

ECTON VIEW

February 2014 Issue 104



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From the Editor

I hope everybody had a very enjoyable festive season and that the New Year has gotten off to a good start.

The harsh winter that was expected has not yet hit, however there is an old folk-lore that says “if the weather is fine and frosty at the close of January and the beginning of February, there is more winter ahead than behind.” If this holds any truth we may still yet be in for a cold snap and even snow.

Northamptonshire Council has a telephone number to call if you are worried about anybody who maybe suffering in the cold weather - **0845 677 2220** or you can visit www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/wrappedup for more info.

I have received this message of thanks.

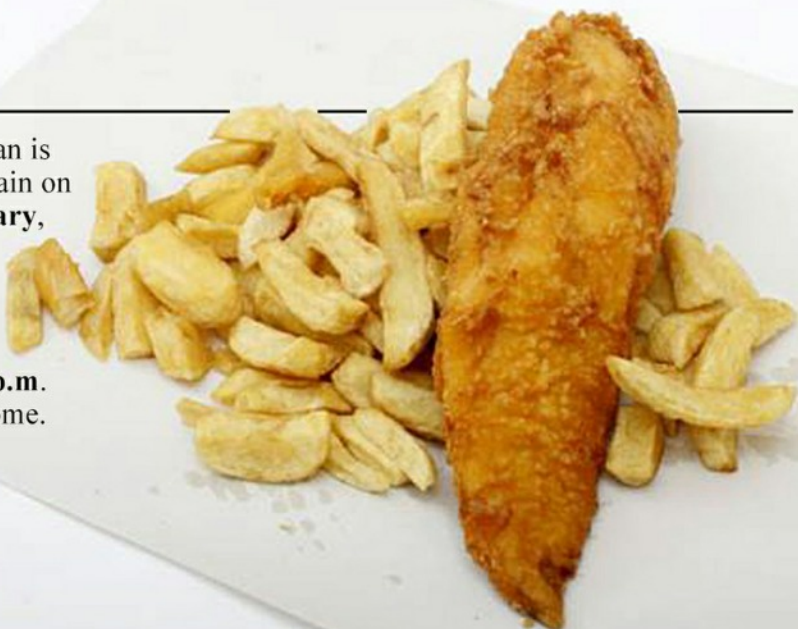
“We would like to thank the Rector and villagers of Ecton for all their kindness at the gathering for Margaret's funeral. The cards, thoughtful messages and quiet words have been much appreciated. Peter Scott and family”

I would also like to mention that The Worlds End has a young chef of the year by the name of Laura Gibbins - congratulations Laura.

Don't forget that if you want to contribute to the Ecton View you can send your letters, articles and even front cover photos to me at danrawson54@hotmail.com.

EGO's

The fish and chip van is coming to Ecton again on **Friday 21st February**, this time we are meeting in the **Three Horseshoes** and fish and chips will be served at **1 p.m.** Hope you can all come.



CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2014

Sunday 2nd	18.00	Holy Communion
Tuesday 4th	10.00	Holy Communion (at Wilby).
Sunday 9th	09.15	Holy Communion
Tuesday 11th	10.00	NO MIDEEK SERVICE TODAY
	19.45	Joint P.C.C. (AT Great Doddington).
Thursday 13th	14.15	Pre-School Praise (at Gt. Doddington).
	19.30	Benefice Prayer Meeting (venue to be confirmed).
Sunday 16th	11.00	All-Age Worship with Holy Communion.
Tuesday 18th	10.00	Holy Communion (at Wilby).
Sunday 23rd	09.15	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 25th	10.00	Holy Communion (at Wilby).
	14.30	Afternoon Songs of Praise

ECTON WITCHES

Friday 28 February 2014 – 7.30pm

54b High Street

Please contact Maggie on 07795022036
to confirm your attendance.
£5.00 is required by Wednesday
26 February 2014 to cover
the cost of food and to help ensure
the correct numbers are catered for
on the evening.

As usual, bring a bottle of wine on the night.

2014 Dates for your diary:

25 April – hostess confirmed

27 June – hostess required

29 August – hostess confirmed

31 October – Combined Halloween Event in Ecton Village Hall

Are you new to the Village and can't make it this time? Email your contact details to nickyb4@blackberry.orange.co.uk so I can put you on the mailing list for update you on future dates

From the Rectory

This month it seems strange for me, writing 'From the Rectory', for this is no longer my home although it is still the church office for the time being.



I wrote last month of the reasons for our moving house and I won't repeat it all again, but suffice to say that at the time of writing we have moved in to our new home and are surrounded by a sea of cardboard boxes, some full and others empty, and we look forward to my parents joining us in a couple of days' time. Mother has been very poorly of late with an admission to hospital just before Christmas with a heart attack, but discharged on Christmas Day, only to suffer a mild stroke a few days later and an infection since then. Please pray for my parents as they make this huge move for them at their great age and that the result will be a much easier life, especially for Father who, at 96 has been the sole carer for Mother who is just a year younger.

I need to report this month that all the events over Christmas went extremely well across all three churches. Space does not permit me to comment upon them all here, but just one or two highlights. Our Open Church on the first Saturday of the month at Great Doddington included a 'Messy Nativity' as well as free Christmas present wrapping. It was lovely to see the children so engaged and interested as they constructed their gingerbread stable with lovely figures. Messy it may have been, but it was a great event for all who took part, thanks to Carol Hurst and her team. The Christmas meeting of 'Afternoon Songs of Praise' this time was preceded by lunch and hosted for us by Ann Newsome in her lovely home in Great Doddington.

Then our Film Evening at Ecton was another lovely occasion. If there was one disappointment it was that this was only attended by church members where we had hoped it would be a time for our village communities to come together in the informal spirit of Christmas, but it was a very successful evening for all that. All three Carol Services went very well with attendances in excess of ninety at each, and our grateful thanks go to the benefice choir who sang at all three, including two on the same day. Special thanks go to Tom Pearson who prepared the singers for us. The services over Christmas itself were also wonderful, as they always are and once again I am very grateful to those who helped to make them a big success, especially David Major, our reader, Wendy Villette and Jo Pearson our certificated lay worship leaders, and Jonathan Aldwinckle, our minister in training.

We're now into a new year and I hope it will be a wonderful one for all our readers. Yet again as we look around the world we see a very troubled place. There are wars and the effects of natural disasters afflicting people in many places and we must keep praying for them as well as responding practically when national and international appeals are made from time to time. Although we often feel helpless in the face of the enormity of these problems I nevertheless sincerely believe that if lots of ordinary people do just a little then we can between us make a huge difference.

With every blessing for 2014,

Chris Pearson.



Help Needed!

The Church is in need of new volunteers to help with the upkeep and refreshments.

Have you got a few hours a month you can spare? If so please get in touch.

You may have noticed, in past issues, the church rotas. There is a good chance you have not paid much attention, however they are an important part of the running of the church. Due to a range of reasons the volunteer base has been getting smaller and it has now hit a critical point where the people left are finding it very hard to split the responsibilities out evenly.

The church wardens would be ever so grateful for some new volunteers, the responsibilities include some basic cleaning and tidying, assistance during services and serving refreshments.

If you have a few hours a month that you can spare and think you would like to lend a hand please contact the church wardens (Mike Aveyard or Linda Richards). See contact details on the directory page of the magazine.

Church Lottery Results

December 2013

£50 STEVE HUNT
£15 TREVOR & JEAN ACKROYD
£10 PAUL DARWIN

January 2014

£50 SALLY BRESNAHAN
£15 S FITZHUGH
£10 SUE COLLINS

Village Hall Update

We finished 2013 with a very busy December; the Christmas Starters and the Christmas Cabaret were village hall events but there was also the Christmas lunch for the pensioners in the village which was paid for by the proceeds from the Ecton Christmas card.

But it's a New Year so let's look forward. The committee has a load of ideas for the 2014 programme. Music, theatre, fashion show, teddy bears' picnic, race night, BBQ, Halloween party, cinema - in short there will be a variety of events to suits all ages and all tastes. Plans are already under-way for the first months of the year so keep a look out in the Ecton View for details.

Thanks again for your continued support.

Ecton Village Hall Trustees

EARLS BARTON HELP SCHEME

(Earls Barton, Ecton, Mears Ashby and Sywell)

Do you sometimes need transport to take you to keep a medically related appointment?

We are there to help by providing a door-to-door car service from Monday to Friday.

We only charge enough to cover volunteer drivers' petrol etc.

When the need arises why not ring

Wendy Stanton, co-ordinator, on **07944 171 188**

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS REQUIRED!

If you are occasionally able to help provide door-to-door car service from Monday to Friday for those needing to keep medically related appointments, please contact

Wendy Stanton, co-ordinator, on **07944 171 188**

(Charges are made to cover volunteer drivers' petrol etc.)

What does Ecton mean to you?

Thanks very much to all of you who responded to our questionnaire. A summary of the results can be viewed online here:

<http://tinyurl.com/EctonSurvey>

Ecton Parish Council will now take the results and start writing a Neighbourhood Plan for the village. Under the Government's policy of giving communities more power in planning local development, a Neighbourhood Plan is a new opportunity for parishioners to have their opinions recognised by the planning process.

the village from the west

Please Pick It Up!



There have been reports from local dog walkers that there are some fellow dog owners who are perhaps not doing all they can to keep Ecton's streets and the alley way clear of dog poo.

This notice has been requested to remind all of Ecton's Dog owners to use poo bags and clear up as you go.



Skittles Knock Out Results

Sincere thanks to supporters, donators and players, you helped us raise
£905.00

Proceeds to Butterflies
(Childrens cancer society)

Well done everyone
our best figure by far.

Cancelled

Charity Indian Theme Night
Saturday 8th of February

with apologies the above will now be held in the spring
details to follow

The Feast of the Presentation of Christ



The Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (*Candlemas*) on Sunday 2nd February marks the end of the Church's forty-day celebration of Christmas and Epiphany. It's a bit-

ter-sweet day. We share with Simeon and Anna the joy of Christ's birth. With them we acclaim him as the light of the nations. Yet we also hear Simeon's prophecy that this child is "a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed." (Luke 2:22-40) In the words of the Introduction to the Eucharist of the day, "We celebrate both the joy of his coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to the coming days of his passion."

Lent and Easter fall comparatively late this year, and we find ourselves in a sort of liturgical limbo for a month or so between Candlemas and Ash Wednesday. Let's use this time in our personal prayers as well as our corporate worship to spot the link - to reconnect the child of Bethlehem and the man of Galilee with the man on the cross.

At the head of the nave of your Cathedral hangs the Rood Cross designed in 1975 by George Pace with a figure of the crucified Christ sculpted by Frank Roper. For some people it is like Marmite – they either love

it or hate it. Personally, I would now find it difficult to envisage the Cathedral without it and the enigmatic Latin motto at its base: *Stat crux dum volvitur orbis*. This may be taken literally to mean "The Cross stands while the earth turns" – though it's slightly puz-



zling given the mediaeval monastic origins of the phrase at a time when the earth was thought to stand still while heavenly bodies revolved around it. I prefer a looser interpretation to the effect, "The cross stands firm while the rest of the world runs round in circles!" So I suggest that, as individuals and Christian communities, we use this month to stop frantically chasing the world round in circles, calm our busyness, draw breath and focus on that steadfast cross; so that when Lent begins we are ready to follow our Lord on his pilgrimage to Good Friday and Easter.

Yours in His name,

Our new Archdeacon

The Revd Richard Ormston, the new Archdeacon of Northampton begins his new role on 1st February. Richard fills us in on his career to date.

Becoming Archdeacon of Northampton will be a total change of track for me because I have been rooted in parish ministry since I was ordained in 1987 at the age of 25. A year later Jackie and I married (and in time Tom and Jo arrived).

I served my four year curacy in Swindon, living in Moredon – a large and sprawling post war council estate. Lots of vividly memorable experiences, a growing church and great community opportunities. My vicar left after I had been in post only 4 months. He said it was nothing personal! After over a year of interregnum, 90 weddings and a bucket load of variety, a new vicar arrived.

My first incumbency began in 1991: Collingtree, Courteenhall, Milton Malsor and later Grange Park. Totally different to Swindon. But the priorities remained the same: establishing good community connections and growing the church. The real positives came through creative links with the two primary schools which led to a pre-school group, a Sunday Club, Family Services and a Holiday Club.

In 2001, we moved on to Oundle. Full on variety. A seven days a week ministry. Again the priorities were to build good community links into every part of the town: this has recently led to a *West Porch Cafe* for those teenagers who (according to the graffiti) have inhabited the church porch since the 17th century; a *Munch Club* providing lunch, company and entertainment for 100 senior citizens; and a church building that is flexi-



God is well ahead of us in mission and invites us to catch up

ble and welcoming enough to be a resource for the whole town. We have been encouraged by growth and occasionally exhausted by the relentless pace!

Every church needs to ask the question, “How specifically are we being good news to our community?” Being good news gives us permission to speak good news. One leads to another. It is a wonderful challenge to have mission and growth as one of the main focuses of my Archdeacon’s role. God’s love is not just focused on the few who are ploughing their way through weekly worship. He is well ahead of us in mission and invites us to catch up with what he is doing beyond the safety of the church walls. Excellent!

...and, of course, a move back to Northampton takes us nearer to Franklins Gardens!

Bishop Donald's Roadshows

Bishop Donald will be presenting three 'Roadshows' examining our vision for the future and the necessary supporting financial planning.

In September 2013, the Diocesan Synod agreed to accept proposals for a five year plan relating to Diocesan finances. This was closely linked to Bishop Donald's strong desire to grow our diocese, numerically and in spiritual maturity. "It is important that our vision and plans are well communicated and understood. Please join me as I explain the thinking behind them and my hopes for the future," he said.

The presentations run from 10am - 12.30pm and are designed primarily for parish and PCC officers.

February Events

Saturday 31 Jan The Big Sleepout, Christ Church Northampton is hosting the Hope Centre sponsored sleepout. The Big Sleepout takes place during Poverty and Homelessness Action Week. 18.00-06.00. www.justgiving.com/bigsleepout2014

Sunday 2 Lanterns for Loved Ones, buy a candle for a loved one. St Andrew's Broughton. 5pm. Pam Richardson 01536 790897.

Saturday 15 Exploring Supervision for Spiritual Directors, explore supervision as a God-centred "friend of the work" facilitated by Julian Maddock. Moulton Parish Centre, 10-4. To book call 01604 887049.

Saturday 15 Feb Introduction to Myers Biggs, 10-4, Bouverie Court. To book call 01604 887049.

Sat 8 March

All Saints School Northampton
Brixworth, Wellingborough & Greater Northampton deaneries

Sat 15 March

Brackley Junior School, Brackley
Daventry and Towcester deaneries

Say 29 March

Bishop Stopford School, Kettering
Kettering, Corby and Higham deaneries

Contact Alex Lowe if you plan to come
alex.lowe@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Sunday 23 Organ Recital Peterborough Cathedral, David Humphreys plays Elgar's Organ Sonata. 5pm. Retiring collection.

Wednesday 26 Peterborough Theological Society, conversations with Wilfred Owen. Speaker Canon Dr Adrian Chatfield. 7.30pm The Friends Meeting House, Peterborough PE3 6AB .

For more news and events have a look at ...

www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk

www.facebook.com/peterboroughdiocese

www.twitter.com/Peterboroughdio

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All you need to do is nominate 'Ecton Parish Council' as your beneficiary at the point of placing your property onto the market.

Please call **01604 810933** for more information, or to arrange a free valuation.

* subject to a maximum of £200 per sale



Pictured - The most recent cheque presentation

Target: £2000



£1317.49

Over half way there!

Council tax support scheme 2014-15

Following a further reduction in funding, Wellingborough Council has to make some difficult decisions about the amount of financial support it can give to help working-age people on low incomes pay their council tax.



Have your say on what the council is proposing for its new council tax support scheme.

Go to www.wellingborough.gov.uk and complete our online consultation, or pick up a leaflet in the council offices.



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Babysitter Available

My name is Leisha and I live in Ecton village.

I am 16 years old and currently studying my GCSE's at Wellingborough school.

I am available from 6pm Evenings,
or
weekends and school holidays,
anytime.

£5 per hour

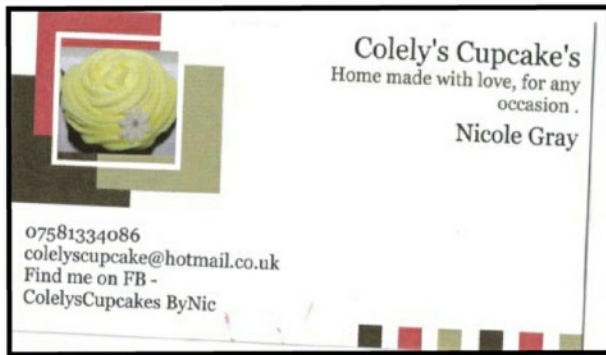
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