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**ST. MARY MAGDALENE  
ECTON**



**PARISH MAGAZINE**

**APRIL 1999**

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It costs 50p to produce this magazine  
Contributions towards its cost would be appreciated

## PARISH AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

### BELL RINGERS

Contact Dorothy Creed  
Tel:01604 407864

### PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: David Dicks  
Tel:01604 407145

### CRICKET CLUB

Captain: Steve Wheatman  
Tel:01604 401714  
Secretary: Hilary Kearsley  
Tel: 01604 810922

### PRE-SCHOOL

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
and Friday 9.15 - 11.45 am  
and Wednesday 9.15 - 11.15 am  
Ecton Village Club  
Tel: 01604 409213

### FELLOWSHIP

Contact: Joyce Oford  
Tel: 01604 414245  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in month  
2.30pm Rectory Room

### PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Sheila Sayers  
Tel: 01604 784711

### MONDAY CLUB

Contact: Freda Richards  
Tel: 01604 405928  
Twice monthly on Mondays  
2.30pm Rectory Room

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Contact: Stella Gibson  
Tel: 01604 405350  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in month  
7.30pm Rectory Room

### MUMS & TOTS

Contact: Kate Kirton  
Tel:01604 409809  
Most Wednesdays  
2-4 pm at Ecton Village Club  
Cost £1

### ECTON VILLAGE CLUB

Contact: Tony Green  
Tel: 01604 407141  
Bookings Clerk:  
Freda Richards  
Tel: 01604 405928

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Copy for May Magazine to  
Anne Henderson - 48 High Street, Ecton  
by April 15<sup>th</sup> please

## From the Priest-in-Charge

On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, Tony Armitage, the Diocese's Parish Development Officer, will join us for the 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion to help launch *TRJO*, a much needed fund-raising initiative within the parish.

Every parish throughout the country pays an annual Parish Share, a contribution towards the common purse which pays for the maintenance, ministry and the mission of parish churches. Each parish is assessed on the basis of its regular worshippers, the size of its Electoral (Active Membership) Roll, the number of people living in the civil parish and the parish's relative wealth. In many dioceses the minimum amount asked from a free-standing parish community such as ours is more than £20,000. The Diocese of Peterborough asks us for about half that sum. And in addition to this sum money has to be found for heating, lighting, repairs, upkeep of the fabric and graveyard and so on.

The finances of Ecton Parish Church are balanced very delicately. There is just about enough to keep going but nothing for repairs or for new initiatives or improvements. We operate on maintenance not a mission or growth budget.

We have inherited a fine building, largely furnished by the vision, generosity, and at the expense, of the Sotheby Family. Indeed, almost everything we have was given by or in memory of Major General Sotheby who died over 90 years ago!

If we are to make our contribution to the Diocese and ensure that the parish church is still here in another 90 years, for our successors to enjoy, we must accept proper financial responsibility now for ourselves. Our giving *should* be sacrificial - if only it was just realistic!

It is recommended that an ancient building such as ours should set aside at least £10,000 per year, just for repairs and maintenance - we put aside nothing! We do not have a lavatory or a kitchen. Lighting is inadequate. There is no proper sound system. No proper disabled access. No proper

meeting room. The list could go on. We depend upon Ecton House for all the things most parish churches now provide for themselves and, as many of you know, the future of Ecton House is already under discussion by the diocesan authorities and its facilities may not be available to the parish for much longer.

*Trio* should help us put our finances in order so that we can enter this new millennium, as a parish church, with confidence. Confidence not just in the Lord Jesus who died for us and rose again for us, but confidence in our proper stewardship of the many blessings God has given to us - not least the custodianship of the parish church.

Please try and come along on May 2<sup>nd</sup> to hear Tony Armitage; help us to meet the challenge of being the living, active and growing Body Of Christ here in Ecton in the Third Millennium.



Stephen J. Evans  
Priest-in-Charge

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April 1999**  
**7 pm following Evensong at 6 pm**

**ALL WELCOME**

## CHURCH AND VILLAGE DIARY

APRIL 1999

**Thursday 1st April**  
7.30 p.m.

**Maundy Thursday**  
Commemoration of Last Supper and Watch in Church.

**Friday 2nd April**  
10.30 a.m.  
2-3 p.m.

**Good Friday**  
Family Service in Church.  
Good Friday Service.

**Sunday 4th April**  
9.30 a.m.  
6.00 p.m.

**Easter Sunday**  
Easter Communion and Baptisms.  
Easter Sequence of Readings and Hymns.

**Tuesday 6th April**  
9.00 a.m.  
7.30 p.m.

Holy communion in Church.  
Women's Institute meet in the Rectory Room.

**Thursday 8th April**  
7.30 p.m.  
7.30 p.m.

Holy Communion in Church.  
Whist Drive in the Rectory Room.

**Sunday 11th April**  
9.30 a.m.  
6.00 p.m.

**Second Sunday of Easter**  
Parish Communion: Acts 2. 14a, 22-32; Psalm 16;  
1 Peter 1. 3-9; John 20. 19-31.  
Evensong.

**Monday 12th April**  
2.30 p.m.

Monday Club meets in the Rectory Room.

**Tuesday 13th April**  
9.00 a.m.  
2.30 p.m.  
7.00 p.m.  
7.30 p.m.

Holy Communion in Church.  
Ecton fellowship meets in the Rectory Room.  
Holy Communion .  
Ecton PCC meets at the back of the church.

## CHURCH AND VILLAGE DIARY

### APRIL 1999 CONTINUED

**Thursday 15th April**

7.30 p.m.

Holy Communion.

**Sunday 18th April**

9.30 a.m.

**Third of Easter**

Parish Communion: Acts 2. 14a, 36-41; Psalm 116. 1-3, 10-17; 1 Peter 1. 17-23; Luke 24. 13-35.

6.00 p.m.

Evensong.

**Tuesday 20th April**

9.00 a.m.

Holy Communion.

**Thursday 22nd April**

7.30 p.m.

Holy communion.

**Sunday 25th April**

9.30 a.m.

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Parish Communion: Acts 2. 42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2. 19-25; John 10. 1-10.

6.00 p.m.

Evensong.

7.00 p.m.

Parochial Church Council AGM in the Conference Room at Ecton House.

**Monday 26th April**

2.30p.m.

Monday Club meets in the Rectory Room.

**Tuesday 27th April**

9.00 a.m.

Holy Communion.

**Wednesday 28th April**

6.00 p.m.

Monday Club Supper in the Rectory Room.

**Thursday 29th April**

7.30 p.m.

Holy Communion.

**Sunday 2nd May**

9.30 a.m.

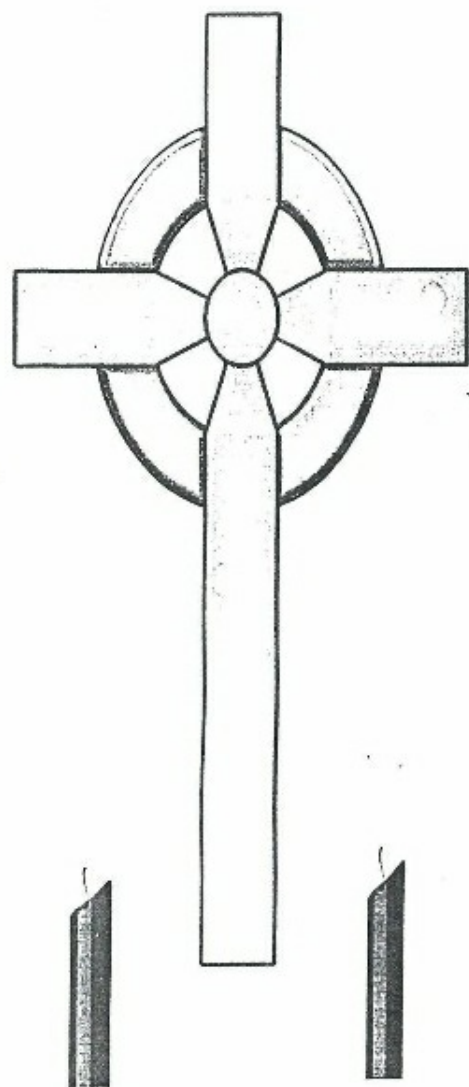
**Fifth of Easter**

Parish Communion: Acts 7. 55-60; Psalm 31. 1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2. 2-10; John 14. 1-14.

6.00 p.m.

Evensong.

**ALL HALLOWS  
WELLINGBOROUGH**



**A  
TAIZÉ  
SERVICE  
WILL BE HELD  
ON  
SUNDAY  
APRIL 11th.  
AT 6.00PM.  
ALL ARE  
WELCOME**

## W.I. REPORT

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April - 7.30 pm - Rectory Room - "Members Evening"

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May - 7.30 pm - Rectory Room

Speaker - V.C.O. Resolutions

Competition - "Photograph - 'Myself when Young'"

Teas - Mrs D Creed, Mrs J Henson

The Birthday dinner on 4<sup>th</sup> February was once again a most enjoyable evening. 'Chat' and games followed the meal. The highlight was a surprise item performed by Vera and Sue - 'In the Laundrette' - very amusing and a sterling effort from both of them. Thank you. I hope there will be a 'repeat' performance for those who were unable to attend the dinner.

Further enquiries have been made regarding the 'Plaque' for the 'Millennium Tree' and a decision was made to go ahead with this project.

A trip to Podington Garden Centre is planned - providing an opportunity to take advice and choose a suitable tree.

## OUTINGS

Thursday - April 8<sup>th</sup> London

Tuesday - April 20<sup>th</sup> Wells/Cheddar

Thursday - July 8<sup>th</sup> St Albans

The evening concluded with a fascinating talk, with slides, given by Colin Eaton. The subject was Fawsley Hall near Daventry. The Hall is situated in elegant Northamptonshire countryside. The surrounding landscape was originally designed by "Capability Brown". The Hall was shown through its various stages of disrepair - to the present time - fully restored and converted into a most luxurious hotel. Mr Eaton's knowledge of the history of the Hall is very extensive and, together with beautiful slides, provided us with a most enjoyable evening.

Vote of thanks - Miss Marian Gleave

Competition - Flower Ornament - Marian, Win, Sue

J Marshman

## **ECTON PARISH COUNCIL MILLENNIUM PROJECTS**

Hopefully by the time this article is read we shall have carried out a very comprehensive traffic survey in support of our closure of Lower Ecton Lane. The village referendum, which was carried out in early February, showed that an overwhelming number of villagers wished to see the road closed to vehicular traffic. In fact as few as seventeen people had their doubts about the viability of the project or were definitely against it, so now we have to move on to the next stage of the campaign.

We intend to combine our efforts and make the road closure and the new stone wall and village notice board and carved sign our official millennium projects. This will enable us as a parish to apply for some funding from Wellingborough Borough Council through awards which are being considered for Area Regeneration throughout the borough. This of course sounds as if we just put in our application and the money duly comes back for us to spend as we please. Not so, we have to 'jump through a great many hoops' to be even considered!

In the belief that you as a village will back us up, we have started down the complicated route of completing application forms outlining our projects, our aims and objectives and defining as far as possible how they will be funded. We have to show our commitment as a community, both by our physical efforts and by fund-raising.

We have as a parish estimated that we will need in the region of £20,000 to complete both so we have held our breath and asked for £15,000! This obviously leaves a short fall of £5,000 but we have already paid the £185 deposit to the woodcarver towards the sign and we have an additional £1,100 in the bank. This money is profit from the Ecton book which we hope will go a long way towards providing money we need for the

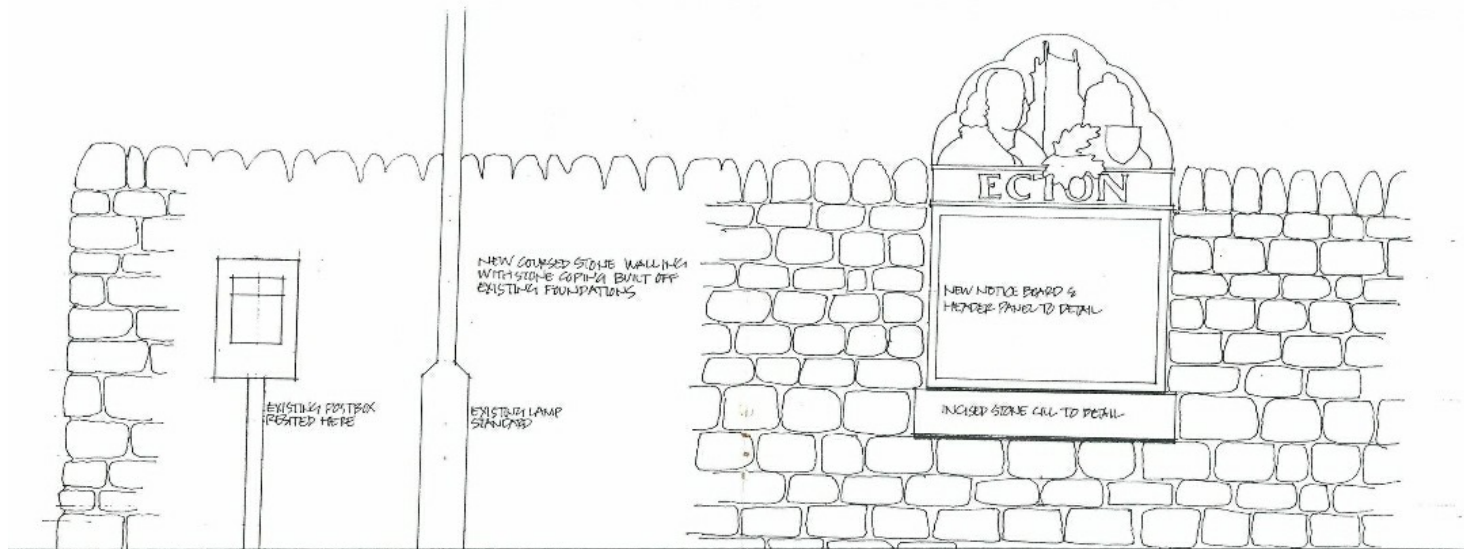
carved village sign. Keith and his millennium committee at the Three Horseshoes are working hard to give the village a great party night on New Year's Eve and hopefully the raffle at this event will make a big contribution towards the £545 needed to pay for the new oak village notice board. We need about £7,000 to replace the existing brick wall at the rear of Sunnyside with a stone one complementary to others in the village. The highways department has indicated that they will help by resurfacing the pathway in the lay-by and the completion of that part of our dual project should be achievable before the end of the year.

Now we have to look at ways in which we can raise around £2,500 this year to show that we mean business. We can do it in a number of ways. It could be found quite simply if everyone contributed £10 and that is perhaps the easiest way to approach it but we should, I think, behave in our usual manner and try to find ways that bind us together as a community and allow us to have some fun arranging and attending fund raising events.

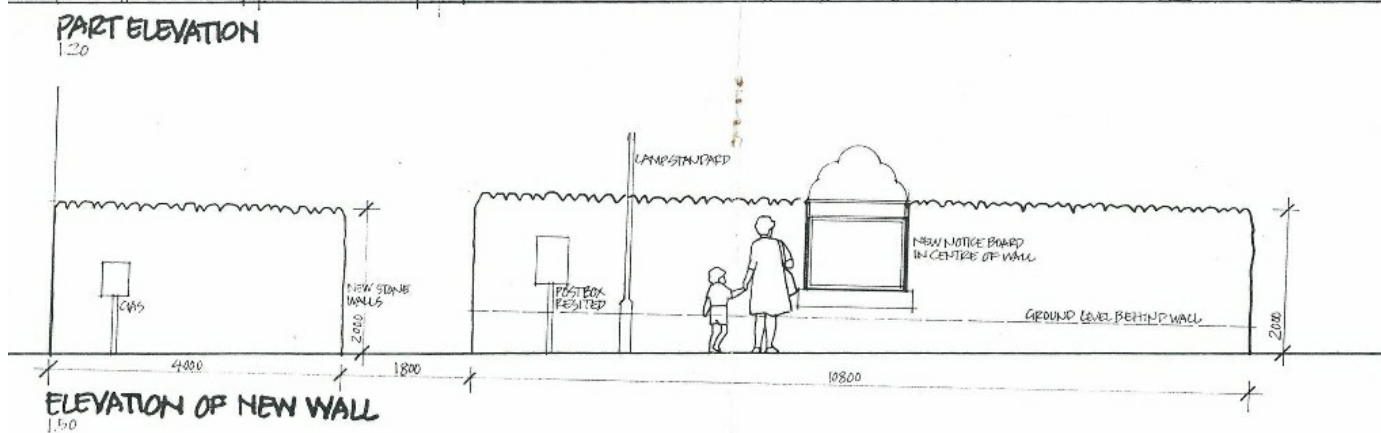
So, the ball is in your court. The parish council is asking you to consider how you as an individual, a family or a village club or organisation can help to achieve our dual objective. Remember what a wonderful effort we all made to produce our book and what a success that and the launch party that we all enjoyed together were. We can do it again can't we?

If you think you can help, please get in touch with any member of the parish council or speak to me.

Sheila Ingram  
17 West Street  
Tel:01604 406038



**PART ELEVATION**  
1.20



**Notes of Ecton Parish Council Meeting  
held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 1999**

**Present:** David Dicks (Chairman), Sheila Ingram, Sylvia Saunders, Tony Green, Vic Lester & Ty Moffett plus P.C. Hooper also one member of village (part of meeting).

**Apologies:** Kate Kirton, Ted Needham, Bill Wilson & Cllr. D. Bletsoe Brown.

**Police:** P.C. Hooper advised the meeting on recent crime figures which again were low for the area.

**Matters arising from minutes**

Repairs to The Shrine were now well underway and should be completed shortly.

Village Poll to be carried out in next 2 weeks followed by Traffic Survey on 19<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> March.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the local MP plus copy to The Home Secretary regarding recent problems with travellers blocking the footpath and bridleway TE.10 next to A45.

**Planning**

Revised application received for conversion of outbuildings at Ecton Hall. It was agreed that, due to lack of information, this should be rejected again.

**Highways**

Reported that attention was required to a pot-hole outside No 31 West Street - Highways Dept. to be advised.

Concern was again raised over the amount of dog fouling around the village, with particular comment about the area of High Street

near to the entrance of Ecton Village Club. This is a particular danger to the young children who attend the Pre-School.

Letter received from Mr. Shearing together with photos regarding the mud and puddles on the roadway of Barton Fields. Agreed to pass this on to N.C.C. Highways Dept. and Ecton Estates c/o Fisher Hoggarth.

### Lighting

Lamp in High Street opposite Rectory Farm reported as still not working despite previous reports to E.M.E. To be reported again to E.M.E.

### Finance

Accounts approved for payment:

East Midlands electricity	183.95	Repairs & Charges
East Midlands Electricity	126.43	Energy
Ecton C.P. School	15.00	Hire of Room
Mrs. P. Hall (Clerk)	111.60	Salary & Expenses

The Clerk advised that the Revenue Grant for 1999/00 would be less than requested. Agreed that a letter be sent to W.B.C. explaining that some capital funding had been switched to Revenue at the Borough treasurer's request.

### A.O.B.

Concern was expressed over the paper re-cycling bin still remaining in West Street and not yet returned to the School playground. Enquiries to be made with the Headteacher.

David Dicks  
January 1999

## OTHER PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Next meeting will be held on Monday 17 May at 7.30 pm in Ecton School.

### **THE SHRINE**

Our thanks to Adrian Stones for his dedicated work in the restoration of the village memorial. This focal point has been much admired for many years and will now, we hope, continue to be respected for what it represents - "ECTON NOT UNMINDFUL".

### **SYWELL AERODROME**

A special thanks are also due to those who have supported the parish Council's efforts by attending several meetings in Northampton concerned with the possibility of major expansion of the aerodrome. Although the County Council would not agree to amend the wording of the draft County Structure Plan to exclude the possibility of a "hard runway", the fight will continue through "The Consortium of Parish Councils" which represent no less than 13 local villages - all concerned at the possible effects. Thanks are especially due to Bill Wilson for the considerable time and expertise that he has given.

### **POLL RESULTS - CLOSURE OF LOWER ECTON LANE**

Following the village poll carried out in recent weeks, the result was overwhelmingly in favour of a closure. A total of 90% of the electorate responded, of which a massive 95% were in favour of a closure, 3% against with 2% abstaining. Many thanks to all who helped.

Results of the traffic census to be advised later, together with an update on our next move.

### **ELECTIONS**

Just another reminder that an election for *YOUR* Parish Council is soon to take place, so if you feel like working to help your own community, what about standing for election? If not, then please **AT LEAST** support the election and use your vote.

## PAPER RE-CYCLING BIN

Due to the problems and delays associated with the emptying of the above, Ecton C.P. School regret that it is just not worthwhile continuing with this facility. During all of 1998 the total amount of income was a mere £18!

David Dicks  
March 1999

From the Registers

### FUNERALS

We extend our love and sympathy to the families and friends of

Joan Mary Denham - 11.3.99  
Eva Ellen Johnson - 12.3.99  
Maurice Jones who died in Spain  
R.I.P.

*'Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep' - St Paul*

### FORTHCOMING NOTICE

Please support

ECTON VILLAGE CLUB

A G M 14 April at 7.30 pm

All are welcome

## **HELP!!**

*Willings volunteers needed for*

### **OPERATION SPRINGCLEAN**

*which will take place on  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April  
starting at 9 am at The Shrine  
(gloves provided)*

*Your help to litterpick and tidy the village will be much  
appreciated.*

*David Dicks*

### **ECTON MONDAY CLUB**

The dates of the whist drives in April and May have been amended owing to difficulties in the bookings of the Rectory Room. The calendar now reads:

**April 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**May 13<sup>th</sup>**

Members are reminded that the AGM is on April 11<sup>th</sup>.  
A fish and chip supper is planned for Wednesday April 28<sup>th</sup>.  
We extend a warm welcome to anyone who might like to enjoy our meetings on alternate Monday afternoons - 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm.

Margaret Scott (Chairman)

## The Ecton Fellowship

On Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm Mrs Joy Drage will talk about her visits to Holland, Greece and Somerset. Slides will be shown by her husband.

Mr and Mrs Drage have given us most interesting talks on two previous occasions and we can look forward to another excellent afternoon.

Everyone is welcome.

Tea List: Dorothy Austin and Daphne Allison

Joan Dickins

***IT IS NEXT MONTH - SUNDAY MAY 9<sup>th</sup> - MAKE CERTAIN YOU HAVE  
BOOKED THE DATE AND COME!***

***CHRISTIAN AID SOUP AND ROLL LUNCH***

***WILL BE IN THE RECTORY ROOM FROM  
12 NOON - 2PM***

***NO CHARGE BUT PLEASE GIVE A DONATION.***

***ECTON FELLOWSHIP***

### CLEANING ROTA

April 3	Pink
April 10	Yellow
April 17	Blue
April 24	Green

### BRASS CLEANING

April 3	Ingrid/Keith
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### COFFEE ROTA

April 4	Millie Harlott & Christine Murray
April 11	June Marshman & Marian Gleave
April 18	Nick & Mary Green
April 25	Ingrid & Keith Cartwright
May 2	Wynne Voss & Alice Adams



"Get one of the elephants & one  
of the hippos up this end quick!"

## LOCAL RANGER GOES GLOBAL!

I am Sywell Country Parks Senior Countryside Ranger, Theresa Gittins and am the lucky recipient of an "Earthwatch Millennium Fellowship" - the chance to work alongside scientists, for two weeks, gathering information on Land Crabs in Tobago. Earthwatch is a registered charity, which was set up to fund field projects, both environmental and cultural. The three-year long Fellowship Programme is funded by the Millennium Commission and Royal SunAlliance and gives teachers and other environmental educators the opportunity of a lifetime to take part in important overseas research.

Although the location for the project is exotic the work promises to be hard as the rainforest environment is very hot and humid and quickly drains energy. The Land Crabs are voracious predators, capable of eating snakes up to 2lb in weight, and are very important creatures in the food chain in the jungle. Information on the habits of the crabs and their population structure will help scientists plan the management of the rainforest. Amongst many tasks I will be involved in capturing, tagging and releasing the crabs, then radio-tracking them to discover their movement patterns and following them at night through the jungle to study their behaviour - not everyone's idea of fun!

I have been asked many times about the relevance of the project to my work within the Park. I feel that the benefits are many.

Obviously this opportunity to assist with habitat monitoring will be a very exciting experience for me. It is over twenty years since I have been involved in a research project and this trip will help with my personal development. However, more importantly, the aim of the Fellowship is to help me to organise activities to pass on my experiences and new knowledge to the local community. On my return I will draw up a personal action plan detailing how I intend to develop community involvement in conservation matters and bring global conservation issues to the fore. Although my initial plans may alter I will outline below what I intend to get from the project and what I hope to achieve.

I hope that new ideas of team development, the delegation of tasks and the integration of all team members (which I will personally experience throughout this project) will be a great benefit to much of the work in which I am involved in the Park as many different tasks are achieved through teamwork.

I aim to develop a mobile display on this important conservation project, which can then tour local public sites. I also hope to develop environmental activities for the numerous children's groups visiting the park throughout the busy summer months.

I also hope to learn about wildlife monitoring techniques that can be used or adapted to record wildlife within the Park.

Most importantly I aim to gain a global perspective on important conservation issues. And will then be truly able to "Think globally, act locally".

I'll report back on my return.

*Theresa*

P.S. Many thanks to everyone who took part in the New Years Day Duck Race at the Park. Local businesses generously donated prizes and with an enormous show of support on the day a total of £235 was raised and will go towards the Earthwatch project. Thank you to everyone who took part - your support was very much appreciated.

# The human face of the debt crisis

Illustration by permission of the Mothers' Union



*'Every day you hear the government come out and say, "Oh we have met our debt repayment deadlines, we have paid," and parliament and everybody claps. These people don't know anything about that. Just walking around you see people living in dirt yards, scrap board houses.'*

So comments Angela Stultz-Crawlle, co-ordinator of a community development centre in Kingston, Jamaica, on the divide between rich and poor in her country. In 1995 Jamaica spent more on interest repayments than on health and education combined.

As a member of the Jubilee 2000 Coalition, Christian Aid is calling for a one-off remission of debt for around 50 countries. The debt crisis affects real people in their everyday lives, especially the poor.

In Bolivia spending on education has fallen by about 40 per cent while debt repayments have increased. So for children in El Alto (Bolivia) debt means puddles on their classroom floor, no desks to work on and a blackboard with holes in it. A teacher says: 'Every day is a sacrifice. We know we are not giving the children the education which they deserve or seek. The blackboards are useless: when you are teaching maths the kids are not able to even see the figures.'



## The Lauds of the Almighty God

You are holy, Lord, the one God,  
who performs wonders.  
You are strong, You are great.  
You are almighty,  
You are King omnipotent, You,  
Holy father, king of heaven  
and of earth.  
You are true and one,  
the Lord God of Gods;  
You are good, the whole good,  
the supreme good,  
the living and true Lord God.  
You are love, charity, you are  
wisdom, You are humility,  
You are patience, You are beauty,  
You are meekness, You are security.  
You are quietness, You are bliss,  
You are our hope and joy,  
You are justice, You are temperance,  
You are all our richness in need.  
You are beauty, You are meekness,  
You are protector,  
You are guardian and defender,  
You are strength, You are solace,  
You are our hope,  
You are our faith,  
You are our charity,  
You are all our delight,  
You are eternal life,  
great and admirable Lord,  
Omnipotent God,  
merciful Saviour.





## ECTON HOUSE

Bless, O Lord, the work of Ecton House.  
Bless its staff and all who use it for  
retreats and conferences: may they know  
your presence and the power of your  
love, and have grace in their hearts,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen*

**VISIT THE LIBRARY - OPEN TO ALL**

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PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTRE  
CHURCH WAY, ECTON, NORTHAMPTON, NN6 0QE  
TELEPHONE: 01604 406442; FAX: 01604 787052

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