



The Ecton View

Issue No. 53

December & January

The Great Ecton Breakfast
at the Village Hall
December 14th between
8am and mid-day



Come and enjoy
a good Sunday morning breakfast
read the papers (provided)
without the effort of doing it.



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*M*argaret Tinston 412233



Editors Ramblings

I hope you are all prepared for the big event this month, yes I do mean the **ECTON BIG BREAKFAST** on the 14th. There is also Christmas on the 25th and a full church programme is included in this issue.

Since the last issue we have had the **Safari Supper** and the **Race Night**, both being very successful. The torrential rain on the safari supper night did not dampen the event, with everyone enjoying visiting various houses throughout the village for some splendid food.

The race night was enjoyed by 80 people who helped with their shrewd betting ("I always bet on a grey") to fund the Youth Club. The next fund raising event for the youth club is the 3rd annual Bridge Day in February which has become so popular that it is now by 'invitation only'!

In this issue you will find 'An American in Ecton', I wonder who that can be. There is also the end of year report from the Ecton Coven, some recipes for your Christmas Dinner, a quiz, another compilation of music for a desert island, a wedding invitation and some suggested CD's for your Christmas presents.

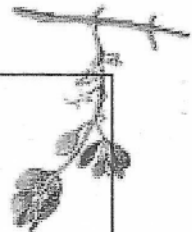
The Ecton View gets a mention on a verbal gardening website, just follow this link
http://www.verbalgardening.com/index.php?f=data_home&a=9

You will have to type this in if you are not already looking at this on our website.

The magazine will be looking for new advertisers in the new year so if you would like to advertise or know someone who could please contact Sally Bresnahan. Many thanks to the present advertisers who have contributed to the funding, and to the people who have paid for the Christmas cards in this issue which allows the front cover to be in colour.

To everyone in the village have a great Christmas and New Year

Copy for The *February* Magazine to
Colin Tinston Rectory Farm House High Street
Telephone: 412233
e-mail: navigator@ectonvillage.co.uk
by 22nd January



"I heard the bells on Christmas Day; their old familiar carols play,
and wild and sweet the word repeat of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

Church Directory

Priest in Charge

Chris Pearson
The Vicarage
72 High Street
Great Doddington
Wellingborough NN29 7TH
Tel: 01933 226711

Churchwarden

Walter Barty
1 East Butterfield Court
Northampton NN3 8JG
Tel: 01604 642117

Churchwarden

Marlene Green

Reader

Tony Green
63 West Street
Ecton NN6 0QF
Tel: 01604 407141

PCC Secretary

Mr. Tom Pearson
The Vicarage
72 High Street
Great Doddington
Wellingborough NN29 7TH
Tel: 07745 133867

PCC Treasurer

Mark Aveyard
28 Clarke Court
Earls Barton NN6 0XX
Tel: 01604 811821

Electoral Roll Officer

Mary Dicks
Field House
West Street, Ecton NN6 0QF
Tel: 01604 407145

Parish and Village Organisations

Bell Ringers

Contact: Colin Tinston
Tel: 01604 412233

Fellowship

Contact: Joyce Orford
Tel: 01604 414245
2nd Tuesday in month
2.30pm Village Hall

Cricket Club

Captain: Steve Wheatman
Tel: 01604 401714

Ecton Village Hall

Contact: Rodney Ingram
Tel: 01604 406038
Booking Clerk: Linda Richards 405888
Jenny Moffett 407474

Short Mat Bowls

Contact: Maurice Creed
Tel: 01604 407864

Parish Council

Chairman: Chris Petrie
Tel: 01604 788810

Primary School & Pre-School

Head: Esther McIntosh
Tel: 01604 409213

Womens Institute

Contact: Gill Leggett
Tel: 01604 414216

1st Tuesday in month

7.30 Village Hall

Youth Club

Contact: Margaret Tinston
Tel: 01604 412233

Margaret@ectonvillage.co.uk
Wednesday

6.30-7.30 Junior Youth Club

7.30-9.00 Senior Youth Club

Village Hall

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CHURCH DIARY FOR DECEMBER 2008

<u>Tuesday 2nd</u>	10.30am	Holy Communion
<u>Sunday 7th</u>	6.00pm	Holy Communion
<u>Tuesday 9th</u>	10.30am	Holy Communion
<u>Thursday 11th</u>	2.00 & 6.00pm	Ecton School Christmas Production in Church (all welcome)
<u>Sunday 14th</u>	9.15am	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Festival of Lessons and Carols with Tableau
<u>Tuesday 16th</u>	10.30am	Holy Communion
	2.00pm	Ecton School Christingle (all welcome)
<u>Sunday 21st</u>	11.00am	Holy Communion
<u>Tuesday 23rd</u>	10.30am	Holy Communion
	2.30pm	Songs of Praise with Afternoon Tea (Christmas Special)
<u>Wednesday 24th</u>	CHRISTMAS EVE	
	2.30pm	Crib Service
	11.15pm	Holy Communion for Christmas Night
<u>Thursday 25th</u>	CHRISTMAS DAY	
	10.00am	All Age Worship (with optional Holy Communion) (at Wilby Church)
<u>Sunday 28th</u>	9.15am	Morning Prayer
<u>Tuesday 30th</u>	10.30am	Holy Communion

The full list of Christmas events across the whole group of churches will shortly be published in our regular leaflet delivered to each home in the village

CHURCH DIARY FOR JANUARY 2009

<u>Sunday 4th</u>	6.00pm	Holy Communion
<u>Tuesday 6th</u>	10.30am	Holy Communion
<u>Sunday 11th</u>	9.15am	Holy Communion
<u>Tuesday 13th</u>	10.30am	Holy Communion
<u>Sunday 18th</u>	11.00am	Holy Communion
<u>Tuesday 20th</u>	10.30am	Holy Communion
<u>Sunday 25th</u>	9.15am	Morning Prayer
<u>Tuesday 27th</u>	10.30am	Holy Communion
	2.30pm	Songs of Praise With Afternoon Tea

From the Vicarage,



Here we are once again in our preparations for Christmas and although for many people finance this year is tighter than usual, the celebrations also give us a welcome respite from all the gloom of the credit crunch, recession around the world, and all the other negative things around us which sometimes threaten to overwhelm us. Around our three villages I am aware of two people (and there surely must be others) who, quite independently of each other, suddenly find themselves, mid-career, quite unexpectedly out of work and needing to look at retraining for a totally new direction. Times are very hard indeed and any comment I make is in grave danger of sounding crass in the extreme.

Nevertheless, I do believe that the message of Christmas is still relevant to us – perhaps even more so in a year like this, giving as it does a message of huge hope, both in a material world that is in turmoil (God *is* ultimately still in control) and in the eternal context, giving us total confidence for the future. For all who have given their lives to God and follow Him unconditionally there is a completely certain hope, whatever our age, race, or circumstances in life.

Very soon our annual Christmas leaflet will be coming through all doors in the village and further copies will be available in the churches, giving full details of all our many Christmas activities. We do hope we shall see you at some of them over the next few weeks. There you will see all the regular events that you have come to expect.

Since I last wrote we have held two major events. Firstly, at the beginning of November we held a Memorial Service and sent a special invitation to all those families who have had a funeral with us over the last four years, either in Church or at the crematorium. It was a lovely event to which a number of those families responded. We had a very good speaker from the charity 'Cruse Bereavement Care', and following the service there was afternoon tea prepared by members of the Church. It was a very moving occasion as we stopped to remember and reflect in the midst of our busy lives. There was a memorial board displaying the names of all those we were particularly remembering and there was an opportunity at the service for our guests to do something practical as an act of remembrance – plant a bulb, light a candle, or write a prayer. Just the following week was Remembrance Sunday and as usual we celebrated our annual Act of Remembrance at the village war memorial following our regular morning service. A number of folk commented that there seemed to be more present this year than last, which was very heartening in these days when many are questioning the continued relevance of such a service. With its special significance of ninety years since the end of the Great War, this too was very moving and, I hope, a fitting occasion.

This is, of course, a double issue of our magazine so we are wishing you a not only a lovely Christmas and New Year, but also a good January. Enjoy the sales if that's what you like, and I hope you keep clear of the winter bugs!

With every blessing,

Chris Pearson



Women's
Institute

Our last meeting took place on Tuesday 4th November where we had a very long raffle, cups of tea and a good natter, as our speaker for the evening turned up rather later than expected.

Nevertheless she gave us a very interesting talk on hearing dogs for deaf people. These dogs are tailored to their owners needs. They help them to live independantly, give them companionship so they are not frightened or lonely anymore. The dogs can let their owners know if the door bell or alarm clock is ringing and in case of danger alert them that the smoke alarm is going off. Many dogs are from the rescue centre, they take them between 8 weeks and 3 years old and training takes 16 weeks at a cost of £5000 per dog.

Thanks to everyone who came and went home late.

We look forward to seeing all WI members at our Christmas Party on Tuesday 2nd December.

Denise

CHURCH LOTTERY November	
£50	Gill Leggett
£10	Anne Nicholson
£10	T & J Jones
£10	John Crane
£10	Helen Maers-Dade

CHURCH LOTTERY December	
£50	Pauline Charles
£10	Peter Scott
£10	Steve Wheatman
£10	Marlene Green
£10	Kay Darwin



Snowflakes

by

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



Out of the bosom of the Air,
Out of the cloud-folds of her garments shaken,
Over the woodlands brown and bare
Over the harvest-fields forsaken,
Silent and soft and slow
Descends the snow.

Church Cleaning Rota			Brass Cleaning
Week		Team	
December	6th		Marlene Green & Ingrid Cartwright
	13th	A	
	27th	B	
January	3rd		Walter & Gwenda Barty
	10th	C	
	24th	A	

Coffee Rota			
December	6pm	7th	No Coffee
	9.15am	14th	Gilly Littlewood & Joy Wilson
	11.00am	21st	Fiona Major & Sue Bush
	9.15am	28th	Dorothy Creed & Ingrid Cartwright
January	6pm	4th	No Coffee
	9.15am	11th	Nick & Mary Greene
	11am	18th	Angela Allen & Rita Ward
	9.15am	25th	Marian Gleave & Joyce Orford

Sidespersons		
December	7th	Brian & Sylvia Saunders
	9.15am	Mick & Pauline Cook
	6.30pm	Marlene Green & Walter Barty
	21st	David & Mary Dicks
	11.15pm	Brian & Sylvia Saunders
	28th	Margaret Weddle & Walter/ Marlene
January	4th	Marian Gleave & Nick Greene
	11th	Brian & Sylvia Saunders
	18th	Mick & Pauline Cook
	25th	David & Mary Dicks

“Somehow, not only for Christmas but all the long year through,
 The joy that you give to others Is the joy that comes back to you.
 And the more you spend in blessing The poor and lonely and sad,
 The more of your heart’s possessing Returns to you glad.”

An American in Ecton

On the Wednesday morning following the American Presidential Election, I got a phone call from my mother-in-law, "Are you feeling proud to be an American?" she asked.

I paused for thought.

I voted for Barack Obama, but at the beginning I was a Hilary fan. I believed a Clinton vote would give America two intelligent, seasoned politicians for the price of one. After Hilary fell off the radar, I never considered voting for John McCain, even before he hired the horrible, self-proclaimed 'rotweiler with lipstick'. One of the reasons that I have always felt pretty ashamed of being American is that not just once, but twice; America voted to put an idiot with links to oil in charge of the most powerful army in the world.

I feared that America would not be capable of electing a black man, and most galling to me, that America might not be capable of electing the more intelligent candidate. But they did. Newspapers have said that he ran an amazing, organised campaign and it was while reading about his victory that I remembered the last place I worked before coming to live in the UK.

During the summer of 1975, I got a job working on the South Side of Chicago for a group called the Citizen's Action Program. "What's the job?", my father asked me. "Selling political ideology door-to-door," I replied. My father, who had started off his working life as a salesman said, "OK, let's hear your sales pitch".

"We all think that 'You can't fight City Hall', but the Citizen's Action Program," I began, "believes that while one person can't fight City Hall, if a thousand people stand on the steps of City Hall, then City Hall has to listen. I am here today because we want to tell you about our latest campaign."

In 1975, part of my job was to tell people that the Citizen's Action Program was fighting the practice of Redlining, which was finally made illegal in 1977. Despite the fact that discrimination and segregation were illegal by 1954, the US Government allowed states to interpret the National Housing Act of 1934 and draw, literally, a red line on maps around inner city areas. These maps were sent to banks and they were told that Mortgages and Home Improvement and Business loans were not to be made available to these areas. Supermarkets were discouraged from setting up in these areas. The effect was that middle income black and hispanic families were denied mortgages which were available to lower income white families. Discouraging supermarkets made it difficult for a working family forced to live in the inner city to buy fresh meat and vegetables to cook for their children. Ensuring houses couldn't be improved or well kept meant that some houses became derelict, were abandoned by landlords and became havens for drug dealers and crime. Black families could not get mortgages and had to try to raise their children with all of these threats surrounding them.

I was pretty shocked when I found out about this. Going door-to-door, I got great satisfaction whenever I found people who were as outraged as I. The good part of the job was to find people who wanted to protest, to help. Also to find the people who were wronged, to hear their stories and pass them on to the main organisers who got them into the media and into the courts. The tough part was to ask each person for a 5 dollar donation and bring back at least 30 dollars each night. Citizen's Action Program was self funding. I was on the lowest rung of their job ladder, and I found it very hard going door-to-door, asking for money, every evening. But the main organisers came and spoke to us once a week, telling us inspiring stories that we could take with us. They had helped to start a private bank in Chicago which lent money to inner city families (and later advised Mohammad Yunus who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006 for his lending scheme for small businesses in Bangladesh). They fought Redlining all the way to the Supreme Court. Each of these organisers had done the same fund-raising job as me, and regularly had to go door-to-door so they didn't lose touch with the hard part of the job. All of us fund-raisers were encouraged to talk with our group mentors, lots of mutual support. I was a teenager and drew strength from the thrill that I was going to help to make a difference to real people's lives.

When Barack Obama was elected president, the newspapers were filled with amazement at his fund raising technique, the tireless, inspired loyalty of his staff, and his use of the Internet to get lots of people to donate small amounts of money. I then read that his first job after University was working for, and eventually running the Citizen's Action Program in Chicago.

So last Wednesday when my mother-in-law asked me if I felt proud to be American, I said, "No, but I do feel proud to come from Chicago."

Ecton Desert Island Discs



John Buckley

I was first approached by the Editor, in the local watering hole, to submit my 10 desert island discs. I initially thought that the first disc should be an obscure jazz album, just to make me sound a bit more 'windswept and interesting', but I could not find one in my collection. Instead I have raided my CD collection and have selected tracks or full albums that have provoked memories for me.

Caroline by Status Quo, album Hello This always brings back memories of my youth, 6 foot 2, 9 stone and hair in a pony tail – only the height remains the same now. Quo was the first concert I went to and have subsequently seen many times since.

Paranoid by Black Sabbath, album Paranoid This song reminds me of a bar, up North in Warrington, I used to frequent every Friday night, known as The Lion Bar Upstairs. It is also the place that caused my first hangover, with age you would think I would mature and not suffer anymore – sadly this is not the case.

Stairway to Heaven by Led Zeppelin, Led Zeppelin 4 Never has a song been written that can stand the test of time, it is one that I can listen to over and over again.

The Wall, Pink Floyd The whole album is a classic, I was at the concert in London which was an absolute masterpiece, one of the best concerts I have been to. This album is still played on a regular basis in the Buckley household – when the wife is not in, otherwise I have to suffer The Pussycat Dolls or Girls Aloud – oh dear

Riders in the Storm by The Doors, album LA Woman This you can imagine lying on the island, looking at the stars and thinking 'heaven'

The Return of the Space Cowboy by Jamiroquai, album Return to Planet Earth Now it must be clear that as I have got older, my music has become more diverse. My dancing moves may not quite be as good as JK but I do try.

Barry White You're the first the last my everything No list would be complete without a bit of Barry. Just in case, after years of being alone, company one day did pass my way, at least I would be prepared – who better to set the mood!

Dirty Dancing Soundtrack Album Another one to make you dance, I really enjoy the film especially the 'nobody puts baby in the corner' scene

Your Love is King by Sade, Best of Sade This song is very easy listening, can let your mind wander and relax. It reminds me of Kelso, in the Scottish borders where I got married and this record was our 'wedding song'. I should be in good books now!

White Christmas by Bing Crosby Christmas and my list would not be complete without this one, from December 1st I shall have my Christmas CD in the car, singing along. This is Christmas for me.

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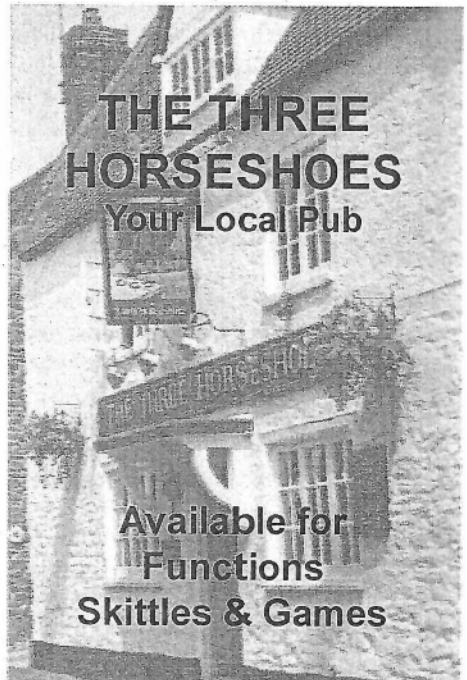
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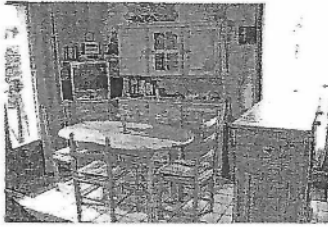
ADVERTISING RATES FOR INCLUSION IN A YEARS ISSUES

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CONTACT
SALLY BRESNAHAN
01604 403027

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We are excited to announce the date of our upcoming wedding to be held in Ecton Village, Northampton

on Monday 29th December 2008

12.00 noon

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the village that have been so supportive and friendly since we moved to Wobbly Cottage from Kent in February 2007.

By way of a thank you we would be delighted to share our day with you and invite you to attend our wedding ceremony at the church.

All our Love

Rachael & Paul

December, 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Hag

Hex



Wiccan



I'm a mean old witch with a hat.
I ride on my broom with my cat.
My shoes are pointed and my chin is too.
You had better watch out or I might scare you...

ECTON WITCHES

NEXT GATHERING

WILL BE AT

1 Barton Fields

let Angela 404777 know

your presence will be present

as usual bring

bottle & £5

Offers of help

gratefully received

THE OCTOBER GATHERING



The Ecton Witches

So far this year the Ecton Witches have enjoyed four extremely sociable gatherings, the last one was held at The Manor House on Halloween and we all dressed formally as you can see from the photo!

Due to some magical accounting we have managed to make a profit of £190 from the nominal fee of £5 per witch, charged to cover the cost of the food. The hostess of each event nominates the charity of her choice within the village and we have given £105 to the Youth Club, £25 to the Church and £60 to the Womens Institute.

The 'Ecton Witches' were created in 2003 to enable all the ladies of the village to 'escape' for an evening and socialise with their neighbours; January 2009 will see the Witches celebrating their 6th anniversary.

As well as new people in the village expanding the numbers at our gatherings we had three new 'baby' witches born in the last year so we would like to welcome Giselle, Isobel and Lilli. Strange how we have not had any boys born in the village since 2003.....



I would just like to say a huge thank you to all the Witches who have hosted an evening or helped with the catering throughout 2008; without you we would not exist. We have certainly had some memorable evenings, some wonderful food and, most importantly, made new friends within the village.

Thank you all for your continued attendance, support and hospitality.

CHRISTMAS ADDITIONS

YOUR TURKEY STUFFING

Ingredients

500g/1lb2oz chestnuts
1 whole head celery, washed and chopped
1 small onion, finely chopped
25g/1oz butter
12 plump prunes, stoned
1 tbsp chopped parsley
1 egg, beaten
salt and black pepper
the turkey's liver, trimmed washed and finely chopped
50g/2oz fresh breadcrumbs

Method

1. Make little slits in the chestnuts then blanch or roast them to ease peeling. Simmer the chestnuts in unsalted water until completely tender (15-20 minutes).
2. Drain and leave to cool, then place in a basin and roughly break them up with a fork - you want them crumbled rather than puéed.
3. Sweat the onion and celery in the butter over a medium heat for a few minutes until softened, then add the prunes, chestnuts and parsley. Season with salt and pepper, mix well and cook for a further few minutes. Remove the pan from the heat.
4. When the mixture has cooled a little, mix in the breadcrumbs, liver and egg until all the ingredients are well combined. Pile the mixture into a suitably sized ovenproof dish. Bake for 30-35 minutes in a fairly hot oven (i.e. with the turkey at 180C/350F/Gas 4) until nicely browned and crispy on top.
5. Serve slices of the stuffing with the turkey.



AND NOW THE GRAVY

Ingredients

meat juices
2 tbsp liquid meat fat
30g/1oz plain flour
570ml/1 pint stock
2 tsp gravy browning (optional)

Method

1. Collect the juices and the fat from the meat you are roasting. Put the juices in a glass jug and allow to stand for a few minutes so that the fat will rise to the surface. Skim off the fat.
2. Put the roasting tin that you used to cook the meat on the hob on a medium heat and add the fat. (The meat needs to be resting, covered with foil, in a warm place at this point)
3. Stir in the flour and cook for 1 minute.
4. Stir in the meat juices and gradually stir in the stock until you get a smooth gravy. Use a wooden spoon and stir all over the surface of the pan to incorporate any meat juices that are stuck to it.
5. Bring to the boil and allow to simmer for 10 minutes.



FOR THE ROAST POTATOES

Ingredients

2½kg/5½lb potatoes
2 tbsp semolina
2 x 320g/11oz jars goose fat

Method

1. Preheat the oven to the hottest possible temperature.
2. Peel the potatoes, and cut each one into three by cutting off each end at a slant so that you are left with a wedge or triangle in the middle.
3. Place the potatoes into salted cold water in a saucepan, and bring them to a boil. Boil the potatoes for four minutes. Drain the excess water from the potatoes using a colander and then tip the potatoes back into the empty saucepan.
4. Sprinkle the semolina over the top of the potatoes. Hold a lid firmly on top of the pan and shake the potatoes around to coat them well and so that their edges disintegrate or fuzz and blur a little: this facilitates the crunch effect later.
5. Place the goose fat into a large roasting tin and heat in the oven until very hot. Then carefully place the semolina-coated potatoes into the hot fat and roast the potatoes in the oven for 45 mins to an hour or until they are darkly golden and crisp, turning them over halfway through cooking. If the oven is hot enough they probably will not need more than about 25 minutes a side; and it's better to let them sit in the oven (you can always pour off most of the fat and leave them in the tin) until the very last minute.

ADD SOME BRUSSELS

Ingredients

1 kg/2lb 3¼oz Brussels sprouts, trimmed
8 rashers cured bacon, cut into lardons
250ml/8¾fl oz double cream
2 garlic cloves, crushed
salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method

1. Cook the Brussels sprouts in a saucepan of boiling salted water for 8-10 minutes. Drain and refresh in a bowl of ice and water. Drain again when the sprouts have cooled.
2. Add the bacon lardons to a non-stick frying pan, and fry over a medium heat until crisp.
3. Add the cream and crushed garlic to a small pan and bring to the boil.
4. Stir the sprouts into the crisp bacon; then stir in the hot cream.
5. Season with salt and pepper and serve straightaway

AND SOME CARROTS

Ingredients

carrots, 110g/4oz per person
55g-80g/2-3oz butter
parsley

Method

Either boil sufficient carrots for a dish quite tender, and then cut them into slices a 5mm/¼in thick or first slice then boil them: the latter method is the most expeditious, but the other best preserves the flavour of the vegetable. Drain them well, and while this is being done just dissolve 55g-80g/3oz of butter in a saucepan, and strew in some minced parsley, some salt, and white pepper or cayenne; then add the carrots, and toss them very gently until they are equally covered with the sauce, which should not be allowed to boil: the parsley may be omitted at pleasure.





The Killers' third collection of new material, 'Day And Age', is said by frontman Brandon Flowers to be 'a continuation' of the concept used for their second album, 'Sam's Town'. Produced by Stuart Price - who the band came across after he created the 'Thin White Duke' remix of 'Mr Brightside' - this is their first original release in two years. The distinctive Paul Norman-designed artwork that houses 'Day And Age' has received praise from many critics including MTV, while the album itself includes the single 'Human'.



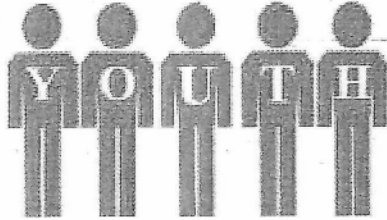
This fifth full-length album from the Icelandic post-rock heroes Sigur Ros, whose title translates as 'With A Buzz In Our Ears We Play Endlessly', is the follow-up to their double EP set 'Hvarf'/'Heim' from 2007. Working for the first time with an outside producer - the famed Flood (U2, Depeche Mode, Smashing Pumpkins) - they have made the most joyous, exuberant, widescreen record of their career, as well as performing a song in English for the first time. Includes the free, download-only single 'Gobbledigook'.



After releasing two of the most popular indie albums of the 00s, Razorlight return for their third in the shape of 'Slipway Fires'. Typically dramatic and epic in its expressions, this release is slightly more bombastic than before, and incorporates a rawer, edgier rock dynamic. Recorded after a period of isolation and creative rest, lead singer Johnny Borrell took his band to the Inner Hebrides to fuel the renewed creative process, resulting in this anthemic collection. Features the single 'Wire To Wire'.



A comprehensive review of Leonard Cohen's musical output between 1978 and 2006.



Club

The club has recently had its projector stolen which was in use at every meeting.

If anyone has access to a replacement to donate, or sell at reasonable cost please contact

Margaret Tinston 01604 412233



OBITUARY.

It came as a shock at a recent Meeting to learn of the passing of one of our most valued members: SOMEONE ELSE.

This sad event has created a vacancy that will be hard to fill. SOMEONE ELSE has been involved in all aspects of our work right from the beginning and always managed to do so much more than the usual person's share. Whenever there was a job to be done SOMEONE ELSE did it. Whenever a helping hand was needed SOMEONE ELSE always turned up Whenever the question of finance arose SOMEONE ELSE dug deep in their pocket. In fact, because of SOMEONE ELSE'S sterling work it became a notable and regularly heard cry: 'Let SOMEONE ELSE do it'.

SOMEONE ELSE was such a wonderful, generous and gifted person - almost superhuman. But a person can only do so much and truth be told, we laid far too much onto the shoulders of SOMEONE ELSE to the point where it became unbearable.

Borough Councillor's Missive.

November 2008

Jim Bass (Councillor for Sywell, Ecton and Mears Ashby

e-mail: jhbass@btconnect.com Tel+44 1604 647594 Mob +44 7711 103816



The Diary.

The end of October just about marks my first year as a Borough Councillor, what an interesting year! I was unable to attend some meetings early in October due to a bout of flu. We did attend the Sywell School's Harvest Festival at Overstone Church which we thoroughly enjoyed, In an interesting contrast Edwina and I were guests of the Wellingborough Hindu Association for part of their Diwali Celebrations on the 18th and thoroughly enjoyed the evening, the band and singers were incredible. The music was amazing as were the magnificent gowns that the ladies were wearing.

Communities:

Grant assistance for junior sportsmen and women, this is an area very close to my heart as I always enjoyed my sport, particularly soccer then riding and followed latterly by golf. If you wish to know more about the scheme, please contact me.

Older peoples working group

Older people were not presently specifically identified as a priority group for the Council, consideration needed to be given to the present and future role of the Council in meeting their wants and needs. It was agreed that a Members Working Group be established to explore and better understand the needs and wants of older people in the Borough so that these could be shared more widely.

Development:

East Midlands Trains were due make a presentation to the committee but withdrew at the last moment. I was disturbed by this withdrawal as it seems the company is not providing a service of the type and quality we would like. However the company has agreed to make a contribution to a "Parking Survey" around the station area, unfortunately the survey is likely to lead to a challenge to the company that if the cost of parking in the two station car parks was "reasonable" there would probably be no need for on-street parking. I have visited the area a number of times during the day and have yet to see the old Higgins site car park any more than about one third full. If there are constituents who are regular commuters please let me have your views.

A review of the Regional Transport Strategy would also reappraise non committed transport schemes which had for the present been excluded from the Plan, including the A14 Kettering bypass and the Wellingborough Eastern Distributor Road. Such schemes would be considered for inclusion in a proposed freestanding Implementation Plan to assist in identifying potential sources of funding.

Partnership Review;

The education and training of our young people is part of the remit of this committee and I will be meeting the Secondary Schools and Technical College in the near future to help develop a strong community wide basis in "Improving the life chances of our young people". This is critical to the progress of our Borough employment away from manual skills to a higher level of achievement.

EDITOR'S COMMENT

No wonder I cannot get apprentices of good educational standards if they are being steered away from manual skills by Wellingborough Borough Council!!!

Book now for your festivities ...



It's right on your doorstep!

TWE

The World's End
Bar, Restaurant & Rooms

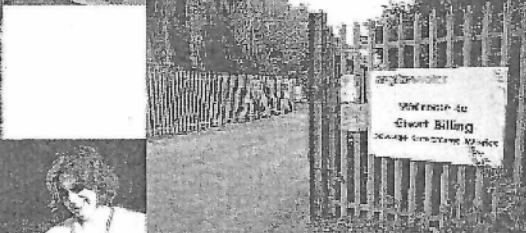
The World's End, Ecton, Northamptonshire, NN6 0QN

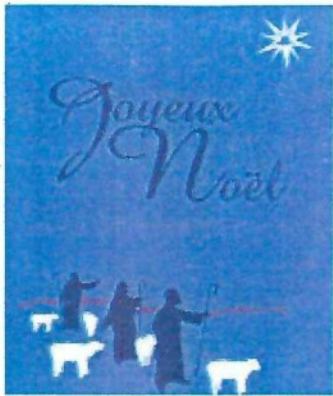
Telephone: 01604 414 521

Email: info@theworldsend.org.uk

Web: www.theworldsend.org

Pictures from the last 12 months magazine





To all our friends in Ecton
We wish you a
Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year
Colin & Margaret Tinston



*Seasons Greetings to everyone
in Ecton
Love and Best Wishes
Sally Bresnahan*

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne

And surely ye 'll be your pint' stowp
And surely I 'll be mine
And we 'll take a cup o' kindness yet
For auld lang syne

We twa hae run about the braes
And pou'd the gowans fine
But we 've wander'd monie a weary fit
Sin' auld lang syne.

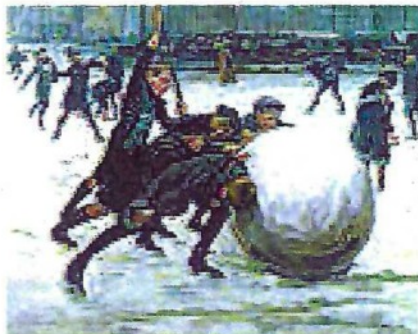
We twa hae paidl'd in the burn
Frae morning sun till dine
But seas between us braid hae roar'd
Sin' auld lang syne

And there's a hand, my trusty fiere
And gie 's a hand o' thine
And we 'll tak a right guid-willie waught
For auld lang syne

[CHORUS]
For auld lang syne, my dear
For auld lang syne
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet

Auld Lang Syne





Wishing all our friends and
neighbours in Ecton
a very peaceful & joyous
Christmas and New Year
with love
**Caroline, Richard and Giselle
Blacksmiths Yard**



Wishing all my friends in the
village
A Merry Christmas and
a Happy & Peaceful New Year
Geoff Harlott



A Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year
to all my friends in Ecton
Denise Langley



A Merry Christmas
to all our friends in Ecton

Liam & Denise

