large fish tank is being installed in the village, perhaps swimming with Dolphins might be a possibility in ECTON in the future. As Bruce Willis (who says his ancestors came from Ecton) thinks Ecton is a seaside village it might confuse him 2. Its also good to see work beginning on Ecton House after many years of neglect, a little warning to the purchasers, they might want to be out on a Wednesday evening when we start our bell-ringing practice. It starts at 7.30pm, if anyone would like to learn or watch (just turn up).

In this issue advanced notice of the next SAFARI SUPPER which is a great way of meeting people, TRY IT! Pictures from the last Witches gathering are on page 13 (Note for myself -number the pages). If there are any Warlocks out there that a gathering would benefit you must let me know and I will pass on to the Senior Warlock.

This Christmas eve will be quieter than usual as there is no midnight service at the church and therefore no bells to wake the village, or perhaps the bells might still ring in Christmas, who knows?

On a down note a village club has disappeared this month with the closure of the WI after 87 years, it has 3 years before being officially closed by the Northamptonshire Federation so can be restarted in this time, so perhaps not lost forever! If it is started again can I be first to place my order for the calender!

Copy for *The February* magazine to
Colin Tinston, Rectory Farm House, High Street
Telephone: 412233
e-mail: navigator@ectonvillage.co.uk
by 22nd January

There is nothing sadder in this world than
to awake Christmas morning and not be a child.

What Does Christmas Really Mean?

Has Christmas in Britain moved so far away from its original purpose that one wonders whether there is any true meaning or value left to it in our increasingly secular society?

The true birth date of Jesus of Nazareth is not known and early Christians saw no particular reason to celebrate Christ's birthday. When, in the 4th century, Christians sought to convert pagans they promised the continuation of the 'Winter Solstice' and the Roman 'Saturnalia' suggesting that Christ was born on 25th December to coincide with these existing winter festivals.

People were unwilling to give up the traditional period of 'misrule' which included drunkenness, promiscuity & gambling that they enjoyed during the dark winter months, and so the converted Christians carried on these celebrations as 'Christ Masse'.

Disapproving of the nature of these celebrations, the Puritans banned Christmas in 1647, and Royalist protesters took over Canterbury Cathedral on December 25th to call for its reinstatement. The restoration in 1660 ended the ban but many clergymen continued to frown upon Christmas. In the 1820's writers worried that Christmas might die out, but Charles Dickens 'A Christmas Carol' in 1843 rekindled people's interest in the spirit of Christmas, and the first commercial Christmas card was produced in London by Sir Henry Cole in the same year.

Santa Claus, or Father Christmas, has been associated with Christmas throughout northern Europe for centuries but the modern depiction of him was defined by the German / American illustrator Thomas Nast who drew a new version of him each year from 1863 onwards. By the 1880's the image we have of him now was defined. By the 1920's advertisers, in particular Coca Cola had standardised his form – part Christian warrior, pagan god and commercial icon.

Because gift giving was a traditional part of the 'Holy Day' and 'Christmastide' - 12 days from 25th December – it has become the main aspect of our secular celebrations with people of all faiths and no faith exchanging gifts. Naturally the commercial effect of this means Christmas is a major event for retailers with much competition for the public's spending on gifts.

Whatever Christmas means to us here in Ecton I am sure we will enjoy ourselves, sharing fun and friendship with each other as we do so well in our wonderful village. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Adrian Pulford

**I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
*Henry Wadsworth Longfellow***

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2009

Tuesday 1st	10.30am	Holy Communion
Saturday 5th	10.00am	Open Church – time for reflection and quiet – coffee is served
Sunday 6th	6.00pm	Holy Communion
Tuesday 8th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 13th	9.15am	Holy Communion
Monday 14th	2.30pm	Christingle Service with Ecton Village School, but all welcome.
Tuesday 15th	10.30am	Holy Communion
	2.30pm	Afternoon Songs of Praise (Christmas edition)
Sunday 20th	11.00am	There is no All-Age Worship this month
	6.30pm	Festival of Lessons and Carols with Tableau
Tuesday 22nd	10.30am	There is no midweek service today
Thursday 24th		CHRISTMAS EVE
	4.00pm	Christingle (Gt. Doddington)
	7.15pm	Carols On The Square (Earls Barton)
	9.30pm	Holy Communion (Wilby)
		There is no service at Ecton today
Friday 25th		CHRISTMAS DAY
	9.45am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Crib Service
		The only services today are at Ecton
Sunday 27th	10.00am	Holy Communion (Gt. Doddington)
		There is no service at Ecton today
Tuesday 29th	10.30am	There is no midweek service today

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2010

Saturday 2nd	11.00am	Wedding of David Ley and Clare Cuthbertson
Sunday 3rd	6.00pm	Holy Communion
Tuesday 5th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 10th	9.15am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 12th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 17th	11.00am	All-Age Worship with Holy Communion
Tuesday 22nd	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 24th	9.15am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 26th	10.30am	Holy Communion
	2.30pm	Afternoon Songs of Praise
Sunday 31st	10.00am	Fifth Sunday Joint Celebration Service (hosted this time at Wilby)

“The family of the late David Cross would like to express their thanks for the kindness and support from the village of Ecton over their recent loss”

There has been only one Christmas - the rest are anniversaries.

Church Cleaning Rota			Brass Cleaning
Week		Team	
December	5th	B	Volunteers needed for Christmas
	19th	C	
January	2nd	A	Pat Baylis & Dorothy Creed
	9th		
	16th	B	
	30th	C	

Coffee Rota			
December	6pm	6th	Wendy & Ingrid
	9.15am	13th	Margaret Weddle & Anne Henderson
	6.30pm	20th	TBA
January	6pm	3rd	Wendy & Ingrid
	9.15am	10th	Joy Wilson & (help needed)
	11.00am	17th	Fiona Major & Sue Bush
	9.15am	24th	Dorothy Creed & Ingrid Wright

CHURCH LOTTERY November	
£50	Mrs. M. Dicks
£10	Mr. G. Wheatman
£10	Mrs. V. Taylor
£10	Mr. W. Barty

Sidespersons		
December	6th	Brian & Sylvia Saunders
	13th	Mick & Pauline Cook
	20th	David & Mary Dicks
	25th	Margaret Weddle & Mark Aveyard
January	3rd	Marian Gleave & Nick Greene
	10th	Brian & Sylvia Saunders
	17th	Mick & Pauline Cook
	24th	David & Mary Dicks

CHURCH LOTTERY December	
£50	Mary Aveyard
£10	Nick Greene
£10	Dorothy Creed
£10	Rodney Ingram

ECTON RAISED £430.58 in this years poppy appeal



New Bishop of Peterborough Announced

The next Bishop of Peterborough is to be the Ven. Donald Allister, currently Arch-deacon of Chester. He succeeds the Rt Revd Ian Cundy, who died in May. He expects to take up his new post in the early spring of 2010 and comes with the express hope that he can help to build people's confidence in their faith, and to unite all Christians around their love for Jesus Christ.

From the Vicarage,



Well, here we are in the run-up to Christmas once again and very soon our annual Christmas leaflet will be dropping through your door if you live in the village. You will notice some changes in our programme this year, mainly affecting Christmas Eve.

Many of our readers will be familiar with the now well-established ‘Carols On The Square’ at Earls Barton at 7.15pm on Christmas Eve, although we’ve never been part of it before. This year we shall. We have always been committed to working together with other churches and during the autumn we joined ‘Churches Together in Earls Barton’, the local branch of ‘Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, which is itself part of the international ‘World Council Of Churches’. It is this local branch that organises this Christmas Eve event. Now that we are linked with Wilby and Great Doddington, our villages nearly encircle Earls Barton so it seemed to make sense to join this group and they have been pleased to welcome us.

You will notice also that this year we are holding just one service on Christmas night rather than trying to support one in every church. This year it is to be held at St. Mary’s, Wilby, but that will rotate from year to year and we do hope very much that it will be attended by friends from all three churches as we celebrate this wonderful time together.

It was on November 5th that we were delighted to receive the announcement of the appointment of our new bishop, following the sad death of Bishop Ian back in May. The Ven. Donald Allister is currently Archdeacon of Chester. I was privileged to meet Mr. Allister on the afternoon of the announcement and found him immediately very approachable and easy to talk with. We look forward with great anticipation to his taking office

in the early spring following his consecration in London and installation in Peterborough – no dates have yet been announced.

Going back to Christmas, this year the festivities will be rather different for many people as the international finance crisis affects us locally. Our country now has more unemployed people than last year, more people are caught in negative equity, more will run up large credit card debts as they struggle to continue to be generous to their families and friends, and more will be homeless. Against that background it’s good to remember that when God became human at the first Christmas He was a homeless refugee, a member of a peasant family with very little of this world’s goods. We always remember the homeless at Christmas time and this year, the ‘Travelling Crib’, which has been an annual feature of Ecton Church for some years, will span all three villages. Figures representing Mary, Joseph, and a donkey, will set out from the joint service on Advent Sunday (November 29th) at Great Doddington Church and will be hosted in a different home each night before arriving at the Crib Service at Ecton on Christmas Morning. Each host family keeps one sheep from the flock that accompanies the crib figures and they too are brought back to the final service.

This travelling set reminds us of the journey that the holy family made from Nazareth to Bethlehem and helps us to think of and pray for all the homeless and destitute people of our hurting world.

Ten years ago now we were all preparing for the millennium celebrations. Now a decade on we are perhaps reflecting upon what may have been achieved. ‘Not a lot’, you might be tempted to think as you look around the world and consider the wars of the past decade, the unprecedented acts of terrorism, the continuing divide between rich and poor, increasing concern over the welfare of our planet, and the escalating of breakdown of family relationships. Our world is certainly in a pretty sorry state, yet it is to this very world that the Prince of Peace comes with His message of hope, of justice, of reconciliation, and of love.

With very best wishes for this wonderful time,

Chris Pearson

Borough Councillor's Missive. November 2009



The Diary.

I missed a couple of meetings last month as we were in the USA but on returning found the overriding issues at Council are finances. I make no secret of some of the wasteful expenditure in our Council and we are doing everything we can to "stop the leaks". To this extent all Capital Expenditure is currently frozen pending a full review.

You may have seen us around the villages delivering preliminary leaflets on behalf of Chris Heaton-Harris. Chris as you may know is the Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for the Daventry Constituency. I have a lot of admiration for his courage in the European Parliament trying to stop the ridiculous expenditure that apparently makes our MPs expenses look like pocket money, I am still aghast that we in this Ward and Earls Barton are part of the Daventry Constituency. Perhaps the only good thing about it is that we are now co-joined with Overstone, so you can now put your passports away!

Council

People in the village of Sywell who were involved in Sywell Parish Council in the eighties, when I was a member, will recall the then Clerk Mike Scott. Mike recently retired from the Council, before his time. I would like to thank him for all of his efforts and wish him a happy retirement.

Planning

In my last Missive I noted that the "affordable homes" were not to a standard of sustainability that I would prefer, for the reasons of utility economies etc. But in the latest version of the WBC Newsletter The Link, I see that the new affordable homes in Bozeat involve the use of eco-measures such as Heat Pumps and Solar Panels, given that is the case, there can be no reason why the same should not be available to these homes in Sywell. Affordable homes are meant for the most vulnerable in our society and upfront costs are in my view less important than running costs.

The Decision on the Wellingborough North Public Inquiry was issued on 22nd October, well sort of!! Below is part of the text of the Secretary of State for Communities Decision Letter

"22. Accordingly, for the reasons given above, the Secretary of State is minded to agree with the Inspector's recommendation to allow the appeal and grant planning permission.

23. The Secretary of State proposes to defer his final decision on your client's appeal to enable the provision of a signed Council's Deed. The Secretary of State proposes to allow 8 weeks from the date of this letter, i.e. to 17 December 2009, for the submission of this Deed and any accompanying representations which, if necessary, he will then circulate for comments, before proceeding to a final decision..... " I highlight the points of interest.

Elected Members were surprised to hear about this Council Deed and have rightly and properly asked Officers to clarify the position. The question is, can the Deed be delayed until the General Election?

The full text of the Inquiry and the Decision are available electronically if you would like some light reading!!

West Northants Joint Planning Committee

A Meeting of the above Committee this month (November) has been cancelled the reason stated is as follows: "An officer decision has been taken to cancel this Committee meeting as there are no decisions to be made at this point. Protracted negotiations with our statutory partners such as the Highways Agency, Natural England and Environment Agency continue, and the outcomes of these will be reported to committee in due course, as part of the plan making process. Processing of the responses to the Emergent Joint Core Strategy continues"

As I mentioned last month there is little appetite in the Conservative group on this committee for the enormous volumes of development projected by the Labour Government. So let's hope this is all "held" until after the General Election.

Parish Councils

I attended the Ecton Parish Council meeting in November the detailed Minutes are available on the web site. Ecton P.C. has for a number of years had Sywell Aerodrome item on its Agenda and we discussed at length the current position of the JCC, the Sywell Wood issue and of course the vexed question of the runway position. It is interesting to note that there was a poll held in the village with respect to Policy T13, this is the Policy enabling Sywell Aerodrome to expand (with many caveats). The poll produced a very interesting result: "There was a response of some 73% of the electorate. Of that number there was an overwhelming 92% who voted AGAINST Policy T13".

At the end of P.C. meeting I was given the overwhelming support of the Parish Council in my actions and intentions towards Sywell Aerodrome. I will continue to do the best I can.

Sywell Aerodrome

By the time you read this we will have completed (hopefully) the second meeting of the JCC it may start to take shape but it will need a lot more effort. We need all the help we can get from the public.

With respect to the company they have now apparently crystallised their allegations against me for alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct, due to the process I have yet to see the details and will report once I have seen them.

In the meantime the company has issued invoices against WBC and myself apparently for wasting theirs and their consultants time. Any vexatious allegations will be comprehensively defended.

None of these activities would have been necessary had the company complied fully with the Management Agreement and the advice of their Consultants, not breached the Management Agreement and complied with the requirement of "Public Consultation", now confirmed by the FC. As ever if you have any queries please contact me and remember, I cannot help you if I do not know of your problem.

Jim Bass

(Councillor for Sywell, Ecton and Mears Ashby, Wellingborough Borough Council)

e-mail: jim.bass@sky.com

Tel+44 1604 647594 Mob +44 7711 103816

This Missive can now be seen on the following web sites:

www.ectonvillage.co.uk

www.mearsashbyparishcouncil.com

The martini is a cocktail made with gin and vermouth. The drink is almost always garnished with an olive or, less commonly, a sliver of lemon peel. It is often described as being "crisp". Over the years, the martini has become one of the most well-known mixed alcoholic beverages. H. L. Mencken once called the martini "the only American invention as perfect as the sonnet", and E. B. White called it "the elixir of quietude". It is the drink of the one-time "three-martini lunch" of business executives. **(Minimum 5 parts gin to 1 vermouth - Editor)**



Nothing's as mean as giving a little child something useful for Christmas.

Stones

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Mobile: 07802 836086

Email: Buildwithstones@aol.com

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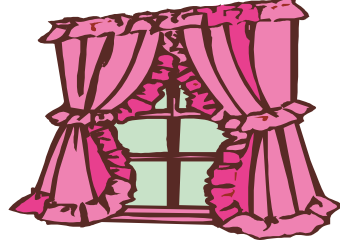
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CONTACT

Derek Geater

Telephone

01933 381848

E- Mail

djgartist@hotmail.com

website

DGArt.web.officelive.com

**DG
ART**



Friends of Ecton Village Primary School

West Street, Ecton

Northamptonshire

NN6 0QF

Tel: 01604 409213



“THANK YOU”

This is just a quick note to say “thank you” to everyone involved in the fundraising for the Trim Trail (bottom picture) that the Friends of Ecton Village School have donated to the children of the School.

Being such a small group, it has taken nearly three years of fundraising to be able to purchase the new equipment for the School.

However, without the generous donation from Ecton Charities, we would still be fundraising now.

I would like to thank people past and present who have been involved in the fundraising – it is fantastic that the children now have the equipment to use and enjoy.

Kind regards

Alison Brandham

Chair - Friends of Ecton Village Primary School.



PICTURES FROM THE WITCHES OCTOBER GATHERING



Membership of the witches seems to be growing!

The picture on the right are trainees who have not reached broomstick status yet





SAFARI SUPPER



Saturday 13th March



Tickets available in the New Year

Meanwhile we are also looking for people prepared to host

Main Course

Dessert

& The Finale

please ask for details if it is your first time on Safari

Contact Sally 403027 email:sally_bresnahan@hotmail.com

or

Caroline 407113 email:monty@flightsafety.co.uk



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Peter Deans Fishmonger




is in the village every Thursday
morning from 7.00 - 7.45a.m.
(starts at the top of the village
reaching

Manor House about 7.30 and
then goes round to the
bottom of West Street)

Tel: 07889082247 or
01604499018.

In the old days, it was not called the Holiday Season; the Christians called it 'Christmas' and went to church; the Jews called it 'Hanukka' and went to synagogue; the atheists went to parties and drank. People passing each other on the street would say 'Merry Christmas!' or 'Happy Hanukka!' or (to the atheists) 'Look out for the wall!'



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One ship sails East,
And another West,
By the self-same winds that blow,
Tis the set of the sails
And not the gales,
That tells the way we go.

**Oh, for the good old days when people would stop
Christmas shopping when they ran out of money. -**

The Great Ecton Valentine' Breakfast
at the Village Hall
on February 14th between
8am and mid-day

Come and enjoy
a good Sunday (Romantic)
morning breakfast
read the papers (provided)
without the effort of doing it



and just £5
yes just £5

plus Tombola
donations to
Kathy or
Margaret

Tickets from

Kerri Pulford 413585 or

Margaret Tinston 412233



'Ecton Mums and Tots' meets in the village hall from 9:30am through to 11am every alternate Friday.

Please feel free to bring your children, grandchildren, or any other small relative of pre-school age!

If you have any 'spare' toys that you can donate then please contact either Jenny on 407474 or Caroline on 407113.

We would also appreciate any help with the sessions, especially making the tea..... so please do come along and join in.

We meet every 2 weeks as follows:
08/01, 22/01, 05/02, 19/02, 05/03, 19/03

We really look forward to seeing you.

We would like to thank everyone who has generously contributed toys, money and support which has all been very much appreciated.

'Ecton
Mums
and Tots'

Friday's
from
9:30am
until
11am

A little cryptic quiz based on toys and games

- 1) Exercise group (5)
- 2) One parrot (8)
- 3) One legged drink (9)
- 4) Missing yarn (8-4)
- 5) Limb with circle (4)
- 6) OOOOO with kisses (7-3-7)
- 7) Unimportant chase (7-7)
- 8) Reverse pig (10)
- 9) After S group (3-3)
- 10) Taut clap (anag) (8)
- 11) Moves quickly (5)
- 12) Tornado (7)
- 13) An old cot (8)
- 14) Cool breezes (8)
- 15) Short outside meal (6)
- 16) Found in hospital Wards
- 17) Don't go crazy and loose these (7)
- 18) Jolly relatives (5-8)
- 19) Musical (5)
- 20) Suspended male (7)

Might come in handy over the Festive period

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne

And surely ye 'll be your pint' stowp
And surely I 'll be mine
And we 'll take a cup o' kindness yet
For auld lang syne

We twa hae run about the braes
And pou'd the gowans fine
But we 've wander'd monie a weary fit
Sin' auld lang syne.

We twa hae paidl'd in the burn
Frae morning sun till dine
But seas between us braid hae roar'd
Sin' auld lang syne

And there's a hand, my trusty fiere
And gie 's a hand o' thine
And we 'll tak a right guid-willie waught
For auld lang syne

[CHORUS]

For auld lang syne, my dear
For auld lang syne
We'll tak a cup o' kindess yet
For auld lang syne

THE GAME SUPPER

The Village Hall's Game Supper was held on 14th November and proved to be a splendid affair. It is always good to hear comments such as 'a great night out'. The success of events such as this is not due to chance and we have to thank everyone involved in providing the game, vegetables and pies, those who prepared and cooked, served and washed up, put out chairs and tables (and put them all back), made table decorations and generally did their bit. You know who you are. And of course we are grateful to everyone who bought a ticket to support this event; we kept the cost down as much as we could and I think this was appreciated.

Although it is invidious to name names I shall make two exceptions. Firstly Colin Sotheby, who came up with the idea for the game supper and who provided and prepared the game and Bill Brophy, who provided the village quiz to entertain us between courses. As a vegetarian Bill's presence could be considered beyond the call of duty but we did at least provide a vegetarian option!

So a big thankyou to all involved. Events such as this help to bind our community together and that can't be a bad thing.

Rodney Ingram

PICTURES FROM THE LAST 12 MONTHS MAGAZINE





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