

ST MARY MAGDALENE, ECTON

CHURCH AND VILLAGE NEWS



February 1995

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 Henry Pinney 91 Henshaw Road, Wellingborough Tel: Wellingborough 277021
PCC SECRETARY	Nick Greene 43 Collyweston Road, Rectory Farm, Tel: Northampton 414619
ACTING TREASURER	John Strange Silver Howe, Barton Fields, Ecton Tel: Northampton 409306
STEWARDSHIP RECORDER	Marlan Gleave 19 Church View, ECTON Tel: Northampton 407889
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MAGAZINE EDITOR	Anne Henderson 48 High Street, Ecton Tel: Northampton 405942
MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTOR	The Rector 32 West Street, Ecton Tel: Northampton 416322
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

It could be that I am wrong in my assessment of what is going on at the present time within society. If there are readers who disagree with my views then I should be pleased to hear from them. However, I contend that our nation is divided between those who think they know what is going on in the world, or society, and those who are active, day by day, doing good in a multitude of ways for the benefit of their neighbours.

Our television screens, radio programmes and newspapers seem filled with pundits and interpreters with their slick answers and shallow premises. We are bombarded with views on what makes society tick and how people should behave.

I find myself becoming distanced from such a world portrayed by the opinions of the media because they seem to have nothing to do with the world around me. As an experienced priest, who has also spent some time in the army and in industry, I see much good going on in every day lives and hear intelligent and perceptive discussions. Like others I am moved by wonderful examples of holiness and self-sacrifice. The trouble is that my experience does not match the experiences of those who think they know best. Some will accuse me of living in cloud cuckoo land but they are entitled to their opinions.

Perhaps a time has come for the main body of people in this country, who have its good will at heart, to rise up and denounce the trivialisers who are often paid large sums of money for their empty slickness. The heart of the matter is the spiritual health of our

/Continued

FROM THE RECTOR'S STUDY CONTINUED

nation. Countless people say their prayers, publicly and privately, and more people go to church on a regular basis than we are led to believe by the scoffers. Good deeds abound in all sections of our community. We must let the good news break through and kick those fashionable cynicisms into touch. The Gospel message of Jesus Christ is entirely one of good news. We must always be ready to encourage each other in the keeping of the faith. What we want is a land governed by sound religious practice and philosophy. Let's take heart that there is so much which is positive in our nation and not be downcast when we hear the glib put-downs and nasty innuendoes pouring into our homes on television, radio and in the newspapers. Remember, too, that all goodness comes from God.

The best news of all comes from the 'Good Book' which is as true today as ever. All human experience is to be found in the Bible and Jesus identified himself with every facet of mankind's experience showing us how to be good.

Alleluia

Every Blessing
PETER NAYLOR

RECTOR'S NOTES

Patricia and I wish to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the many greetings cards and messages that we received at Christmas time. It is so good to be remembered and reassuring to have your loving support and goodwill.

Most of you will know by now that we have a new editor of the magazine. Anne Henderson has taken the place of John Strange who has manfully been responsible for this publication during the last few years. We are grateful for this contribution by a busy member of the congregation and I want John to know how much we have appreciated his efforts. Anne will bring new gifts to the post and I am sure you will give her much support and encouragement. Contributions to the magazine should be left at Ecton House in an envelope clearly marked *Parish Magazine*.

The Annual Parochial Meeting will be held in the Conference Room at Ecton House on Sunday, 2nd April, 1995 following Evensong. This meeting is the most important of the year during which elections are held, the accounts for the year presented for approval, reports heard and significant matters of business discussed. As Bruce Forsyth would say, 'be there'.

RECTOR'S NOTES CONTINUED

I have refrained from making any mention of the 'Pass it on Scheme'. You will all have received the literature and will no doubt have responded generously. However, I want all those who are taking part in the organisation of this renewal of our stewardship to know how much their efforts are appreciated.

Bishop William is leading a Lent Course entitled '*On Being a Christian in Hard Times*', on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm at All Saints Church, Midland Road, Wellingborough. The Rural Dean has asked that we support this programme rather than any local parochial event. Lifts in cars will be organised (see details at the back of the church). The programme is printed elsewhere in the magazine.

BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP NOTES

It was good to have three more people start taking the notes after Bible Sunday, and it is still not too late to join, as February is the month for sending in the orders for the next year which runs from May 1995 to April 1996.

The prices for the whole year's booklets are £7.05 for Guidelines and New Daylight; or £10.50 for the large print edition of New Daylight.

Marian Gleave

ON BEING A CHRISTIAN IN HARD TIMES



THE BISHOP OF PETERBOROUGH

THE RIGHT REVD WILLIAM WESTWOOD M.A., LL.D.

WEDNESDAYS AT 7.30 p.m.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, MIDLAND ROAD, WELLINGBOROUGH

8th March	"Believing in God"
15th March	"Jesus"
22nd March	"The Easter People"
29th March	"Personal Religion"
5th April	"Life, Death and Hope"

All Welcome
Coffee after the Service

MINI MARKET

RECTORY ROOM, CHURCH WAY, ECTON

SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY

2.00 - 5.00 pm

Nearly New Adults and Childrens Clothes

Books ★★ Cakes ★★ Groceries

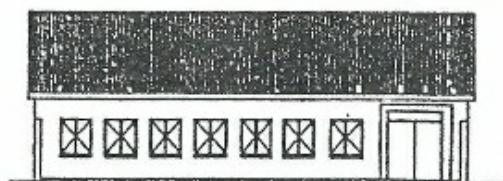
★★ Bring and Buy Gifts ★★

Refreshments ★★ Raffle

**ALL PROCEEDS TOWARDS
CHURCH CUSHIONS AND KNEELERS**

PLEASE COME WITH YOUR FRIENDS, BRING A GIFT AND BUY A BARGAIN.

PARAPLEGIC WORKSHOP/DAY CENTRE NONGOMA, ZULULAND



Nongoma Hospital has 590 beds and a large number of day clinics scattered around the district. It is the only hospital for a population of 150,000 people from an area of 1,000 square miles. Some people are referred here from 70 miles away. In this "Victorian" hospital the beds are tightly packed and patients sit in rows in cold stone corridors waiting for clinics. There is no provision or space for any form of occupational therapy, but the number of long stay patients both young and old, most of whom are paraplegics, is growing.

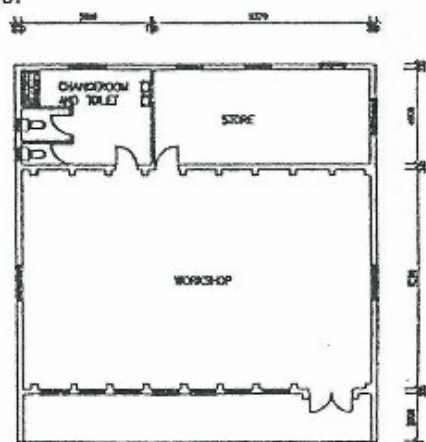
It is proposed to try and make life more bearable by providing a workshop/day centre where patients may spend their time, learning to use their hands again, continue their education, play games or watch television, therefore improving their quality of life.

The cost of the room is £40,000 and with a donation from the Palm Cross Industry the fund at present stands at £15,000. We invite you to prayerfully consider giving a further donation therefore enabling us to reach our target and therefore making available essential help for our less fortunate brother and sisters.

Please send your donation to:

"Nongoma Hospital Appeal"
Palm Cross Administrator,
Emmanuel Church,
Weston Favell Centre,
Northampton
NN3 8JR

or enclose with your
Palm Cross order.



PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Our November meeting had quite a short agenda but we still had a longer meeting than normal. Several items were outstanding from the last meeting.

Firstly, it has been confirmed that the broken reflectors on Lower Ecton Lane will be replaced in the near future. Secondly, the matter concerning the cottages under repair next to the Three Horseshoes. A new rainwater downpipe had been fitted without a drain and this would have discharged onto the footpath leading up to the Church and caused dangerous icy patches in winter. This issue was taken up with the Planning Department at Wellingborough Borough and a new drain has now been installed. Lastly, the one item that we do not seem to be having any success with concerns helicopters flying directly over the village. Despite previous letters, we have not yet had any response from either of the two companies at Sywell. It would seem as if the village is used as a landmark or turning point. However we shall pursue this further.

The meeting then continued with the current business. One of our main responsibilities is street lighting and estimates for repairs to three of our lamps were discussed which will cost over £63. A new lamp would cost about £800.00 at present prices.

The Annual Audit of our accounts was arranged to take place on 3 January 1995 at the offices of Wellingborough Borough Council.

A petition containing 144 signatures from the village was then discussed at some length. It contained various points of concern to the signatories relating to traffic conditions and street lighting within the village. It was noted that during recent years all the points raised in the petition had been referred by the Parish Council to either the County Council or Wellingborough Borough Council. Unfortunately, despite our efforts, we have previously been told that either funds were not available or the item was not high enough in priority for action to be taken. However, in response to this petition, the Parish Council will endeavour once again to bring these matters to the attention of the appropriate authorities. With this in mind it was agreed that an open meeting should be held sometime in February with representatives from both Northants County Council and Wellingborough Borough Council present to answer questions.

David Dicks, Chairman.

November 1994

PLEASE NOTE

VILLAGE OPEN MEETING

TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 1995

IN THE RECTORY ROOM AT 7.30 PM

WATCH THIS SPACE - CONTINUED!

It's like a breeze, like a dawn, like the first flowers of spring. It's uplifting, refreshing, exhilarating.

These are my thoughts as I look forward to involving everyone in our community in the Pass-it-on Scheme which takes place between the 12th and 26th February 1995.

Every person will be asked to participate personally. If we all commit positively the Scheme will be a resounding success. We will be able to sing our thanks and praises from the hilltops. Everyone will be smiling from ear to ear. It will be uplifting.

Be as generous as you can in terms of time, talent and treasure to ensure the preservation of our lovely Church. Simply say yes and let your "heart rule your head".

We all need to help each other in this vital activity - can I say a very big thank you in advance and I look forward to smiling with you. Let's make February the month of enlightenment.

Once again a very big thank you for all of your help.

- David Tuck



News and Information

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE REPORT

PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 7th February at 7.30 pm

Scrabble Evening / New Zealand Video (Joy Wilson)

Competition: The Game

Teas: Mrs V Knight and Mrs J Henson

DECEMBER seems a long way away - but we had a very happy Christmas meeting. Sandie and friend Steve entertained us with songs and carols - we joined in with hearty enthusiasm, if nothing else!

The evening rounded off with refreshments supplied by the committee - including a glass of wine. The tables all looked very colourful - with crackers and flower arrangements. Paddy proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of all members.

Competition: Christmas Cracker

1. Jane Henson : 2. June Marshman : 3. Jean Haycox

JANUARY

Due to inclement weather this meeting was rather poorly attended.

/Continued



The Church of St Mary Magdalene, Ecton.
Tel. No. (01604) 406442

28th January 1995

Dear Friend,

You will have seen in the last two issues of the magazine that the Church is in need of funds. All regular church goers who appear on the Church's Electoral Roll are in the process of being approached for assistance.

Your name does not appear on the Church's roll but we have felt able to approach you since the Church of St Mary Magdalene is available to all and you may well wish to assist in maintaining our lovely old Church.

The Church of St Mary Magdalene has been in Ecton for centuries and parts of the present building date from the 12th Century. During all this time the Church has been maintained by the people of the village to a greater or lesser degree. This ongoing process of maintenance is costly and we seek your help in financing this.

There is reportedly a reluctance to spend in the present economic climate but we are not asking you to "spend", rather we are requesting you to "invest" in the future of the Church of St Mary Magdalene in Ecton - "our Church" - so that the whole village is involved in this ongoing task for the benefit of future generations. Please give as generously as you can, either by a donation or on a regular basis if you wish to continue to help.

It may be that you are a regular Church goer who has missed admission to the Electoral Roll, or are proposing to attend Church in the future. If so please make yourself known to the Rector or one of the Church Wardens so that your name can be placed on the records.

The tear-off slip below is available to record your wishes. Please complete it and return it to the Rectory, 32 West Street when you will be contacted by a member of the Committee as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Rector

Standing Order	f.....	Name and Address	
Covenant	f.....		
Donation	f.....		

W.I. REPORT Continued

Following the reading of the minutes Stella Gibson welcomed members and wishing them a Happy New Year. Plans for the Women's Institute Birthday Dinner were discussed and menus read out. Choices from the menu may be made next month. An entertainment has been arranged, along with suggestions from members. Committee are opting out this year! Remember that each member brings a gift (approximately £1.00 in value) to exchange with each other.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us again.

'Make-Over' Evening at Boots - names to Millie Harlot please.

Business over - Stella welcomed Adrian Scott, our speaker, and there then followed an *active and most informative* hour on *Healthy Exercise*. Adrian certainly looked very fit, talked us through a simple fitness programme, showing us that however limited in our movements we think we are, we can always make improvements with careful exercise. If you don't '*use it*' you '*lose it*' - they say! Adrian laid down a '*plan*' for us all to follow over the next few weeks. Get walking! He would also be prepared to arrange an exercise class on a regular basis - if we are interested - how about it?

Stella Gibson proposed a vote of thanks.

Competition : Action Photograph

1. Stella Gibson : 2. June Marshman :3. Margaret Scott

June Marshman

Prison(Christian)Fellowship Wellingborough.

Meets for prayer to uphold before God:-

the inmates of Wellingborough prison that
many may be drawn to Christ
their families through the difficulties of
separation,

the Rev Nigel Dent and the chaplaincy team,
the Governor and all the prison staff,
ex-offenders as they adjust back into
the community,

new thinking on penal reform,

Prison Fellowship activities in this
country and over-seas

Anyone would be most welcome to join us
on the first Wednesday of each month

8:15 for 8:30 until 9:30 pm.

at Kingsway Methodist Church.

ECTON MONDAY CLUB

Another year has gone by when we enjoyed two fish and chip suppers, a day at Warwick with lunch and tea, two evening trips and one half-day to Bourton on the Water with tea, plus afternoon tea with Mr and Mrs J Beesley, finishing off with our Christmas dinner.

Sadly losing another member, Mrs Murdin, making three deaths this last year. We still have a regular meeting fortnightly of about 14 members.

The Whist Drives have done very well, 10 tables in December which help to subsidise the outings. Many thanks to Mr C Marden, Mrs D Creed and Mrs M Beesley for their continued help.

February meetings are 6th and 20th. Whist Drive 23rd, 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm.

Come and join us.

Freda and Eileen

VILLAGE PETITION

I wish to thank everyone who signed the petition. I only did it for four days to enable me to give it to the Parish Council at their next meeting, so was unable to see everyone. But there is an open meeting on February 22nd at 7.30 pm in the Rectory Room, so all please come and support us to give your views and suggestions about your VILLAGE.

Thank You
Freda Richards

ECTON HALL CRICKET CLUB

The first draw for the 1995 Draw Pool will be on February 26th. Winners for 1994 were as follows:

Feb	No 58	B Wheatman	No 76	F Wallis
Mar	No 153	G Day	No 74	S Fitzhugh
Apr	No 59	T Warren	No 160	D Cross
May	No 12	M Kearsley	No 7	M Kearsley
Jun	No 86	P Booth	No 2	M Kearsley
Jul	No 75	P Darwin	No 141	G Wright
Aug	No 29	P Beck	No 122	T Underwood
Sep	No 157	E Beasley	No 104	A Clements
Oct	No 1	M Kearsley	No 88	S Johnson
Nov	No 98	A Patching	No 128	M Bullock
Dec	No 101	T Beasley	No 19	M Kearsley

The Club's AGM will be on Monday, February 13th at 8.00 pm in the Rectory Room. All interested people are welcome.

Brian Saunders

JIGSAW PUZZLES

I have a selection of puzzles and wondered if anyone would be interested in an idea of paying a small fee to borrow them in aid of the Church Clock Fund.

Freda Richards
(405928)

COFFEE ROTA

5th February	Sue and Les Mitchell
12th February	Nick and Mary Greene
19th February	Alice Adams and Wynne Voss
26th February	Pat Peacock and Dorothy Creed
5th March	Jean Leigh and Brenda Jones
12th March	Millie Harlott and Dora Reynolds
19th March	Sue and Les Mitchell
26th March	Nick and Mary Greene

CLEANING ROTA

4th February	Green B
11th February	Orange A
18th February	Red B
25th February	Pink A

BRASS CLEANING

18th February

BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP NOTES

This Group meets on the first Wednesday each month at 7.45 pm for coffee or tea followed by praise and prayer for an hour from 8 pm to 9 pm. It is open to everyone and if you come (we hope you will) you will find a warm friendly welcome.

The next meeting is at *34 West Street, Ecton* on Wednesday 1st February. The theme will be *Humility*. The March meeting is also on Wednesday 1st.

Why not come along and join us.

ECTON FELLOWSHIP

Our February meeting is on Friday, 17th February when we are going to Northampton College for lunch. We shall leave Ecton House at 12 noon. Transport will be arranged for everyone. The cost is £4.75 and we shall each pay our own bill.

Husbands, friends etc are very welcome as long as I have final numbers by Thursday, 9th February.

Joan Dickins
(Tel: 415576)

DIARY - FEBRUARY 1995

Wednesday 1st February

8.00 pm Prayer & Praise Group, 34 West Street, Ecton

PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE : Thursday 2nd February

9.30 am Holy Communion

7.30 pm Holy Communion

Saturday 4th February

1pm Kneeler Fund Raising Group in the Rectory Room

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY : 5th February

9.30 am Family Service

6.00 pm Holy Communion (1662) with hymns

Monday 6th February

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

2.30 pm Monday Club meet in the Rectory Room

Tuesday 7th February

7.30 pm Ecton Women's Institute meet in the Rectory Room

7.30 pm Ecton School "An Evening of Promises"

Ecton House

Thursday 9th February

9.30 am Holy Communion

THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT : 12th February

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School

Launch of the Pass-it-on Scheme during the Service

1 Corinthians 4. 8-13 : Matthew 5. 1-12

6.00 pm Evensong

Monday 13th February

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

Tuesday 14th February

2.30 pm Ecton Fellowship meet in the Rectory Room

Thursday 16th February

9.30 am Holy Communion

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT : 19th February

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School

James 5. 13-16a : Mark 2. 1-12

6.00 pm Evensong

Monday 20th February

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

2.30 pm Monday Club meet in the Rectory Room

Wednesday 22nd February

7.30 pm Ecton Parish Meeting Open to the Public
in the Rectory Room

Thursday 23rd February

9.30 am Holy Communion

6.30 pm Women's Institute Party Supper 6.30 pm for 7 pm
Ecton House

7.30 pm Monday Club Whist Drive in the Rectory Room

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT : 26th February

9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday School

THANKSGIVING FOR THE PASS-IT-ON SCHEME

Philemon 1-16 : Mark 2. 13-17

6.00 pm Evensong

Monday 27th February

7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel

ASH WEDNESDAY : 1st March

9.30 am Holy Communion (said)

7.30 pm Holy Communion (Sung)

Thursday 2nd March
9.30 am Holy Communion

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT : 5th March
9.30 am Family Service
6.00 pm Holy Communion (1662) with hymns

SERVERS ROTA

FEBRUARY

5th Family Service
12th Charles Jordan
19th Charlotte Green
26th Graham Jordan

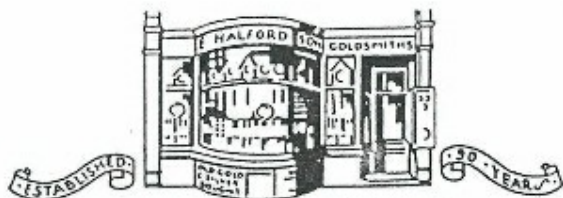
MARCH

3rd Family Service
10th Victoria Green
17th Simon Tottin
24th Charles Jordan
31st Charlotte Green

**If unable to serve
please swap with someone else**

John Strange

**Magazine Copy for MARCH to Ecton
House (clearly labelled) by 14th February
please.**



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oldest and most respected jewellers.

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PARISH AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

PARISH COUNCIL	Chairman	David Dicks Tel: Northampton 407145
ECTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	Headteacher	Diane Perry Tel: Northampton 409213
ECTON FELLOWSHIP	Contact	Joyce Orford Tel: Northampton 414245 2nd Tuesday in month 2.30 pm in Rectory Room
ECTON W.I.	Contact	Stella Gibson Tel: Northampton 405350 1st Tuesday in month 7.30 p.m. in Rectory Room
THE MONDAY CLUB	Contact	Eileen Collip or Freda Richards Tel: Northampton 405688 or 405928 Twice monthly on Mondays 2.30 pm in Rectory Room
YOUTH CLUB & SENIOR CLUB	Contact	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	Contact	Maha Hillier Tel: Northampton 784379 Every Wednesday 2.00 - 3.30 pm in Rectory Room
PLAYGROUP	Contact	Debbie Norwood Tel: Northampton 414330 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9.30-12 noon Youth Club Hall, High Street, Ecton
CRICKET CLUB	Captain	Steve Wheatman Tel: Northampton 401714
	Secretary	Hilary Kearsley Tel: Northampton 810922
BELL RINGERS	Contact	Dorothy Creed Tel: Northampton 407864

