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**ST. MARY MAGDALENE  
ECTON**



**PARISH MAGAZINE**

**FEBRUARY 2000**

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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

### FELLOWSHIP

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

### CRICKET CLUB

Captain: Steve Wheatman  
Tel: 01604 401714

### MONDAY CLUB

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

### MUMS & TOTS

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

### PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: David Dicks  
Tel: 01604 407145

### PRE-SCHOOL

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

### PRIMARY SCHOOL

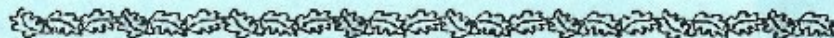
Head teacher: Sheila Sayers  
Tel: 01604 409213

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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

### ECTON VILLAGE CLUB

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



### MAGAZINE EDITOR

Anne Henderson, 48 High Street, Ecton  
Tel: 01604 405942

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

The reverend Stephen Evans  
The Rectory, 32 West Street, Ecton  
Tel: 01604 416322

### PCC SECRETARY

Gwenda Barty  
1 East Butterfield Court  
Northampton  
Tel: 01604 642117

### ASSOCIATE PRIEST

The Reverend James Mogridge  
April Cottage, Little Harrowden  
Northants NN9 5BB  
Tel: 01933 678412

### PCC TREASURER

William Wilson  
The Grange, Ecton  
NN6 0QE  
Tel: 01604 406053

### ECTON HOUSE OFFICE

Church Way, Ecton  
Tel: 01604 406442

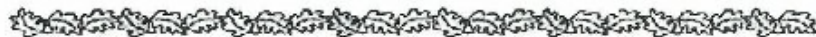
### ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

Mary Dicks  
Field House, West Street, Ecton  
Tel: 01604 407145

### CHURCHWARDENS

Dorothy Creed  
22a Church View, Ecton  
Tel: 01604 407864

Walter Barty  
1 East Butterfield Court  
Northampton  
Tel: 01604 642117



Copy for MARCH Magazine to  
Anne Henderson - 48 High Street, Ecton  
By 14 February please

## From the Priest-in-Charge

By the time most people are reading this letter you will have heard that I am to leave Ecton and become Rector of Uppingham with Wardley, Ayston and Belton in Rutland. It will be good to stay in the Diocese of Peterborough, although the move comes eighteen months, or so, earlier than expected.

My departure will raise many questions both within the parish and within the diocese. Unlike my predecessors, all of whom been Rectors of Ecton, my appointment as Priest-in-Charge meant that I was here for a limited period of time, on a contract. With the closure of Ecton House, that contract will come to an end, and the Bishop of Peterborough has asked me to move on.

The move will mean several things: it will mean that I shall return to full-time parish ministry and that I shall lay down the heavy responsibilities of being responsible for clergy training throughout the diocese as well as running the 30-bed hotel which is Ecton House; it will mean the expense and upheaval of moving to a new house and a new part of England within 30 months of the last move but, most importantly, it will mean a period of uncertainty for the village and worshipping community as it, along with the diocese discerns its future under God.

Since January 1998, I have been richly blessed in having Fr. James as a colleague and Ecton has been very fortunate in having Fr. James as a true parish priest to the village, something my other diocesan commitments have prevented me from being. James will remain your priest, once I leave in July, and it is unlikely that most people will notice much change in the day to day arrangements made for the pastoral care and worshipping life of the parish. Longer term, planning and decisions are yet to be undertaken, and I am sure that the diocese will wish to know your views and opinions before any firm proposals are made.

Please remember me, Diana, Lydia, and the people of Uppingham, in your prayers and please continue to give Fr. James your full support and your love.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hepton', with a long horizontal line extending to the left from the top of the first letter.

## **NOT MORE ABOUT MONEY!!**

**As part of our fund-raising efforts towards making improvements to the facilities in our church, the PCC has agreed to the setting up of a Monthly Club, Tote, Hundred Club – call it what you will.**

**This means inviting people to undertake to contribute £1 a month (more in multiples of £1 if they wish) to a tote which will be drawn monthly. Half the proceeds will be given back to members in prizes and the other half will go into the Church Development Fund to create those improvements in the church which we shall need after Ecton House closes.**

**The money raised will be earmarked solely for use in improving the church fabric and facilities, and will not be available for spending on books, candles, etc. – materials for worship. In this way it is hoped that people who do not worship regularly with us, but who wish to see the church building maintained and developed as a significant part of our community, will feel able to take part.**

**The Monthly Club will be registered with Wellingborough Borough Council and properly conducted under the Lotteries and Amusements Act, 1796.**

**Please consider supporting us when an approach is made.**

**James**

*Church and Village Diary*  
*February 2000*

**Tuesday 1st February**

9.00am

6.30pm

Holy Communion.

Women's Institute meal at Ecton House.

**Sunday 6th February**

9.30am

6.00pm

**Fifth Sunday before Lent**

Parish Communion: Isaiah 40. 21-31; Psalm 147. 1-12, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9. 16-23; Mark 1 29-39.

Evensong.

**Monday 7th February**

2.00pm

Monday Club meets in the Rectory Room.

**Tuesday 8th February**

9.00am

Holy Communion.

**Saturday 12th February**

10am

Church annual spring clean.

**Sunday 13th February**

9.30am

6.00pm

**Fourth Sunday before Lent**

Parish Communion: 2 Kings 5. 1-14; Psalm 30; 1 Corinthians 9. 24-27; Mark 1 40-45.

Evensong.

**Tuesday 15th February**

9.00am

Holy Communion.

**Sunday 20th February**

9.30am

6.00pm

**Third Sunday before Lent**

Holy Communion: Isaiah 43. 18-25; Psalm 41; 2 Corinthians 1. 18-22; Mark 2. 1-12.

Evensong.

*Church and Village Diary*  
*February 2000 Continued*

<b>Monday 21st February</b> 2.00pm	Monday Club meets in the Rectory Room.
<b>Tuesday 22nd February</b> 9.00am	Holy Communion.
<b>Friday 25th February</b> 7.30pm	Whist Drive in the Rectory Room.
<b>Sunday 27th February</b> 9.30am	<b>Second Sunday before Lent</b> Parish Communion: Proverbs 8. 1. 22-31; Psalm 104. 25-37; Colossians 1. 15-20; John 1. 1-14.
6.00pm	Evensong.
<b>Tuesday 29th February</b> 9.00am	Holy Communion.
<b>Sunday 5th March</b> 9.30am	<b>Next before Lent</b> Parish Communion: 2 Kings 2. 1-12; Psalm 50 1-6; 2 Corinthians 4. 3-6; Mark 9 2-9.
6.00pm	Evensong.

### Village Notice Board

The new notice board next to the postbox at the top of High Street is now in operation and notices for display on the board should be handed to one of the Parish Council key-holders, who are:

David Dicks	40 West Street	Tel: 407145
Tony Green	63 West Street	Tel: 407141
Sheila Ingram	17 West Street	Tel: 406038

## Notes from Ecton Parish Council

November 1999

A meeting was held on Monday 15 November 1999 at the Village Club.

**Present:** David Dicks (Chairman), Cheryl Gyte, Sheila Ingram, Sylvia Saunders, Maurice Creed, Tony Green, Ty Moffett, Peter Nock and Bill Wilson. An apology was received from Cllr Mrs Kate Payne.

### **Matters arising from the Minutes:**

#### Millennium:

The wall has been completed and the noticeboard and sign should be installed shortly. The footpath will be resurfaced in tarmac from the corner opposite the Shrine to the corner of Bakchouse Cottage. Wellingborough B.C. to be contacted regarding the promised contribution of £500.00 towards the rebuilding of the wall. The balance in the bank from the Appraisal Fund is £2850.00.

It was reported that the Church Fete in 2000 would be a Millennium type festival and the Parish Council has been asked to be involved. A final decision was awaited from Fisher Hoggarth regarding a site for the proposed avenue of trees.

#### Bus Shelter:

Details of the shelter will be decided when it was known whether a capital grant had been made.

#### Litter Bin:

It was decided not to proceed with the provision of a bin in the Playing Field as WBC would charge £5 per week to empty it. If Parish Councillors undertook this work then there would be implications if either they or a member of the public was injured by any contents of the bin.

### **Planning:**

#### Applications received:

8 Wellingborough Road - replacement garage and access off Church View.

The Old Estate Office, Ecton Hall - Conversion of former estate office and barn into one single dwelling.

#### Refusal:

Siting of mobile home at Tower Field.

## Highways

School Parking: Request from The Headteacher asking whether local residents could be provided with "parking permits".

Letter to be sent to Chiltern Inns regarding the state of the boundary walls at the World's End.

## Financial Matters:

Outstanding matters from annual audit:

This Parish Council does not have any standing orders which would need to be adopted each year.

It was agreed that the Clerk is the Responsible Financial Officer of the Council.

It was further agreed that David Dicks should be appointed as the internal auditor.

Accounts approved for payment:

Powergen Energy plc	£126.43
Mrs P Hall - salary and expenses	£118.89
S Blenkharn - stone sill for wall	£163.33

## Joint Meeting of Parishes:

Tony Green and David Dicks attended this meeting on 11 November. The Parish Councils had suggested to WBC that balances should be calculated on a maximum of £5000 or a minimum of 1.5 x revenue. However, WBC had agreed that the balances were not to exceed 50% of the previous year's revenue expenditure (not grant). The debate was curtailed by WBC.

## AOB

Mrs Ingram asked whether the Council had any knowledge of the Crow Report which referred to proposed development in the South Northants area. Mr Wilson did not think that this had any implication for Ecton but thought that the Council should be aware of the contents of the Report.

David Dicks

## **THE CHRIST WE SHARE**

### **IMAGES OF CHRIST**

#### **6 The Lion of Judah: The Masai Jesus**

The African kinship system is a vast network that connects everyone in a tribe, clan or family, so that family relationships dominate every area of social life. In this context Jesus' incarnation requires that he too be identified through his kinship ties, as shown in the New Testament. There, he is son of the creator God, the elder brother of all humanity (Rom 8.29) and also elder brother of the ancestors in the 'firstborn of the dead' (Col 1.18). This is particularly important because Jesus is often identified primarily with the ideals and culture of foreign missionaries and colonisers.

This image of the Masai 'elder brother', reflects the sentiments expressed in Vincent Donovan's book 'Christianity Rediscovered – an epistle from the Masai'. Donovan describes how his experience of working among the Masai people challenged him to rethink 'mission' in the churches of the North.

In the traditional role, the elder brother defends the younger siblings in their quarrels with other families and acts as mediator between them and their parents in important matters such as marriage. He bears responsibility for their actions, and may even sacrifice himself on their behalf. We see parallels in the suffering servant figure of Isaiah chapter 53 or the high priest in the letter to the Hebrews.

In the resurrection, Jesus achieved what no other living being has achieved and became elder brother to all the living and 'proto-ancestor'. Jesus transcends tribal and family solidarity and African believers are related through him to all humanity, with whom they receive the life force from the first born of creation.

The images in this picture bring together the Jesus of the North and of the South. The Masai Christ of Africa is enthroned in a setting of spheres and squares, with Greek symbols of time and eternity; and surrounded by the traditional emblems of the four evangelists. Black theologians would however also stress the image of Jesus as warrior, an icon of liberation through struggle, and the Black Christ as victor, who has overcome and will do so again. Others, such as Robert Beckford, suggest that this image with Jesus' genitalia visible beneath his robes, shows him as a sexually whole Black male. He is thus deliberately taking upon himself all the negative stereotypes which this implies.

## **11 The Woman at the Well: Sri Lanka**

The Ven Hatigamma Uttarananda was born in a small Sri Lankan village in 1954 and entered a Buddhist monastery at the age of ten, against his father's wishes. Inspired by Aloysius Pieris, he became fascinated by the way Jesus dealt with people, particularly in stories where he was simultaneously breaking down several barriers.

In the story of the Samaritan woman, Jesus broke the barriers of ethnicity and uncleanness. Both have great significance in contemporary Sri Lanka, where Tamils and Sinhalese are unable to use the same wells.

At the same time, Jesus responds to the woman as an equal and recognises her human dignity. Uttarananda hopes that this painting will help Buddhists to understand the need for the liberation of women both in religion and in society as a whole.

## **CHURCHYARD REGULATIONS**

**A copy of a summary of the main items in the diocesan Churchyard Regulations 1992 is in the porch of the church for anyone who is interested to read.**

**It gives guidelines concerning memorials – their size, suitable materials, design and inscriptions and flowers.**

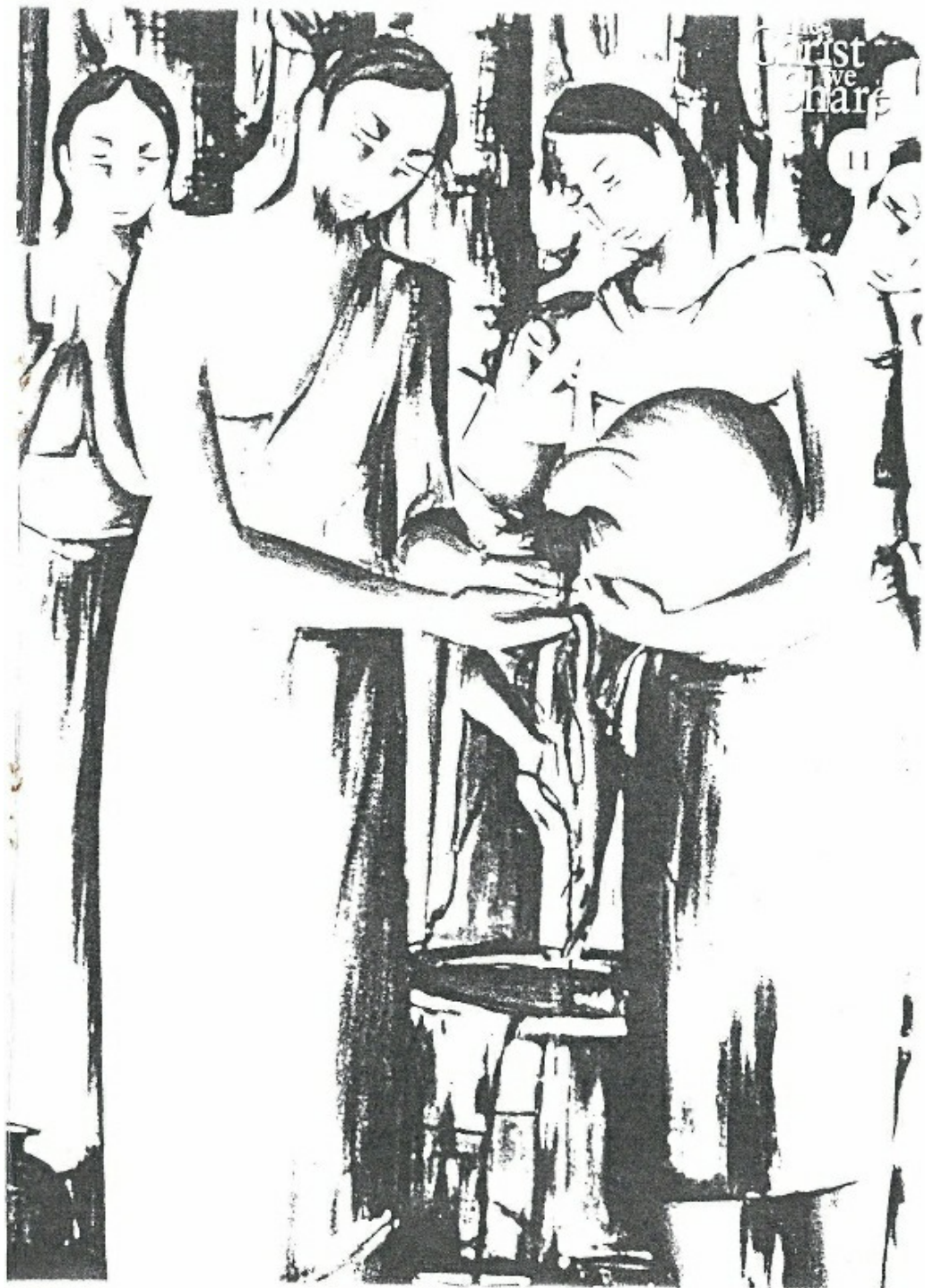
**Churchyards are a valuable heritage and the Chancellor wishes to ensure that memorials placed in churchyards are appropriate to their settings. There is no legal right to place a memorial in a churchyard. Permission can only be given by the Chancellor of the Diocese.**





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## THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

*Do you still have a 1999 Children's Society Collecting Box? If you do please hand it in to James Mogridge or Pat Baylis, as soon as possible. They will arrange for the money to be paid to the Society. Ask them for a new collecting box if you would like to collect through 2000.*

Reports and comment in the press during 1999 picked up the Society's change of policy on adoption and fostering. This change has led to a fall in income equivalent to £40,000 per week! What follows is a statement by the Children's Society.

"To bring it into line with recent legal judgements, The Children's Act and the practice of all other national voluntary adoption agencies and local authorities, the Children's Society will now consider applications from gay and lesbian people seeking to foster or adopt children. Adoption and fostering is now a very small part of the Society's work and of the 22,000 children and young people we work with annually, last year only 5 children were placed for adoption and 11 for fostering. The Society will be following Guidance set out by the Department of Health which states that 'it would be wrong arbitrarily to exclude any particular groups of people from consideration'. Children's needs will always be paramount and in every case the Society's prime concern will be to find the carer best suited to meet the needs of the individual child. The Society strongly supports the Christian ideal that every child should be brought up in a loving family with a mother and father. However, many of the children we foster or adopt need very intensive or specialist care. We believe that if these children are to have the chance of a family and a home of their own we should not exclude anyone who has the special abilities or experience to provide the right home and care for them."



**Lifeboats**

Royal National Lifeboat Institution

Registered charity number 209603

The recent village collection and sale of Royal National Lifeboat Institution 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary pin badges and car stickers raised £142.31 for the Lifeboat funds.

Thank you to all who gave generously to this worthy cause.

Graham, Ruth, Richard and Robert Kilpin.

The RNLI exists to save lives at sea. Supported entirely by voluntary contribution

*Future notes for your diary*

*Sunday 9th April*

*The Annual Meeting and the Annual General Meeting for St. Mary Magdalene, Ecton will take place at Ecton House on Sunday 9th April after Evensong.*

*Service of Thanksgiving*

*A Service of Thanksgiving for the work of Ecton House will take place at St. Mary Magdalene, Ecton at 6pm on Sunday 26th March. The sermon will be given by the Bishop of Peterborough and the service will be followed by a buffet at Ecton House. If you wish to attend this event please contact the staff at Ecton House prior to 10th March 2000.*

## W.I REPORT

**Tuesday 1 February – BIRTHDAY DINNER – Ecton House  
6.30 for 7.00pm**

**Please bring a small gift for the 'LUCKY DIP'  
Competition – Homemade Valentine**

**Wednesday 8 March – 7.30 pm – Rectory Room  
Speaker Mr J Ellson – Slides with music  
Competition – Photograph of Winter  
Teas – Mrs C Gyte and Mrs M Green**

The January meeting commenced with the usual Business Formalities. Our President welcomed members with Greeting for the New Year. Resolution time is here again – this year there are 12 resolutions to be considered and the 3 recommended ones will go forward to the TGM to be held in June. Members are asked to read the relevant information and complete the appropriate form stating their preferences.

Plans for summer outing are in hand. **Annual subscriptions NOW due please.**

The speaker was Dr Phil Anthony – Chief Executive for the Workbridge Centre – based at the Bedford Road. This is a centre providing a wide range of training and work opportunities for people with Mental Health needs, learning difficulties and/or an acquired head injury.

This is an assessment centre and clients are able to participate in various workshops, improving their skills and enabling them to move into the labour market. Catering, office skills, general contracting, ceramics, housekeeping and horticultural workshops are provided. The work placement team works alongside the assessment team and links with outside agencies for those clients who are able and wish to progress to employment.

**Vote of thanks – Mrs J Marshman  
Competition – An Old Jug – Joy, Millie and June**

## **ECTON FELLOWSHIP**

We have had to alter the venue of our Luncheon Outing on Friday 11 February 2000 at 12 noon.

This will now be at **OVERSTONE MANOR**

There is a choice of menu:

A Senior Citizens' Lunch – 3 Courses and Coffee (including a Raffle and Bingo after Lunch)

Or

Separate Meal Items as required.

Please bring friends, husbands etc. I shall need to know numbers of those coming by **1 February 2000**.

If transport is needed please meet outside Ecton House at 11.40 am.

**Joan Dickins**

## **TOOLS FOR THE THIRD WORLD**

This organisation is always looking for broken or old tools, scissors, garden equipment etc. The condition is unimportant – everything can be re-made for use in the Third World.

The repairing provides valuable work for people in Northampton and is invaluable for workers in the Third World.

We had a good collection of such items a few years back and now with 'Spring Cleaning' approaching please don't throw these items away – just leave them at:

**40 High Street  
Ecton**

Or phone **415576** if items need collecting. We will deliver them to Tools for the Third World Workshop.

**Joan Dickins**

## ECTON HALL CRICKET CLUB

The year 2000 Draw Pool will commence on 27 February 2000.

The winners for 1999 are as follows:

FEBRUARY	168	K. LESTER
	167	V. HUNWICKS
MARCH	98	A. PATCHING
	31	B. BECK
APRIL	143	JIM BAYLIS
	63	K. LESTER
MAY	69	GARY MARDEN
	101	J. HUMPHRIES
JUNE	24	A. SHAH
	46	M. RICHARDS
JULY	176	L. ROBINSON
	106	M. BAYLIS
AUGUST	38	L. RICHARDS
	5	M. KEARSLEY
SEPTEMBER	128	M. BULLOCK
	81	A.S. WOODCOCK
OCTOBER	48	T. RICHARDS
	34	S. WOODCOCK
NOVEMBER	96	D.HUMPHRIES
	45	M. RICHARDS
DECEMBER	128	M. BULLOCK
	153	P. CROSS

Year 2000 tickets now on sale from Steve Wheatman or Steve Richards

Thank you for your continued support.

Brian Saunders

# **ECTON W.I.**

invite you to a

**COFFEE MORNING**

to be held at the home of

Mrs Marlene Green

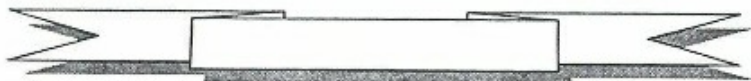
63 West Street

on Saturday 26 February 2000

from 10 am

Bring and Buy – Raffle

**EVERYBODY WELCOME!**



## **THANK YOU**

Once again it is time to say 'THANK YOU' to those who decorated our beautiful church for Christmas and also to those who donated greenery and money.

I am sure that you will all agree that the church looked wonderful, truly reflecting the glory of the season.

I hope that the sound of the church bells ringing in the New Year brought you pleasure. We who rang certainly enjoyed taking part. It is hoped, in the near future, to have a commemorative plaque in the church to mark the event.

The ringers were Colin Tinston, Geoff Harlott, David Dicks, Alice Adams, Tony Green, Trudie Warner, David Major and Dorothy Creed.



### COFFEE ROTA

February 6	Ingrid and Keith Cartwright
February 13	Jean Leigh and Brenda Jones
February 20	Pat Peacock and Dorothy Creed
February 27	Alice Adams and Wynne Voss
March 4	Nick and Mary Green

### BRASS CLEANING

February	Dorothy and Pat
March	Alice and Wynne

### CLEANING ROTA

February 5	Blue	A
February 12	SPRING CLEAN	
February 19	Green	B
February 26	Orange	A
March 4	Red	B



## CHURCH SPRING CLEAN

Our Annual Spring Clean will take place on the morning  
of Saturday 12 February 2000.

All hands, brushes, mops, vacuums, etc. will be very  
welcome.

Many hands really will make light work!





## *E. Halford & Son*

Jewellers, Gold & Silversmiths  
Watch Makers

Founded in 1902, we are one of Northamptonshires' oldest and most respected jewellers.

A family business then and very much a family business today. We have over the years established an exemplary reputation for professionalism and integrity.

We pride ourselves on offering friendly advice on all aspects of our valuation and restoration services.

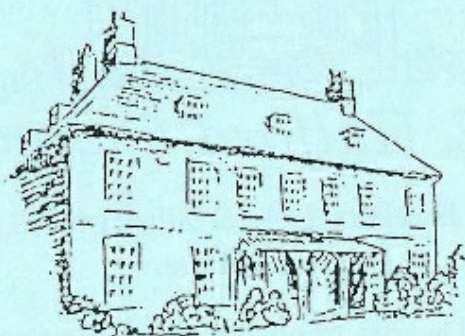
All types of Jewellery repairs are undertaken within our own workshop on the premises. Watch and clock, silver, and silver plating, restoration and Jewellery commissions are also undertaken and valuations given for probate and Insurance by our own Registered Valuer on the Premises.

Stockist  
of Avia  
Watches

We also purchase all  
types of jewellery

Stockist  
of Zenith  
Watches

33 YORK ROAD, NORTHAMPTON  
TELEPHONE: 37088  
NOW OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK



## 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**

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

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