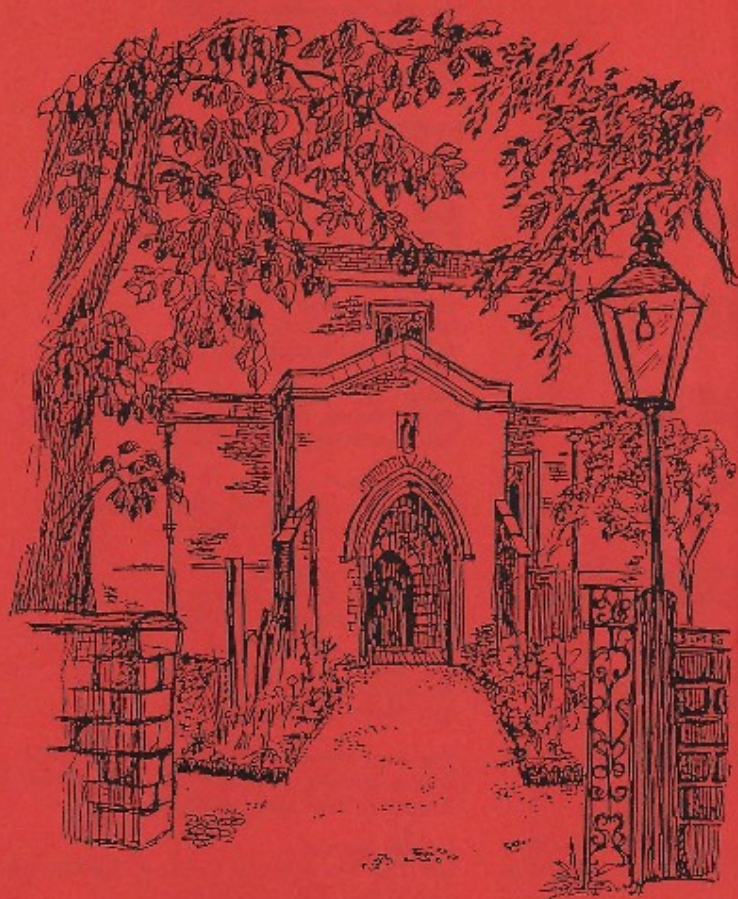


# ECTON CHURCH AND VILLAGE NEWS



**December & January**

# ECTON CHURCH DIRECTORY

RECTOR	The Reverend Peter Naylor Ecton Rectory, West Street, Ecton Tel: Northampton 416322 (Home) Northampton 406442 (Ecton House)
CHURCHWARDENS	John Strange Silver Howe, Barton Fields, Ecton Tel: Northampton 409306 Graham Jordan Pear Tree Cottage, Church Way Tel: Northampton 410255
PCC SECRETARY	Leslie Murdin 20 Church View, ECTON Tel: Northampton 409422
TREASURER	Robert Allison 9 The Courtyard, Ecton Hall, Ecton Tel: Northampton 409467
STEWARDSHIP RECORDER	Marian Gleave 19 Church View, ECTON Tel: Northampton 407889
ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER	Mary Dicks Field House, West Street, Ecton Tel: Northampton 407145
MAGAZINE EDITOR	The Rector Ecton House, Ecton, Northampton Tel: Northampton 406442
ASSISTANT EDITOR	Susan Oppenheim 137 Ecton Lane, Sywell Tel: Northampton 645462
MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTOR	Pat Baylis 34 West Street, Ecton Tel: Northampton 407707
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Contact Patricia Naylor - Tel: 416322 Every Sunday (except Parade Service first Sunday) 9.25 a.m. In Rectory Room
CHURCH ORGANIST AND CHOIR MASTER	Frank Brown 40 The Scarplands, Duston, Northampton Tel: Northampton 752266

## FROM THE RECTOR'S STUDY

On our recent holiday to Spain, Patricia and I experienced many wonderful visits to places of historic interest. There were the wonders of the Alhambra and the Moorish Gardens at the Generalife, Granada. Madrid is, as most of you know, a busy bustling modern city and there are many exciting places to see. The Royal Palace with the cathedral nearby, unused since Franco's bombers damaged it extensively during the Spanish Civil War, is happily now being restored to its former glory. Not far away is the Prado, an art gallery so large and so rich with paintings by most of the world's famous artists that after four or five hours of viewing we were overcome by the glory and had to leave. The Prado claims to be the finest picture gallery in the world.

Before cinema and television, artists provided a most useful service to mankind by recording events, re-affirming mythologies and leaving impressions of people of their age. As we wandered around the gallery my attention was taken by many scenes of battle and what came through was the appalling suffering that was the result of conflict between nations, clans and tribes. Men dying from grievous wounds on the battlefields far away was not a pretty sight.

We could take the view that man's inhumanity to man has not changed, especially when news of so much suffering is brought into our living room day by day. Do we give up in despair? As a Christian I believe that the story of mankind has never been entirely black. There have been wonderful examples of love and devoted service of saintly people of all ages. Consider some of the people you know who are wonderful examples of goodness, truth and beauty who are like bright stars in the darkness. A bright star shone over the stable two thousand years ago in a place called Bethlehem not far from Jerusalem which historians claim is the oldest city in the world, going back four thousand years. In that stable was born the Son of God; Jesus was the name given to Him, meaning "God Saves".

On Christmas cards and in numerous churches there will be a Christmas crib and once again I ask you to look at the scene and see how God made Himself so vulnerable by sending His only Son into the world to save us from our sins. All is perfection in this scene of Mary and Joseph and the Christ Child with angels and wise men looking on and animals resting in the straw. If God is God, He must be perfection and the intrusion into the affairs of the world must be one of perfection too. It is a scene of great beauty but it remains challenging in the extreme. We are asked to turn to the Father and follow His Son Jesus.

In the Prado there are many paintings depicting the Nativity scene by many of the world's great artists, but there was one picture which made me stop and stare. It made such an impression upon me that I will never forget it for the rest of my life. The theme was the Baptism of Jesus by John, painted by the Cretan, El Greco. A very tall and thin John the Baptist, with all the signs of the wilderness, is pouring water over a less tall but equally fit looking Jesus. Above their heads is a depiction of God the Father looking down with great tenderness and love on the Baptism of His beloved Son which was to lead in a few years time to His death on the Cross. Surrounding God are myriads of angels, tumbling, laughing, kicking, and frolicking, apparently in an ecstatic state of bliss. I have never seen a picture of such happiness in all my life. Christmas should be a time of divine happiness.

The angels announce the birth of Jesus and whenever anyone turns to God there is, so Jesus teaches us, "great joy in the Kingdom of Heaven."

*Every Blessing*  
*Peter Naylor*

## RECTOR'S NOTES

I was so pleased to see the many villagers and friends from afar who turned up for the ceremony at the Shrine on Remembrance Sunday. The Last Post and Reveille were played so beautifully and hauntingly by Lorraine MacFarlane, a young lady from Earls Barton. We did not forget the men of Ecton who died in far away places and we prayed for their souls that they may rest in peace.



The Ecton House Meeting will be held on Thursday at 7.30 pm. It will take the form of a preparation for Christmas and be part of the quiet day programme at Ecton House. The date, time and subject of the January meeting will be announced in church because at the time of going to press no opportunity presented itself to discuss with the group a change for the better.



You will find the programme of Advent and Christmas services in this magazine. I want you to remember that the great festival of Christmas presents an opportunity to encourage others who don't attend for whatever reason to be gathered up in our worshipping community. It is an opportunity to bring relatives and friends so that a greater measure of unity with God is expressed for the benefit of all. May I draw particular attention to Advent Sunday evening when the Lawrence Lloyd Singers will start our programme with a concert. Those of you who know their work will be aware of the excellence of their performance and the enrichment to the senses by their singing.



### SERMON CLASSES?

I wanted one of those pictures where the congregation are fast asleep in the pews and the preacher is droning on from the pulpit but I'm told it can't be found!

Could I possibly have YOUR help for part of my college course?

During this academic year I have to preach four sermons and two of these are to be in Ecton Church - on 20th December 1992 and 18th April 1993. What I need you to do is listen to one (or even both) of these and be prepared to give me some feedback afterwards.

The sermons will be during the 9.30 a.m. services and Peter, our Rector, has suggested that my 'sermon class' for these could be in the Lady Chapel straight after the service, over a cup of coffee.

I have a number of questionnaires which have to be completed so we could go through these in the 'class'. If you would be interested in helping me please:

- a) Make a note in your diaries as to when I'll be preaching;
- b) Come to Church on that morning armed with a pen;
- c) Pick up one of the questionnaires on arrival;
- d) Come to the Lady Chapel, with the questionnaire, after the service and help me to learn how to preach better sermons.

Thank you for your interest and assistance.

Mary Strange

P.S. In case you would like to know what the questions are before you decide whether you would care to help, they are:

1. What was the main point of the sermon, and was it clear throughout?
2. Did you learn anything new, or did anything ring a bell with you?
3. Did you find it - or points within it - hard to follow?
4. What relevance did it have to daily life?
5. Did you have any questions after hearing it?
6. Did you disagree with anything?
7. Could you hear?
8. Was delivery varied enough?
9. Was the sermon too long / too short?
10. Did it keep your attention? Why / why not?
11. Was visual material clear and visible?
12. What did you take away with you as a result of it?

\*\*\*\*

If you have lived in Ecton for many years and remember it when you were young please give me a telephone call or message. Ecton Fellowship are anxious to hear from these friends - men and women!

Joan Dickins

#### CHURCH WARDENS APPEAL

Thanks to all who contributed to the Famine Appeal instead of coming to a Harvest Supper. A total of £216 was sent to Crisis in Africa.



## CHOIR NOTES

On Monday, 21st December the annual Carol Singing round Ecton Village will take place, meeting at Ecton House at 6.30 p.m.

It is hoped that this year, we may be able to include more areas of the Village, as last year our efforts were curtailed by rain. We realise that the start is early in order to achieve coverage of this wider area, but it occurs to us that people may like to join in en-route as their arrival home from work permits.

We do really need the help of as many people as possible to augment our slender Choir resources.

This brings me neatly into the next paragraph!!

Our choir consists of a small, but extremely loyal, and happy band of singers some of whom, prior to joining had never really sung before.

We do desperately need more help so that when one or two of our present members are unavoidably absent we can still continue with a representative Choir. Please do seriously think about this - we need ladies, girls, boys (if possible) and gentlemen. Come and talk about it and please do not think that because you have not sung before that you have no voice. There are very few people indeed who can not sing.

## FAITH LUNCH

Do not forget: 29th November in Ecton House. Bring yourselves and some food which we can all share together. No entry fee, no raffle, no donations required, just you.

### JUST A CORRECTION.....

Last month I wrote a short paragraph about the new hand-board Jean Morrison has so kindly and thoughtfully researched.

Unfortunately both the content and vocabulary I used were not correctly printed.

The hand-board is quite separate from the booklet. There is only one hand-board for use only when going round the Church. The booklets are not written by Jean and can be bought and taken away. They are priced 20p.

Apologies to the author of the booklet for an editorial mistake.

Joan Dickins

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The total raised for the Royal British Legion this year in Ecton was £165.07.

I would like to thank all those who gave so generously together with the collectors who were:

Eileen Collip, Marian Gleave, Freda Richard, Joy Wilson, The Three Horseshoes and The Worlds End.

Sylvia Johnson

## WOMENS INSTITUTE

A new year commencing in the W.I. calendar; a new President welcomed in Stella, who announced her Committee, at this November Meeting, as follows:

Vice President	Mrs Harlott (Milly)
Hon. Secretary	Mrs Jones (Carol)
Hon. Treasurer.	Miss Gleave (Marion)
Committee	Mrs Wilson (Joy)
Members	Mrs Jones (Barbara)
	Mrs Scott (Margaret)
	Mrs Bane (Mary)

Mr Moss gave a most interesting talk on "The History, Evolution and Psychology of Perfumes".

Janet Robinson celebrates her 80th birthday this month; a collection was taken and a birthday card signed by all Members present. We miss Janet at our Meetings and hope the New Year will see her health restored.

Tuesday 1st December                      Speaker Mrs Barrett  
at 7.30 p.m.                                      (An organist herself)

Subject:                      "Pulling out the Stops"  
Competition:                A Decorated Candle

Tuesday 5th January                      Speaker Mr Ellson  
at 7.30 p.m.

Subject:                      "Music with Slides"  
Competition:                Short Poem about Ecton

Do attend and bring your friends

Christmas is almost upon us and on behalf of your President and Committee may I wish you a Happy Christmas and God's blessings in 1993

Mary Bane

### ECTON FELLOWSHIP

Our next meeting is our Christmas Party and Carols.

We hope all our Members will come and enjoy a very happy afternoon.

Please note change of time:  
3.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Please bring a small gift for the Bran Tub costing no more than 50p

Joan Dickins

### OVER 60'S CLUB

Members enjoyed a Fish and Chip Supper in October and ended the evening with a sing-song lead by Sue, Sandy and a pianist.

#### Monday Meetings

7th December, 4th and 18th January in the Rectory Room at 2.30 p.m.

#### Whist Drives

3rd December and 21st January in Rectory Room  
7.15 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

#### Christmas Dinner

AT Ecton House on Thursday, 10th December.  
6.00 p.m. for 6.30 p.m.

Over 60's thank Ecton PCC for their kind donation of £75.

Denise Langley

## BIBLE CAKE

### Ingredients

1/2 lb Judges 5:25  
1/2 lb Jeremiah 6:20  
1 tablespoon 1 Samuel 14:25  
3 Jeremiah 17:11  
1/2 lb Samuel 30:12  
2 oz Nahum 3:12 (Chopped)  
2 oz Numbers 17:8 (Blended and Chopped)  
1 lb 1 Kings 4:22  
1 teaspoon Exodus 35:28  
3 teaspoons Baking Powder  
Judges 4:19 (to mix)  
Royal Icing  
Preheat Oven to 325 deg F, Gas Mark 3  
Grease and line a large 9" round cake tin

### Method

Cream Judges 5:25 with Jeremiah 6:20.  
Beat 1 Samuel 14:25 with Jeremiah 17:11.  
Add to Judges and Jeremiah with a little Kings.  
Mix remainder of Kings with Baking Powder, Samuel 30:12, Nahum, Numbers and Exodus.  
Fold this mixture into Judges and Jeremiah adding enough Judges 4:19 to make a soft dropping consistency.  
Put mixture in cake tin scooping out a hollow in the centre.  
Bake in the centre of preheated oven for about one and a half hours or until cooked.  
Cool on a wine tray and ice when cold.

### ECTON FELLOWSHIP 1993

The next Meeting will be in January 1993 - Tuesday, 12th. When the Reverend Geoffrey Cox from Wollaston will come and talk to us.

Everyone welcome. We begin at 2.30 p.m.

### CHRISTMAS CHURCH FLOWERS

We shall be decorating the Church on Wednesday, 23rd at 2.00 p.m. and would be glad to see anyone willing to help. Also any donations for flowers given to Pat Bayliss would be appreciated.

Pauline and Freda

### BELL-RINGERS

We hope that you have noticed some improvement in the bell-ringing in the Village. Of course, we are far from perfect, but what we lack in skill we make up for in enthusiasm.

It is disappointing that we have only five regular ringers as this means that if more than one of us are unable to attend on a Sunday ringing is not possible.

We have recently been joined by three new recruits so, hopefully, in the not too distant future the situation will improve. It would be nice to be able to make Sunday ringing a regular event.

Dorothy Creed

### SERVERS ROTA

29th November	Leslie Murdin
6th December	Charles Jordan
13th December	John Strange
20th December	Victoria Green
27th December	Leslie Murdin

### 1993

3rd January	Charles Jordan
10th January	John Strange
17th January	Victoria Green
24th January	Leslie Murdin
31st January	Charles Jordan

### OCTOBER 1992

#### COLLECTIONS

	£
4th October	288.60
11th October	110.15
18th October	147.35
25th October	128.77
1st November	237.50
8th November	180.64

#### MAGAZINE

Many thanks for your contributions to the cost of the magazine. They are a great help to Church funds.

Bob Allison



## SERVICES AND SPECIAL EVENTS FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

### DECEMBER 6TH - SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

- 9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School
- 6.00 pm A Christingle Service in aid of the  
Church of England Children's Society.

### DECEMBER 13TH - THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

- 9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School
- 6.00 pm Choral Evensong with the Choir of St Alban  
the Martyr, Broadmead Avenue, Northampton

### DECEMBER 20TH - FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

- 9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School
- 6.00 pm Nine Lessons and Carols.  
A simple presentation of the Christmas message  
with hymns that everybody knows.

### THURSDAY DECEMBER 24TH - CHRISTMAS EVE

- 6.00 pm Carol Service for all ages with the  
Blessing of the Christmas Crib.
- 11.30 pm Midnight Mass

### FRIDAY DECEMBER 25TH - CHRISTMAS DAY

- 9.30 am Parish Communion
- 6.00 pm Evensong

SEE THE HOLY LAND WITH THE B.B.C.

We have been asked to plug the trip with David Saint is making with Radio Northampton to the Holy Land. This trip takes place from 3rd to 13th May 1993 and costs £948 per person.

The eleven day trip includes Jerusalem, Masada, the Dead Sea, Galilee, Nazareth and Cana.

In fairness this is not the only Holy Land tour next year. You will find details of other dates and tour leaders in the Church porch if you are interested.

If, however, eleven days with Radio Northampton is your scene telephone Northampton 239100 for more details.

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THE ECTON CHRISTMAS CARD

Available from Ian Henderson at the bargain price of £3.00 for 10.

These magnificent cards have a drawing of the Church on the front which was produced by Stephen Meakins.

We have 1000 to sell so call in at 48 High Street, Ecton to buy yours now!



# **BROWNIE CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

at

**Lings Theatre**

on

**18th December**

**6.30 - 7.30 p.m.**

**£1.00 Adult**

**50p Child**



Please contact Trish Fuller (Northampton 403137) if you are interested in running or helping to run a Brownie Unit.



# CHURCH AND VILLAGE DIARY

## DECEMBER 1992

### Tuesday, 1 December

7.30 pm Women's Institute meet in the Rectory Room

### Thursday, 3 December

9.30 am Holy Communion

7.15 pm Whist Drive in the Rectory Room

### SECOND IN ADVENT : Sunday, 6 December

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School

2 Timothy 3 14-4.5 : John 5 36b-end

6.00 pm Christingle Service supported by young people's organisations  
The speaker at both services will be John Bruce, Church of  
England Children's Society

7.00 pm Pathfinders

### Monday, 7 December

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

2.30 pm Over Sixties meet in the Rectory Room

### Tuesday, 8 December

2.30 pm Ecton Fellowship Party

### Thursday, 10 December

9.30 am Holy Communion

6.00 pm Over Sixties Christmas Dinner

### THIRD IN ADVENT : Sunday, 13 December

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School

1 Corinthians 4 1-5 : John 1 19-28

6.00 pm Choral Evensong with the Choir of St Alban the Martyr,  
Broadmead Avenue, Northampton

7.00 pm Pathfinders

### Monday, 14 December

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

8.00 pm Cricket Club Meeting in the Rectory Room

**Thursday, 17 December**

9.30 am Holy Communion

7.15 pm Whist Drive in the Rectory Room

7.30 pm Ecton House Meeting : "A Preparation for Christmas"

**FOURTH IN ADVENT : Sunday, 20 December**

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School

Isaiah 11 1-9 : Luke 1 26-38a

6.00 pm **Nine Lessons and Carols** : A simple presentation of the Christmas message with hymns that everybody knows.

7.00 pm Pathfinders

**Monday, 21 December**

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

6.30 pm Carol Singing in the village (*Meet at Ecton House*)

**CHRISTMAS EVE : Thursday, 24 December**

9.30 am Holy Communion

6.00 pm Carol Service for all ages with the Blessing of the Christmas Crib

11.30 pm Midnight Mass - Titus 2 11-14 and 3 3-7 : John 1 1-14

**CHRISTMAS DAY : Friday, 25 December**

9.30 am Parish Communion

6.00 pm Evensong

**ST STEPHEN THE MARTYR : Saturday, 26 December**

9.30 am Parish Communion

**SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS : 27 December**

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School

Isaiah 10-14 : John 1 14-18

6.00 pm Evensong

**HOLY INNOCENTS : Monday, 28 December**

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

**ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST : Tuesday, 29 December**

7.30 pm Holy Communion

**Thursday, 31 December**

9.30 am Holy Communion

## JANUARY 1993

### **NAMING OF JESUS : Friday, 1 January**

7.30 pm Holy Communion

### **CHRISTMAS 2 : Sunday, 3 January**

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School

Exod. 12 21-27 : Luke 2 41-end

6.00 pm Evensong

### **Monday, 4 January**

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

2.30 pm Over Sixties meet in the Rectory Room

### **THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD : Wednesday, 6 January**

9.30 am Holy Communion

7.30 pm Holy Communion

### **Thursday, 7 January**

9.30 am Holy Communion

### **EPIPHANY 1 : Sunday, 10 January**

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School

Acts 10 34-38a : Matthew 3 13-end

6.00 pm Evensong

7.00 pm Pathfinders

### **Monday, 11 January**

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

### **Tuesday, 12 January**

2.30 pm Ecton Fellowship meet in the Rectory Room

### **Thursday, 13 January**

9.30 am Holy Communion

### **EPIPHANY : Sunday, 17 January**

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School

Jeremiah 1 4-10 : Mark 1 14-20

6.00 pm Evensong

7.00 pm Pathfinders

**Monday, 18 January**

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel  
2.30 pm Over Sixties meet in the Rectory Room

**Thursday, 21 January**

9.30 am Holy Communion  
7.15 pm Whist Drive in the Rectory Room

**EPIPHANY 3 : Sunday, 24 January**

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School  
Exodus 33 12-end : John 2 1-11  
6.00 pm Evensong  
7.00 pm Pathfinders

**THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL : Monday, 25 January**

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel  
7.30 pm Holy Communion

**Thursday, 28 January**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**EPIPHANY 4 : Sunday, 31 January**

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School  
1 Cor. 3 10-17 : John 2 13-22  
6.00 pm Evensong  
7.00 pm Pathfinders

## PARISH AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

PARISH COUNCIL	<b>Chairman</b>	Sheila Ingram Tel: Northampton 406038
ECTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	<b>Headteacher</b>	Helen Tite Tel: Northampton 409213
ECTON FELLOWSHIP	<b>Contact</b>	Joyce Orford Tel: Northampton 414245 2nd Tuesday in month 2.30 pm in Rectory Room
ECTON W.I.	<b>Contact</b>	Stella Gibson Tel: Northampton 405350 1st Tuesday in month 7.30 p.m. in Rectory Room
OVER 60's	<b>Contact</b>	Denise Langley Tel: Northampton 404173 Twice monthly on Mondays 2.30 pm in Rectory Room
YOUTH CLUB & SENIOR CLUB	<b>Contact</b>	Mary Beesley Tel: Northampton 810577 Y.C. Wednesday 7.00 - 9.00 pm S.C. Tuesday 8.00 pm, Club Hall, High Street, Ecton
MUMS & TOTS	<b>Contact</b>	Julie Perry 58 Allard Close, Rectory Farm Every Thursday 2.30 - 4.00 pm in Rectory Room
PLAYGROUP	<b>Contact</b>	Tuesday and Friday 9.15-11.45 am Youth Club Hall, High Street, Ecton
CRICKET CLUB	<b>Captain</b>	Steve Wheatman Tel: Northampton 401714
	<b>Secretary</b>	Hilary Kearsley Tel: Northampton 810922
BROWNIES	<b>Contact</b>	Tricia Fuller Tel: Northampton 403137
BELL RINGERS	<b>Contact</b>	Dorothy Creed Tel: Northampton 407864
PATHFINDERS	<b>Contact</b>	James Fraser at Ecton House Tel: Northampton 406442

# EAST LODGE FARM

## RIDING ESTABLISHMENT

SMALL GROUP CLASSES OR  
INDIVIDUAL PRIVATE TUITION  
NERVOUS - BEGINNERS  
ESPECIALLY CATERED FOR  
HACKS

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CROSS COUNTRY COURSE FOR HIRE  
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Mrs K White  
East Lodge Farm  
Ecton, Northampton

Telephone:  
(0604) 810244

# ECTON HOUSE



PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN CONFERENCE  
CENTRE AND RETREAT HOUSE

The Reverend Peter Naylor, Warden  
Ecton House, Ecton, Northampton NN6 0QE  
Telephone: Northampton (0604) 406442