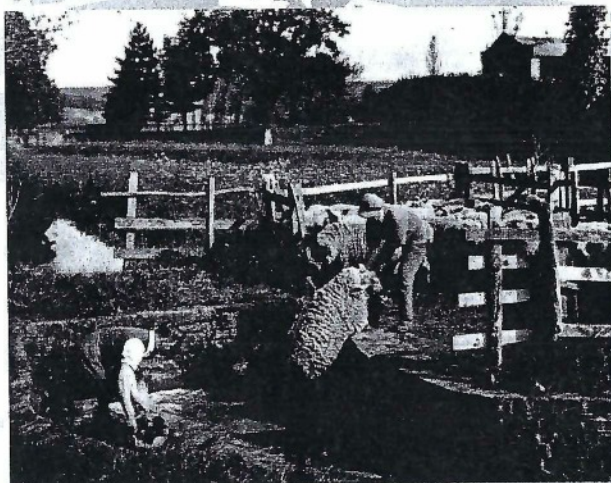


# ECTON PARISH MAGAZINE



Parish Magazine

issue 17

June 2005

June brings roses, fresh and fair,  
And the cherries ripe and rare.

## 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: Rodney Ingram  
Tel: 01604 406038  
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

**JUNE** is here, the village is looking great, barbecues have started, people are relaxed, it's amazing what a bit of sunshine does for your wellbeing.

Can I apologise for the date (which is much earlier than usual) when I need articles for the next issue, its due to the fact that after that date I will have very little time due to Rugby watching commitments.

In this issue I have produced a piece entitled 'Why Quarry' in relation to the proposed extension to the existing sand and gravel works at Earls Barton, having mentioned them in a previous issue

In this issue there is an extract from the Ecton Book on the church bells, which people tell me they enjoy hearing on a Sunday morning, (nobody has said the same about Wednesday evenings practice sessions) and if you would like to learn we meet at 7.30pm on a Wednesday evening. Give me a ring first.

It was pleasing to have a follow up about the email I published last month relating to an evacuee at the village school in 1942, the house in question no longer exists but was at the back of the Three Horseshoes. I will do more detail in the next issue.

Following VE day last month a 'where were you on VE day' article appears on page 4, if you would like to say where you were drop me a line.

If flowers are your interest there is a list of flower festivals happening in June.

We have an update from CLEAN on page 13 which mentions the half million pounds that NBC propose to spend on improving the travellers site, I wonder if it will include repairs to the road which is dreadful at that end of the lane.

What are your views on asylum seekers, check the article by Revd Ian Houghton on page 19.

I get quite a few articles through my door which have obviously been produced electronically and if they were emailed to me I could reproduce exactly which would be better and hopefully you get the type style intended.

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

**by 15th June**

"Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it's time to pause and reflect."

## **Where were you on V E day?**

**Jean Leigh**

***I was a sergeant in the A.T.S. stationed in Hyde Park, London with 528 Heavy Ack Ack Battery, and was among the crowds outside Buckingham Palace shouting " We want the King". The Royal Family duly obliged by coming out onto the Balcony.***

## **Sing into Spring**

£80 was raised for the Village Hall at this musical event in April thanks to the generosity of those that attended

**Brian Saunders**

## **British Red Cross Appeal 2005**

The total amount raised in the village this year was £232.10.  
I would like to thank everyone for their generosity and also the collectors.

Mike Baylis

June Dalton

Tracy Kelly

John Parkin

Margaret & Tony Weddle

Also thanks to the 3 Horseshoes & The Worlds End

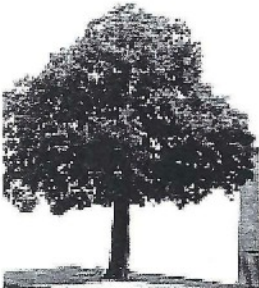
**Sylvia Saunders**

## **Ecton Village School Events**

Saturday 11th June CAR BOOT SALE 10am to 12noon

Thursday 16th June SCHOOL OPEN DAY and  
TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC

Picnic starts at 12noon



## "NOT THE W.I. QUIZ"

To be held on :  
Friday 1st July 2005 - 7.30pm  
Ecton Village Hall

Tickets £5 per person including a glass of wine and refreshments.

Teams of four - men, women, children, brainy friends, relations, husbands, wives, lovers, partners, toy boys.

All welcome to form a team and take part. Age no barrier.

A donation will be given to the Village Hall, proceeds to Ecton Women's Welfare Fund.

Tickets can be obtained from Angela Crabtree/Gill Leggett or any W.I. member.

## Ecton Fellowship

Our next meeting is on June 14th, our annual outing when we will be going to Kelmarsch, an English Heritage property. We can enjoy a private viewing of the hall if the group is at least 17 in number, as well as enjoying the beautiful garden - and a cup of tea! cost £5.50

We leave Church Way Ecton at 2pm sharing transport. Friends are very welcome to join us.

Phone 415576 if more information is needed.

Joan Dickins

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the many friends who have helped me in the last few months, not only with their prayers and good wishes, but also with shopping and gardening.

My appreciation also to the many friends who visited me in hospital and in the care home and for the numerous telephone calls received every day.

In particular I am grateful for Jenny's continuing support as I progress to full recovery

I hope it will not be long before I am fully mobile and able to continue with my wanderings!  
Joyce

CHURCH LOTTERY 2005 1st Draw		
£50		A. Pulford
£10		Mrs Foster
£10		D. Austen
£10		T. Armour

## WHIST DRIVES

It has been decided to carry on through the summer and not January & February.

Dates are:

June 24th July 22nd  
August 26th September 23rd  
October 28th November 25th  
December 16th

7.30pm start, All welcome

Jennys Page



Dear Friends,

The Church has just celebrated 'Pentecost' the birthday of the Church. It is the time we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit to the first apostles, with a sound 'like the rush of a violent wind'. The book of Acts also describes 'divided tongues of fire' that rested on each of them. At our Pentecost Party for children held in the village hall on the Saturday, we retold the story having made windmills to see the effect of wind, and crowns with tongues of flame. The children also made birthday cards and presents for a banner which we hung in church for everyone to see on Sunday. It looked magnificent with the early morning sun shining through it and the words Happy Birthday Church.

Once they had received the Holy Spirit, the apostles went around teaching and healing as Jesus had done and many people began to believe. The first Christians lived and worshipped together and held everything in common, selling their possessions and distributing the proceeds to those in need.

We cannot see the Spirit anymore than we can see the wind, but we can see the effects of the Spirit changing and empowering lives. The gift of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

May the gift of the Spirit be yours.

Love and prayers      Jenny

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

7.30pm Saturday 2nd July  
'Music for a Summer's Evening'  
The Swarbrick Singers  
(watch out for posters)

10.30am Sunday 10th July  
Family Service for Sea Sunday

St Mary Magdalene Festival  
Saturday 23rd July -  
Church Open Day with  
organ recital in the evening.

Many of you contributed to funds for this project.  
This is a chance to see the new vestry room and hear our new organ.

10.30am Sunday 24th July  
All Age Communion  
Preacher - Archdeacon Christine Allsop

## Church Diary

**Sunday June 5th**

9.30am

6.00pm

**Tuesday 7th June**

9.00am

**Sunday 12th June**

9.30am

**Tuesday 14th June**

9.00am

**Sunday 19th June**

9.30am

3.30pm

**Tuesday 21st June**

9.00am

**Sunday 26th June**

9.30am

**Tuesday 28th June**

7.00pm

**Second Sunday after Trinity**

Parish Communion: Genesis 12. 1-9;

Psalm 33. 1-12; Romans 4. 13-25;

Matthew 9. 9-13, 18-26

Evensong.

Holy Communion

**Third Sunday after Trinity**

Parish Communion: Genesis 18. 1-15;

Psalm 116. 1, 10-17; Romans 5. 1-8;

Matthew 9. 35-10.8.

Holy Communion

**Fourth Sunday after Trinity**

Parish Communion: Genesis 21. 8-21;

Psalm 86. 1-10, 16-17; Romans 6. 1b-11

Matthew 10. 24-39.

Evensong - Visit to Peterborough Cathedral

Holy Communion

**Fifth Sunday after Trinity**

Parish Communion: Genesis 22. 1-14;

Psalm 13; Romans 6. 12-23;

Matthew 10. 40-42

Holy Communion

### Church Cleaning Rota

Week Ending		Team	Area
June	4th	Purple	B
	11th	Pink	A
	18th	Yellow	B
	25th	Blue	A
July	2nd	Green	B
Brass Cleaning			
June	4th	Ingrid & Barbara	
July	2nd	Walter & Gwenda	

### Coffee Rota

June	5th	Pauline Cook & Joy Wilson
	12th	Trudie Warner & Fiona Major
	19th	Dorothy Creed & Christine Murray
	26th	Nick & Mary Greene
July	3rd	Rita Ward & Angela Allen

### Sidespersons

### Morning

### Evening

June	5th	Tony & Margaret Weddle	Sylvia Saunders & Marian Gleave
	12th	Tony & Marlene Green	
	19th	Brian & Sylvia Saunders	Joy Wilson & Geoff Harlott
	26th	Michael & Pauline Cook	
July	3rd	Walter Barty & John Parkin	Sylvia Saunders & Marian Gleave

## FORMULA ONE: AS CONTROVERSIAL AS EVER

Just when you thought the Formula One circus was finally producing the kind of season us fans have been waiting for the BAR Honda v FIA spat has undermined the legitimacy of last year's second-placed constructor and robbed us of a British driver's contribution to Barcelona and Monaco.

By running their cars underweight (they must weigh 600kg when ALL fuel is removed) BAR either showed incredible naivety or thought they wouldn't get caught. Either way when the FIA judges found against them, removed their points from the previous race at Imola (Jenson's first podium of 2005) and issued a two-race ban they should have taken it on the chin. They didn't, the FIA bit back and they've now climbed down issuing a witheringly contrite acceptance of their punishment. I can imagine the senior management at Honda in Japan are incandescent – they are a global manufacturer with a fiercely guarded reputation and will not want to be perceived as 'cheats'. Motorsport News reported the cost of the two-race ban to BAR to be £10m.

That their Japanese arch-rival Toyota are second in the Constructor's Championship and are poised to win a race, with Trulli a podium regular, must be incredibly galling. Also the whole debacle has sealed Jenson's fate – he will surely be driving for Williams BMW next season won't he?

Last season in this magazine I wrote that Ferrari's domination of the sport would surely end in due course. I didn't expect to see the decline in form so quickly! Michael was pointless at Imola and so far has just 10 points to Alonso's 44 - plus Renault, McLaren, Toyota, and Williams can easily beat Ferrari at any circuit this season. Despite Alonso's early lead the season is the most wide-open for many years – and of course I'm not writing off Michael yet!

For me Monaco will be diminished without BAR Honda and Jenson Button but the car will still be quick (Sato topped the testing times with a 600kg car at Paul Ricard on 13th May) when they return for the European Grand Prix on May 29th. By the time you read this we'll know the outcome of both races and be looking forward to the rest of the busiest Formula One season ever. I can't wait to find out what happens next.

Adrian Pulford  
15th May 2005

**Edited Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council of Ecton held in The Village Hall, High Street, Ecton on Tuesday 22nd March, 2005 at 7.30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Mr. T. Moffett - Chairman  
Dr. A. Bantock, Mr. M. Creed, Mr. T. Green,  
**attendance:** 3 Parishioners & Chief Inspector M. Stamper

**RECEIPT 2005/06**

The Clerk presented a balance sheet as at 31st December 2004 together with a forecast of anticipated income and expenditure for the remainder of the financial year.

**RESOLVED** that the precept for 2005/06 be increased from £8,490.00 to £11,500.00. The increase is to take into account the purchase and installation of a new bus shelter on the A4500."

**7/05 MATTERS ARISING**

**Lower Ecton Lane**

Noted that the fencing around the Esso service station A45 eastbound had still not be replaced despite requests to Exxon Mobil.

The Parish Council noted of the possibility that the land between the Esso service station and the travellers site was up for sale.

**new Bus shelter – north side of A4500**

The Clerk reported that Queensbury Shelters are to erect the new shelter in mid April.

The Clerk confirmed that he had endeavoured to obtain a quote for the demolition of the old brick shelter without success, however he will continue.

**Mr. K. Worley – Tower Field Farm**

The Clerk reported that he had received a reply from the Environment Agency in which they stated that they had advised Mr. Worley of the legislation required for the burning of waste.

The Council noted that there had been no further incidents.

**8/05 SYWELL AERODROME**

The Parish Council noted the contents of the reply from Wellingborough Borough Council regarding representation for Ecton Village. Reported that the applicant had lodged an appeal with the Planning Inspectorate in respect of non-determination by Wellingborough Borough Council. The appeal will be dealt with at an inquiry, details set to be confirmed. The applicant will be submitting a new application to Wellingborough Council

**9/05 POLICE MATTERS**

The Parish Council welcomed Chief Inspector Mick Stamper to the meeting and appreciated the time he had taken to be present. Mr. Stamper explained his role and the area for which he was responsible. The Chairman outlined the problems in the village, particularly that of anti social behaviour by the younger generation i.e. vandalism, graffiti, drinking, breaking of glass bottles and disturbing neighbours with the noise they generate. A regular Police presence in the village would go a long way to alleviate these problems. Mention was also made of problems encountered with the nearby traveller's site and the lack of speed cameras on the A4500 Mr. Stamper stated that he would address these problems and report back, however in the meantime he encouraged everyone to report any incident.

**10/05. PLAYING FIELD**

A resident outlined the problems being encountered with the large amounts of graffiti being sprayed around the village and in particular on the playing field.

The Parish Council agreed to explore various avenues available for the removal of graffiti.

**11/05 HIGHWAY MATTERS**

**Sywell Lane/A4500**

The Parish Council noted that County Council/W/S Atkins have carried out the work to the footpaths along Sywell Lane. However work to the overhanging branches along the A4500 had not been undertaken. Clerk to pursue W/S Atkins.

**Mobile Speed Camera**

The Parish Council noted that the mobile speed camera unit had attended on 3rd March from 08.10 to 09.15 with the following results:-

Number of vehicles	145	Average Speed	27.6 m.p.h
Lowest recorded speed	15 m.p.h	Highest recorded speed	48 m.p.h
Street Doctor			

Noted that the Street Doctor service Tel: 0845 601 11 13 has replaced the Clarence Service

## **CD Reviews by Adrian Pulford**

### **JOSH ROUSE – NASHVILLE**

I don't know why it's happening this year but each month new albums are released that are just so good that you only expect to hear things of this quality once a year if you're lucky. My 'new CD' rack is overflowing. Last month I discovered and highly recommended to you 'Back to Bedlam' by James Blunt.

This month I urge you to purchase this happy, melodic and classy set from Josh Rouse. Don't be fooled by the 'Nashville' title – this ain't no country record. Sure there's a singer-songwriter sensibility to his work but it's far too sophisticated to just list under folk-rock or alt-country although these influences are there. Smooth sounds abound with great hooks and superb song-writing throughout.

The first single 'Winter in the Hamptons' will work its magic quickly, but the other tracks won't be far behind. Stop reading this review and click on Amazon and order 'Nashville' right now ('Back to Bedlam' too if you haven't got it yet!).

### **QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE – LULLABIES TO PARALYZE**

Another Josh – Josh Homme is on a trajectory to achieve the rock legend status he craves. Husker Du and Zeppelin influences mingle with Cult and punk rock – the effect is high-octane guitar-driven rock and it's infectious.

'Lullabies' follows 2002's 'Songs for the Deaf' but Homme has taken full control of QOTSA following the departure of Nick Oliveri, and to me the music has benefited. The raucous edge has been replaced by more of the magic that made 'No One Knows' one of my favourite rock tracks ever. 'Little Sister' is the stand-out track on the new album but there's plenty to keep you listening throughout the summer.

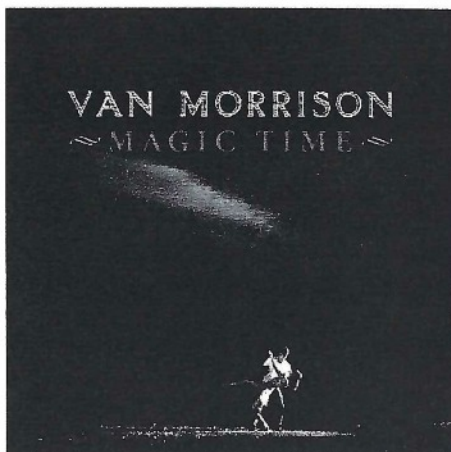
'Lullabies to Paralyze' is an excellent record when you're on your own in the car – turn it up and rip the knob off!

### **RYAN ADAMS & THE CARDINALS – COLD ROSES**

Ryan Adams – prolific, inspired, enigmatic or contrary and obtuse? In my book 'Gold' is up there with the top albums ever and yet following this with a myriad of more challenging and diverse offerings conspired to confuse and confound his critics. I am a fan of this hugely talented musician so I've listened to all of his output since 'Gold' and some stuff from his earlier 'Whiskeytown' days too, and enjoyed it all.

This two-disc set will put the record straight - Ryan Adams is a genius. When it comes to transcending alternative country music he has that American storyteller's ability with words and tunes that get right to your heart in a way perhaps only Jackson Browne, Dylan and Springsteen have done in the past. Listen to 'How Do You Keep Love Alive' on disc one – awesome.

Ryan is reaching out to you right now on 'Cold Roses' and is truly back on form. This really is a compelling album. Buy it.



## NEW RELEASE

Four decades on from enjoying his first hits with Them, Van "The Man" Morrison returns to the fold with *Magic Time*, a brand-new studio album featuring thirteen songs - ten of them brand-new Van Morrison compositions and a further three, interpretations of classic jazz standards.

## Whats on in Northampton

### Rock, Pop & Jazz

The Mission - The Lighting The Candles Tour

Wayne Hussey and Craig Adams return, with a waft of...

at: Soundhaus, Great Russell Street, Northampton

dates: 15 Sep 2005

times: Sep 15, 8pm • cost: £15

### Classical, World & Folk

Westmoreland Youth Orchestra

Celebrating Orchestral Life

at: Northampton Music and Performing Arts Centre, 125 Kettering Road, Northampton

## And in Wellingborough



### Narnia diaries

At part of The Castle's 10th anniversary celebrations, the Castle Community Theatre has been relaunched. Their first show, a version of CS Lewis's story *The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe*, is being staged between the 8th and 11th June.

### **CLEANER REQUIRED**

### **For the Village Hall**

**Approximately one and half hours per week**

**Terms to be agreed**

**Apply to Mary Dicks 407145**



# **CLEAN Campaign for Lower Ecton Action Now**

## **CLEAN Progress Report May 2005**

CLEAN (Campaign for Lower Ecton Action Now) was formed in March 2003 by a group of individuals who were concerned about the terrible state of Lower Ecton Lane due to fly tipping and the torching of vehicles.

One of the first actions was to engage a solicitor and get a solicitor's letter sent to Northampton Borough Council. We also lobbied Paul Stinchcombe, together with Council Leaders, the Environment Agency (EA) and the Police. As a result regular joint meetings were held with Northampton County Council (NCC), Northampton Borough Council (WBC), Wellingborough Borough Council (WBC), EA, Paul Stinchcombe, Cyril Palmer (our local councillor) and CLEAN (together with our solicitor) all under the chairmanship of the Police.

During these meetings we got NBC and WBC to agree to work together to clean up the Lane (since each were responsible for around 50% of it's length), with NBC cleaning the whole length on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and WBC doing the same on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This regime was started in June 2003, and resulted in an immediate dramatic improvement in the conditions in the Lane. Fly tipping still continued to occur, but at least it was cleared within 24 hours, except at the weekends. Meanwhile the incidents of fly tipping have reduced (due to the improved conditions) so that now Lower Ecton Lane is no worse than most rural roads in the area. In other words (apart from the odd glitch in the system) Lower Ecton Lane has now been essentially free from fly tipping for around TWO YEARS.

Unfortunately CLEAN's job has not gone away - fly tipping and torching of vehicles still occur and CLEAN continue to lobby for changes which will improve the situation and to get the councils to do more to prevent it occurring. These include; changes in refuse collection and the ability to dispose of more than five DIY items per month at the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) and restrictions on the use of vans. We have also encouraged changes to the collection of dumped vehicles before they can be torched. Other lobbying has included upgrading of the HWRC to introduce split level operation and clean up of the traveller's site. As a result NBC have applied for a grant from central government and plan to spend £500,000 doing this - which includes a small reduction in overall capacity.

The cost of disposal of rubbish to landfill, which is where most waste goes at present, is expensive and environmentally unsatisfactory. It currently cost around £13 per ton to do so and is set to rise over the next couple of years to £35 per ton and triple again within 5 years. So it's important for all of us to recycle as much as we can and segregate garden waste (which can be composted) from other waste (which has to go to landfill) if astronomical council tax increases are to be avoided. Because of these high costs for disposal to landfill, most councils impose some charges for removal of large items and large quantities of DIY materials. So whilst these restrictions result in some fly tipping, NCC are reluctant to remove the restrictions. To do so would result in large quantities of rubbish being taken to Northants HWRC from outside the area which would have to go the landfill and be paid for by local council taxpayers. A real catch 22 situation.

If anyone has any concerns or suggestions on these matters please feel free to contact any member of the CLEAN Committee, which is:

A Bantock  
B Beck  
M Clark

J Crabtree

A Pulford  
B Shearing

Please report any incidents of fly tipping to: 01604 838281 or 0800 807060.  
Abandoned / stolen vehicles should be reported to the Police 01604 700700.



## Proposed Quarry expansion adjacent to Ecton

I have been looking at the proposed quarry extension and speaking to people about the for and against of quarrying and where it is now. Extending the site is a two staged process, first of all the extended area has to be identified by Northants County Council in review of its minerals local plan - this process is currently at the public enquiry stage. If the site makes it into the final adopted plan, the mineral operator (the existing is Hanson) would have to strike a deal with the landowner. He would then have to draw up a planning application and environment impact assessment to extract the sand and gravel. This application would also go through the due democratic process, and could take 2 -3 years to prepare and determine.

### Why Quarry

To produce           165,00 new homes  
                          £2 billion of school building  
                          £1.3 billion of hospital building  
                          maintenance of 230,000 miles of road network  
  and       10,350 mile of rail network

### Did you know that

each of us uses 3.6 tonnes of aggregate a year  
a new house requires 60 tonnes of aggregates  
40,000 people are employed in the quarrying industry

The majority of aggregates in Northamptonshire are sand and gravel usually from shallow quarries sometimes only 5 to 6 metres deep and are of short term, probably less than 10 years.

The land used for extraction is only **BORROWED** so what happens at the end of quarrying? The answer is restoration although this is usually done through the life of the site rather than all at the finish, probably to its previous use. Alternatively, it may offer a once only opportunity for change to a new use which benefits wildlife and community.

**What must not be allowed to happen is the excavation be used as an infill site, so make more use of your recycling bins!**

Editor



"To cherish what remains of the Earth and to foster its renewal is our only legitimate hope of survival."

Make a memory with your children,  
 Spend some time to show you care;  
 Toys and trinkets can't replace those  
 Precious moments that you share.  
 Money doesn't buy real pleasure,  
 It doesn't matter where you live;  
 Children need your own attention,  
 Something only you can give.  
 Childhood's days pass all too quickly,  
 Happy memories all too few;  
 Plan to do that special something,  
 Take the time to go or do.  
 Make a memory with your children,  
 Take the time in busy days;  
 Have some fun while they are growing,  
 Show your love in gentle ways.

The Longest Day

Godfrey Phillips

The Winds of March,  
 The April Showers  
 And the memoriness of May,  
 Fortell the blaze of June  
 And it's fickle mid-summer day.

Like the adolescent past,  
 Adulthood strides it's confidence abroad,  
 meeting the balmy days'  
 And the nights moments of rapturous reward.

Short shadows dispell thoughts  
 of perplexities yet to unfold.  
 The air is sweet  
 with hidden content,  
 'Neath the perspiring gold.

Dawns elegance shades are the pregnance  
 of a day's full birth.  
 Sing high and free,  
 live happily,  
 In the aura of genuine mirth.

The hand in hand,  
 with upright lilt,  
 Good thoughts attendant alway.  
 The longest day,  
 In warmth,  
 Defies the coldness of the shortest day

A wasp on a nettle said: 'Coo!  
 We're in a right mess, me and you.  
 We have got to sort out  
 What this is about.  
 Please tell me.....who's got to sting who?

### Those Evening Bells

Thomas Moore

Those evening bells! those evening bells!  
 How many a tale their music tells  
 Of youth, and home, and that sweet time  
 When last I heard their soothing chime!

Those joyous hours are passed away;  
 And many a heart that once was gay,  
 Within the tomb now darkly dwells,  
 And hears no more those evening bells.

And so 'twill be when I am gone, —  
 That tuneful peal will still ring on;  
 While other bards shall walk these dells,  
 And sing your praise, sweet evening bells.

### Coffee in Heaven

John Agard

You'll be greeted  
 by a nice cup of coffee  
 when you get to heaven  
 and strains of angelic harmony.

But wouldn't you be devastated  
 if they only serve decaffeinated  
 while from the perculators of hell

your soul was assaulted  
 by Satan's fresh expresso smell?

"The time to stop talking is when the other person nods his head affirmatively but says nothing."

## Youth Club Page

### **Dates to Remember**

15th June  
Senior Youth Club will be going to  
Northampton College to do a  
Cookery Session with the Chefs  
LEAVE VILLAGE HALL AT 6.15pm  
BE PROMPT

7th July **THURSDAY**  
NAYC BIKE RIDE & BBQ  
at Pitsford  
Booking is **ESSENTIAL** as  
we have to transport bikes

Hi Margaret

I am so glad the children enjoyed the trampoline sessions. I hadn't taken a Youth Club for some time as most of my coaching is the High Performance but I must say I really enjoyed the trampoline session with your boys, they were a credit to you. I hope that some will come along to Benham to participate in further trampoline activity.  
Please come again some time!

Kind regards  
Tracy Trampolining Coach, Benham Sports Centre

**FUTURE DATES: 27TH - 28TH AUGUST, WILDMAGIC OVERNIGHT CAMP COST £10**

Moving along a dimly lighted street, a friend of ours was suddenly approached by a stranger who had slipped from the shadows nearby.

'Please, sir,' asked the stranger, 'would you be so kind as to help a poor unfortunate fellow who is hungry and out of work? All I have in the world is this gun.'

### Bigoted Boss

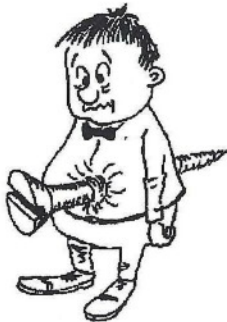
FIRST SECRETARY: 'How is your boss to work for?'

SECOND SECRETARY: 'He's very bigoted.'

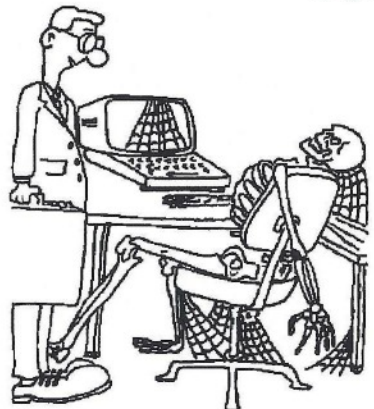
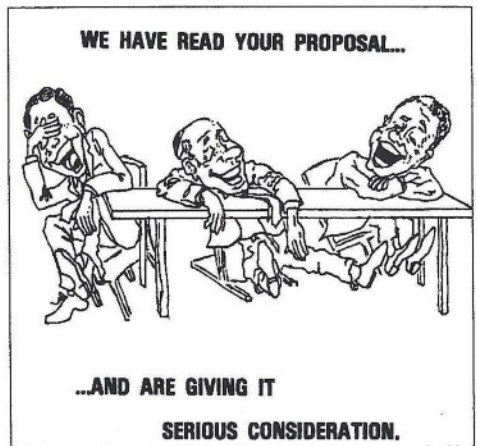
FIRST SECRETARY: 'In what way?'

SECOND SECRETARY: 'He thinks words can only be spelt one way.'

**BE KIND AND GOOD  
NATURED AND YOU'LL**



**ALWAYS GET YOUR REWARD!!**



**"The best way to accelerate a Macintosh is at 9.8m/sec/sec."**

## The Bells of St. Mary Magdalene Ecton

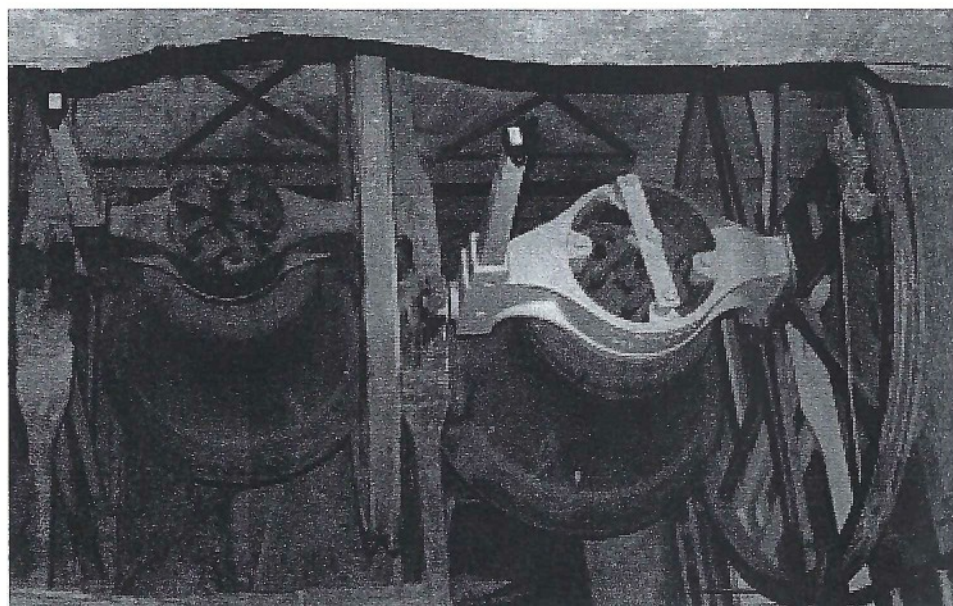
I

It is fascinating to consider that, since 1749, the same six bells, notwithstanding some recasting, have been ringing out over the village, celebrating marriages, tolling funerals and, for a while, telling the time.

Despite the proximity of the bell foundry belonging to Henry Bagley and Thomas Franklin, none of Ecton's six bells was cast there, although it is said that Thomas launched the fund for the bells, the earliest of which are dated 1612, long before he got involved in bell casting. However the Treble, the latest of the bells, was cast by a later descendant of Bagleys, probably in a bell pit in the churchyard.

The bells have been rehung twice this century; first in 1912 by Whites of Appleton, Berkshire at a cost of £85 and again in 1965, when John Taylor & Co of Loughborough rehung them in a new steel and cast iron frame at a cost of £1750.13.0. Despite their considerable weight they are, in the opinion of the Wellingborough branch ringing master, Tim Samson, very easy to ring and have a lovely deep tone making them one of the best rings of six in the area. The ring is in the key of E.

In 1878 Thomas North, in his book *The Church Bells of Northamptonshire*, wrote that 'at the Death knell four tolls are given for a male - three for a female'. There was no equality then, even in death! He also recorded that the 'pancake bell is rung on Shrove Tuesday' and that 'for Divine Service the bells are chimed and the sermon (tenor) bell is rung'. His information came from the Rev CT Davies, the incumbent at that time.



## *One family's experience of seeking asylum*

*In February 2004, my wife and I got to know a young woman and her two children. Their story is harrowing and heartbreaking.*

*They had left literally everything behind and fled to the UK in 2001, spending several days in a lorry, to escape warfare and persecution in their own country. This had already claimed the lives of their youngest child and his grandfather, The father was missing presumed dead. In July 2004 they discovered that he was alive in prison.*

*He managed to escape and make his way here, again by lorry. They are good people, with skills and qualifications in teaching and engineering, they are people of faith, church goers; ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances. Asylum seekers who have become our friends.*

*Since the summer of 2004 we have been supporting them in their claim for asylum and have experienced things which we have found difficult to believe. We have often been given information which is misleading or incorrect and paperwork which even we cannot understand, let alone those who are traumatised and who have little or no English.*

*We have negotiated with officers and systems lacking in any spark of humanity or kindness. Fortunately we have also met people who have been caring, helpful and supportive. Again and again we have discovered things at the last minute, experienced strange coincidences, got there just in time. So we firmly believe that God has been watching over us.*

*But our friends have been refused asylum because they cannot demonstrate "a well-founded fear of persecution" if they return home. Yet the Foreign Office website gives this advice to travellers to their country: Following the serious inter-ethnic fighting in 2001, the situation has largely stabilised. But the situation is still unsettled and sporadic acts of inter-ethnic and intra-ethnic violence continue to occur.*

*Shootings and other acts of violence have taken place [in their home town] in recent months.*

*They just want to get on with their lives now but they are in limbo, they are not allowed work, they are unable to make plans, they cannot settle down. They know that they will soon be "removed" without warning. Like many others in their position, each day they expect the early morning knock on the door. There are many asylum seekers, refugees, immigrant workers, members of minority communities living among us. It is often difficult for us to know one from the other, and ultimately that information is of questionable value anyway. As Christian people we should regard them all as our sisters and brothers, worthy of our respect and our friendship.*

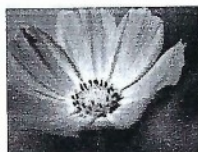
*Those who are ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances need our care and our support. There are enormous opportunities for Christians and churches to offer a helping hand to people in this situation, from volunteering with the Red Cross to developing a supportive relationship with an individual or family; from donating food and clothing to offering regular prayers and intercessions. It is also important to know the truth about their situation and to be prepared to challenge the myths and the stories which are in circulation.*

*Revd Ian Houghton  
Peterborough City Centre Chaplain*

Remember that  
**ECTON VILLAGE  
HALL**

can be booked for children's parties  
and other family celebrations

Contact Marlene Green on 407141  
for details and hiring rates



**Flower Festivals in June**

4-5 Brixworth All Saints. Summer fete and balloon race. Details 01604 881012

5 Creaton in Bloom 10th anniversary. Details 01604 505761

24-26 Gretton St James. Details 01536 770208

24-26 Raunds St Peters. Details 01933 461509

25 Kislingbury St Luke's plant fair and open gardens. Details 01604 830514

25-26 Broughton St Andrew flower festival, theme The Bible. 10am-5pm. Strawberry teas, plant stall. Details 01536 790558



"Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us or we find it not."