

*Ecton Parish  
Magazine*



*Parish Magazine*

*issue 10*

*December & January*

"Bounce Buckram velvets'dear,  
Christmas comes but once a year,  
When it comes it brings good cheer,  
When it's gone it's never near."

## Church Directory

### Priest in Charge

The Revd Jenny Parkin  
The Rectory  
West Street Ecton NN6 0QF  
Tel: 01604 416326

### Churchwarden

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

### Churchwarden

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

### PCC Secretary

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

### PCC Treasurer

Angela Crabtree  
Barton Fields Cottage  
Ecton  
Tel: 01604 404777

### 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: Tony Green  
Tel: 01604 407141  
Booking Clerk: Marlene Green

### Mums & Tots

Contact: Vicky Chapman  
Tel: 01604 788748  
Most Wednesdays  
2—4pm Village Hall

### Short Mat Bowls

Contact: Maurice Creed  
Tel: 01604 407864

### Lunch Club

Wednesday, monthly  
Contact: Sheila Ingram 406038

### Parish Council

Chairman: Ty Moffett  
Tel: 01604 407474

### Pre-School

Now relocated to the School  
Contact: Mrs Vicki Burrows

### Primary School

Head: Vicki Burrows  
Tel: 01604 409213

### Womens Institute

Contact: Angela Crabtree  
Tel: 01604 404777

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  
7.30-8.30 Senior Youth Club

Village Hall  
Badgers Group

Tuesdays 5.45 - 7.15 pm Village Hall  
Contact: Vicky Chapman 788748 or

Nita Gill 493455

## *Editors Ramblings*

**D**ecember and thoughts of Christmas are upon us, starting with the party at the village hall on the 4th. I hope you have your tickets by now! The church diary gives all the Christmas happenings at the church. Be warned, the bells will ring for the midnight service on Christmas eve.

Well its happened, this magazine is now available globally via the Ecton website  
[www.ectonvillage.co.uk](http://www.ectonvillage.co.uk)

It does not look exactly the same as I have to do some things technically with my computer presentation to allow it to transfer exactly, but I'm learning! Give it a try the E:postmaster has made it very easy to use with lots of links. How about an internet cafe at the village club to give everybody access to the world highway.

The November issue was a little rushed due to me going on holiday to Borneo for two weeks, but even there I met someone who lived at The Grange during the fifty's, ( but only for two years when she was about 10 years old) Her late father was a military man, she is going to have a word with her mother to get more information. Staying on this theme on page 9 there is a copy of an email received from Australia by the Ecton website looking for connections, Rodney Ingram is on the case.

In this issue you will find old fashioned christmas recipes, a topical poem, a CD review and on page 19 how different countries celebrate Christmas.

Does anyone know where the everlasting jigsaw raffle prize is? It has not appeared for some time and the village Christmas party seems a good venue for its next appearance!

I forgot to name the winner of the film quiz who was Jean Axeford, and last months quiz was won by Bill Brophy. A bottle of wine will be coming your way.

Nobody came back with the date when the Ecton Players performed "Up the Garden Path", but I am still interested should anyone be able to help, also where was it performed.

It's not too late to register for the Spanish lessons in the village hall starting on the 10th January, just ring 01933 664030.

If you did not know Piddington had a Museum you can read about it on page 11.

**Can I finish by wishing everybody a great Christmas  
and a happy and peaceful New Year**

Copy for Magazine to  
Colin Tinston: Rectory Farm House, High Street  
Telephone: 412233 or  
e-mail: [navigator@ectonvillage.co.uk](mailto:navigator@ectonvillage.co.uk)  
by 22nd January

*There is no human problem which could not be solved if people  
would simply do as I advise*

**Gore Vidal**

## *Ecton Church Diary*

### *December*

*Sunday 5th December*  
*Second Sunday of Advent*  
9.30am

*Parish Communion: Isaiah 11.*  
*1-10; Psalm 72. 1-7, 18-19*  
*Romans 15. 4-13; Matthew 3. 112.*  
*Evensong.*

6.00pm  
*Tuesday 7th December*

*Holy Communion.*  
*Advent Course.*

9.00am  
7.30pm  
*Sunday 12th December*  
*Third Sunday of Advent*  
9.30am

*Parish Communion: Isaiah 35.*  
*1-10; Psalm 146. 4-9; James 5 7-10;*  
*Matthew 11. 2-11.*  
*Christingle Service.*

3.30pm  
*Tuesday 14th December*

*Holy Communion.*  
*Advent Course.*

9.00am  
7.30pm  
*Sunday 19th December*  
*Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
9.30am

*Parish Communion: Isaiah 7. 10-*  
*16; Psalm 80. 1-7, 16-18; Romans*  
*1.1-7; Matthew 1. 18-25.*  
*Carol Service.*

6.00pm  
*Tuesday 21st December*

*Holy Communion.*

9.00am  
*Friday 24th December*  
*Christmas Eve*

*Crib Service.*  
*Midnight Mass.*

3.30pm  
11.30pm  
*Saturday 25th December*  
*Christmas Day*  
9.30am

*Christmas Communion.*

*Sunday 26th December*  
*St Stephen's Day*  
10.00am

*Deanery Communion Service*  
*with the Bishop of Brixworth at –*  
*All Hallows Church, Wellingborough.*  
*Lifts can be arranged*

# *Ecton Church Diary*

## *January*

*Sunday 2nd January*

*Epiphany*

*9.30am*

*Parish Communion: Isaiah*

*601-6; Psalm 72. 10-15; Ephesians 3. 1-12;*

*Matthew 2. 1-12.*

*6.00pm*

*Evensong.*

*Sunday 9th January*

*Baptism of Christ*

*9.30am*

*Parish Communion: Isaiah*

*42. 1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10. 34-43;*

*Matthew 3. 13-17.*

*Tuesday 11th January*

*9.00am*

*Holy Communion.*

*Sunday 16th January*

*Second Sunday of Epiphany*

*9.30am*

*Parish Communion: Isaiah*

*49. 1-7; Psalm 40. 1-12; 1*

*Corinthians 1.1-9; John 1. 29-42.*

*6.00pm*

*Evensong.*

*Tuesday 18th January*

*9.00am*

*Holy Communion*

*Sunday 23rd January*

*Third Sunday of Epiphany*

*9.30am*

*Parish Communion: Isaiah 9*

*1-4; Psalm 27. 1, 4-12; 1*

*Corinthians 1. 10-18; Matthew 4. 12-23.*

*Tuesday 25th January*

*9.00am*

*Holy Communion.*

*Sunday 30th January*

*Presentation of Christ in the Temple*

*9.30am*

*Parish Communion: Malachi*

*3. 1-5; Psalm 24. 7-10; Hebrews 2. 14-18;*

*Luke 2. 22-40.*

## Jenny's Page



Dear Friends,

*We have just celebrated Advent Sunday which is the beginning of a new year in the Church. December is a time when as Christians we try to prepare our hearts to receive again God's gift of his son.*

*It is a time of waiting, anticipation, and prayer, which is hard to maintain when the shops are full of decorations, cards and crackers! From September onwards, we are drawn towards the commercial festival which Christmas has become for so many! We expect so much from Christmas that, come Boxing Day we can be left feeling low and wondering what all the fuss was about!*

*Yet it is a time to welcome neighbours in for a drink and to look forward to news of friends in Christmas cards. A time when we can capture again the innocence of childhood, as we watch our children and grandchildren performing in Christmas plays and concerts and their delight and excitement as they open their stockings on Christmas Day.*

*I am heartened by the number of people who want their children to glimpse the real meaning for celebration. Churches all over the land welcome families to Christingle Services, to Crib Services where the Christmas story is retold. Many people love to attend Carol Services to sing the remembered words and are drawn by the candlelight of Midnight Mass.*

*But for some it is a very hard time, especially for those recently bereaved, or for those separated from their loved ones. We remember that there is much suffering caused by conflict in our world at this time. So it seems more important than ever this year to send our goodwill to one another.*

*May God's gift of the Christchild touch your hearts this Christmas and may his peace remain with you in the coming year.*

Jenny

**Lord,  
we pray for the people  
who are far from you,  
for it is above all for them  
that you came into the  
world  
on that day.**

**Chiara Lubich (b. 1920)**

### *A Carol from Haiti*

**WHAT IS CHRISTMAS?  
IT IS LIVING IN HOPE,  
HOLDING OUT THE HAND OF RECONCILIATION,  
ACCEPTING STRANGERS,  
HELPING ONE ANOTHER TO DO GOOD,  
WIPING AWAY TEARS.  
EVERY TIME LOVE IS GIVEN,  
DISTRESS IS RELIEVED  
AND SOMEONE IS MADE HAPPY.  
GOD COMES DOWN FROM HEAVEN  
AND BRINGS US LIGHT.  
THAT IS CHRISTMAS.**

## ***Changes at the Church***

*Over the next three months a number of changes are planned to improve our music and accomodation for meetings.*

*The 1889 Trustam Pipe organ is due to be removed in December and is destined for St. Mary's, Harlington in Bedfordshire. Trustam was a Bedford organ builder and our instrument is considered a fine example of those times being almost original, but after 115 years sterling work it is almost worn out. Restoration will cost over £20,000, but Harlington have raised the money and all works are being undertaken by Michael Latham who has looked after the organ at Ecton for 10 years or more. His firm is now merged with Tickell and Co, Ltd - also a Northampton firm.*

*Until the new electronic organ is supplied, Makins the manufacturer will lend us an instrument which will be located on the South Side of the Nave adjoining the Lady Chapel. A number of speakers will be placed along some South Window Ledges to spread the sound. It won't be up to cathedral standard but will fill the gap.*

*In the New Year Underwood and Weston will convert the now spacious vestry area into a meeting room with access for the disabled on two sides. This will enable wheel chairs to get up along side the High Altar Communion Rail when required.*

*The west facing arch will be filled in, with an oak faced door to match that on the tower. The south arch will be half glazed, again with an oak faced door, to gain entry to the choir. The organ console will stand between the choir stalls and the recess created beneath the glazed area.*

*That's the basics: lighting, flooring and decoration have yet to be decided and will depend on funds available. If all goes well we should be up and running by Easter 2005. In the meantime, there is bound to be some disruption but we hope to keep this to the minimum. We hope you will all understand*

***Walter Barty  
Churchwarden***

*From the Register.*

*Funeral.*

*We extend our love and sympathy to the family and friends of  
Peter James Ward - 8th November 2004*

*"And I will be with you always to the end of the age"*

*Matthew 28:20*

## Church Cleaning Rota

| Week Ending           |      | Team              | Area |
|-----------------------|------|-------------------|------|
| December              | 4th  | Blue              | A    |
|                       | 11th | Green             | B    |
|                       | 18th | Orange            | A    |
|                       | 23rd | Red               | B    |
| January               | 1st  | Purple            | A    |
|                       | 8th  | Pink              | B    |
|                       | 15th | Yellow            | A    |
|                       | 22nd | Blue              | B    |
|                       | 29th | Green             | A    |
| <b>Brass Cleaning</b> |      |                   |      |
| December              |      | Angela Allen/Rita |      |
| January               |      | Walter/Gwenda     |      |

| Coffee Rota |      |                                  |
|-------------|------|----------------------------------|
| December    | 5th  | Nick & Mary Greene               |
|             | 12th | Millie Harlott                   |
|             | 19th | Rita Ward & Angela Allen         |
|             | 26th | Marian Gleave & Joyce Orford     |
| January     | 2nd  | Margaret Weddle & Anne Henderson |
|             | 9th  | Jean Leigh & Joy Wilson          |
|             | 16th | Dorothy Creed & Fiona Major      |
|             | 23rd | Pat Baylis & Christine Murray    |
|             | 30th | Nick & Mary Greene               |

| Sidespersons |      | Morning                      | Evening                         |
|--------------|------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| December     | 5th  | Brian & Sylvia Saunders      | Sylvia Saunders & Marian Gleave |
|              | 12th | Michael & Pauline Cook       | Christingle Service 3.30pm      |
|              | 19th | Walter Barty & John Parkin   | Geogg Harlott & Joy Wilson      |
|              | 24th |                              | Tony & Marlene Green 11.30pm    |
|              | 25th | Walter Barty & Marian Gleave |                                 |
|              |      |                              |                                 |
| January      | 2nd  | Ken Jones & Nick Greene      | Sylvia Saunders & Marian Gleave |
|              | 9th  | Margaret & Tony Weddle       |                                 |
|              | 16th | Tony & Marlene Green         | Geoff Harlott & Joy Wilson      |
|              | 23rd | Brian & Sylvia Saunders      |                                 |
|              | 30th | Michael & Pauline Cook       |                                 |



*Received by the Ecton Website*

*When I was 5yrs. old, with my mother I was evacuated to Ecton for a short time, early 1940. I am sure that the family name was Pinney, but the only memory I have is riding on the crossbar of one of the son's bikes to look at R A F bomber planes landing and taking off from an airfield nearby. The son may have been Eric? about 16yrs.old. I have looked at the map, but cannot find an airfield anywhere. Is it possible that there are any Pinney's left in the village that might be able to help. My Mothers name was Sophie, and my Dad was in the R A F. We later moved to Stony Stratford.*

*Peter Stevens. (Australia)*

**Did you know that you can call NHS direct 24 hour  
helpline 0845 46 47**

**for**

- 1) *Confidential health care advice*
- 2) *Information about how to register with a doctor*
- 3) *Local pharmacy opening times*
- 4) *Emergency dental services & how to register with a dentist*

Ecton Village Website  
are looking for  
someone interested in  
Genealogy  
to collect information for a  
Family History page

For more information  
contact  
Margaret Tinston  
412233

*Still looking for a Christmas gift!*

*Why not give someone their own  
Ecton Village email address  
for a year.*

**IT ONLY COSTS**

**£10**

*for further information contact  
postmaster@ectonvillage.co.uk*

**E-mail: [margaret@ectonvillage.co.uk](mailto:margaret@ectonvillage.co.uk) and help fund the Ecton website**

### Last months quiz answers

1) Mussels 2) Captain pugwash 3) King of hearts 4) Being alone 5) Gonzo 6) 32 (7) 2 Challenger & Columbia 8) A 9) Red Sponge 10) The dog in the pond 11) Classic/Cable/Bumper 12) Barry White 13) The Grid 14) one, white is zero 15) Alcohol 16) Cinderella 17) Hammer 18) N2 Nitrogen gas 19) one tenth / ten times 20) Greece

### The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2004

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this worthy cause

The total collected in Ecton was £394.22

Thanks also to the collectors

Mike Baylis, Tony Haycock, Ken Jones, Vic Lester & Fred Wallis. Thanks also to the Three Horseshoes and the Worlds End

Sylvia Saunders

### Looking for somewhere to go then try

#### PIDDINGTON MUSEUM

The Upper Nene Archaeology Society, under the direction of Roy and Liz Friendship Taylor, have been excavating a Roman Villa since 1979, located in a farmers field on the outskirts of the village of Piddington. A redundant chapel in the village, has been turned into a Museum displaying some of the thousands of items found on the site, which encapsulates the whole period of the Roman occupation, starting with pre-roman round houses, the various periods of the villa, including its destruction by fire and its occupancy by local traders and small farmers until Anglo/Saxon times.

The UNAS has received funding from the lottery which has enabled the Museum to have its display units made to a high standard, and it was recently opened by Tony Robinson of Time Team fame. The Museum is open on Sunday afternoons until March, from 2-4 but it would be advisable to ring 01604 870312 to confirm this. Entrance fees are £3.50 for adults and £2.00 for children, disabled and senior citizens. Parking is in Spread Eagle pub car park with a walk a walk down the footpath to Chapel End.

If you would like further information locally ring Jennifer Harrison 784980

**Chance is always powerful. Let your hook be always cast; in the pool where you least expect it, there will be a fish.**

#### Lottery Results November 2004

|           |               |     |
|-----------|---------------|-----|
| 1st Prize | Pat Baylis    | £50 |
| 2nd "     | L. Turnock    | £10 |
| 3rd "     | R. Berrill    | £10 |
| 4th       | D. Ward       | £10 |
| 5th       | L. Richards   | £10 |
| 6th       | C. Montgomery | £10 |



*Thank you to everyone who supported "Bless em all" particularly those who had travelled some distance to be there.*

*Many people told me that they had enjoyed singing the old war time songs.*

*Also my thanks go to all the helpers on the day and to others who had helped previously with the preparation of the song sheets.*

The sum of £135 was raised for the village hall funds

**Brian Saunders**

#### Farmers' Markets

The Farmers' Market will be for the sale of local produce from producers which have been accredited and fall within the 30 mile radius of the market. The Borough Council of Wellingborough, together with other Local Authorities within Northamptonshire, has established a Countywide network to develop a series of Farmers' Markets. The Farmers' Market will run in the same location as the general market for Wellingborough on a rotation basis, currently on the last Thursday of each month. The market hours are between approximately 9.00am and 2.00pm.



*Also at Cambridge Street Wellingborough on the 10th & 11th December  
A Continental Christmas Market*

*Saucisson, Cheeses, Garlic, Olives, Chocolates, Dried Fruit,  
Patisserie & Breads, Waffles, Crepes, Paella & much, much more*



**Fancy a bit of fun?, Possibly win a cash prize?**

**Test your knowledge**

**Then come along to the Three Horseshoes  
for a Quiz Night (teams max of 4)  
on 8th & 22nd December at 8.30pm  
and in the new year every 2 weeks  
EVERYONE WELCOME**

## Summary of Parish Council meeting 16th November

Present:- Mr. T. Moffett, Chairman

Dr. A. Bantock, Mr. J. Crabtree, Mr. M. Creed, Mr. D. Dicks, Mr. T. Green,  
Mrs. S. Ingram, Mrs. K. Humphreys + 2 parishioners & Mr. C. Palmer WBC

### 70/04 Matters Arising

#### Sywell Airport

The council noted that the present flying school would be leaving the site in the near future to be replaced by "Brooklands flying school" operated by Sywell aerodrome Lower Ecton Lane

Reported that HGV signs had been demolished and reported on 6 separate occasions with no response. Clerk to complain to county council if no action. The council noted that fencing around the Esso service station was severely damaged and in urgent need of repair.

### 71/04 Police Matters

The Clerk informed the council that PC Leonard was unable to attend the last meeting but had promised to contact the chairman to discuss the problem of anti social behaviour in the village. No contact had been made and clerk to pursue matter.

### 72/04 Playing Field

Wicksteed Leisure had completed their work to the equipment. The parish council expressed concern at the amount of glass found in the field. Agreed county council be asked to install a litter bin.

### 74/04 Highway Matters

#### Sywell Lane/A4500

The parish council noted that County council/ WVS Adkins, despite a number of reminders, had still not carried out clearance of the footpath and overhanging branches. Clerk to invoke complaints procedure.

#### A4500

Concern expressed at speed of vehicles along A4500. Council to request Police attendance with speed gun and mobile speed camera unit.

### 75/04 Minerals extraction local plan second draft.

Council noted report to increase mineral extraction from the quarry at Earls Barton. Consultation period ends 9th December. Agreed report be circulated for special meeting to discuss implications.

### 78/04 Accounts for payment

|                                         |          |
|-----------------------------------------|----------|
| Clerk to the Council 21/9/04 - 15/11/04 | £ 241.29 |
| WBC playing field maintenance           | £ 271.42 |
| HLV AV Audit                            | £ 141.00 |
| Total                                   | £ 653.71 |

### 79/04 Correspondence

The Parish Council confirmed their approval of the re-alignment and insertion of a gate to the fence which surrounds the elderly persons flats.

80/04 Date of next meeting: 18th January 2005 at 7.30pm.

## ***Between Iraq and a Hard Place***

*Phoney intelligence sexed-up for the masses  
Destruction just forty-five minutes away  
With missiles, nerve agents and terrible gasses  
Our leaders took caution and kept it at bay*

*When God's on your side you know you are right  
Public opinion just gets us bogged down  
So sweep it aside and get on with the fight  
Though I look like a statesman I act like a clown*

*Still spilling blood in a quest for the crude  
Honest soldiers are strutting their stuff  
We're bringing them freedom and giving them food  
This is our form of love, but its tough*

*Who knows the end of this terrible mess?  
Not Bush nor his neo-conservative clan  
Blair has intelligence but fails to confess  
The mistakes that convinced us to follow his plan*

*Between Iraq and a hard place is where we are stuck  
Somehow we have to find a way though  
Democracy forced down their throats with some luck  
Giving freedom to tribes who don't have a clue*

*Politics moves on and elections get won  
In the war on terror new battles get fought  
Will our leaders be happy with what they have done?  
Or won't they have time to give it a thought?*

***Adrian Pulford***

***1st November 2004***

*PLUM PUDDING RECIPES  
from Godey's Lady's Book, Dec. 18*



### ***OLD ENGLISH CHRISTMAS PLUM PUDDING***

*To make what is termed a pound pudding, take of raisins well stoned, currants thoroughly washed, one pound each; chop a pound of suet very finely and mix with them; add a quarter of a pound of flour, or bread very finely crumbled, three ounces of sugar, one ounce and a half of grated lemon-peel, a blade of mace, half a small nutmeg, one teaspoonful of ginger, half a dozen eggs well beaten; work it well together, put it into a cloth, tie it firmly, allowing room to swell, and boil not less than five hours. It should not be suffered to stop boiling.*

***If you are not baking  
why not buy a  
FairtradeChristmas Cake from  
[www.village-bakery.com](http://www.village-bakery.com)***



# Ecton School



West Street  
Ecton  
Northampton NN6 0QF  
Head Teacher: Mrs V Burrows  
Phone No: 01604 409213

Are you interested in Education?

Do you have children currently attending school?

Have your children left school?

Would you like to find out more about how the education system works?

Would you like to possess first hand knowledge and experience of how Ecton school works?

Would you like to help Ecton School in a practical way?

Would you be interested in helping to provide and support the education of the children who attend Ecton School?

Do you live in the local area?

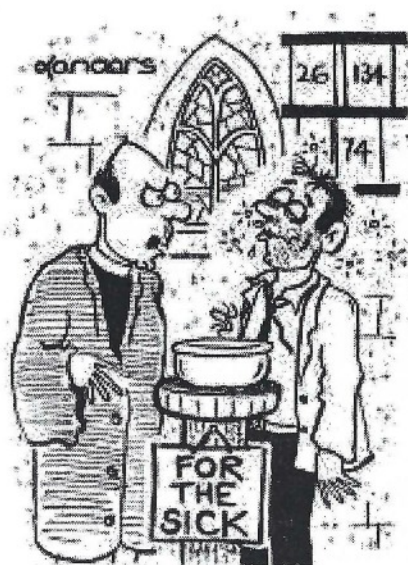
If you can answer yes to any one ( or more!!!) of the above questions then you could be the ideal person to become governor at Ecton School.

An effective governor requires lots of enthusiasm and common sense rather than formal qualifications. An effective school requires a vibrant and committed group of Governors.

If you feel you may be interested in becoming a Governor or would just like more information then please leave your name and phone number at reception (N'ton. 409213) and I will contact you for an informal chat.

I very much look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

William Brophy (Chair of Governors, Ecton School)



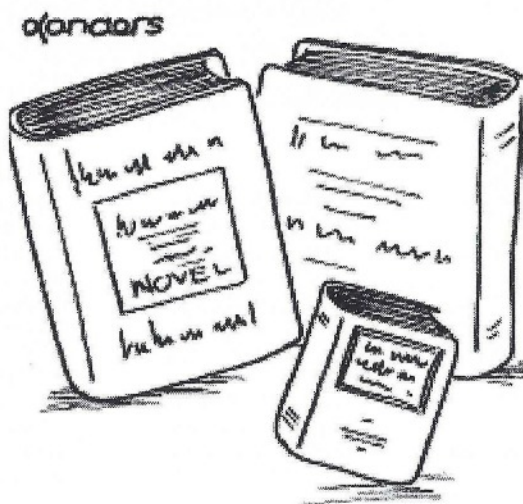
MONETARY DONATIONS ONLY, PLEASE!



"I suppose it all started when I was a quid!"

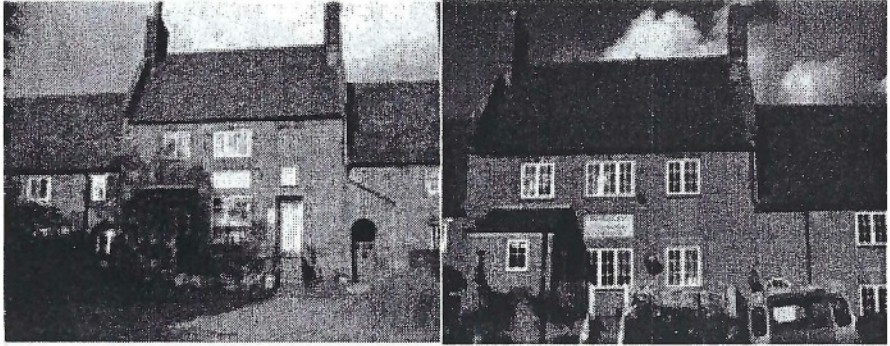


I'd like to give my wife a symbolic anniversary gift. Do you have a millstone?



"Son, we think you should know - you were adapted."

*Then & Now  
The Old Co-op*



**Youth Club**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECORD YOUR OWN SONG**

Ecton Youth club invites all children aged 8+ to join us for our **RESONATE PROJECT**. We will have an introductory talk on **February 2nd at 7pm**. This will be followed by four sessions writing songs and preparing and recording. Then on a day during the **Easter holidays** we will have a day in the **RECORDING STUDIO at THE STABLES at WAVENDON**.

If you would like to take part contact Margaret Tinston 412233

| Date     | Time               | Activity           | Venue        |
|----------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 1st Dec  | 6.30-7.30 Junior s | Games/Crafts       | Village Hall |
|          | 6.30-9.00 Seniors  | .Games/Crafts      | Village Hall |
| 8th Dec  | 7.00-8.30 Juniors  | Christmas Disco £1 | Village Hall |
|          | 7.00-8.30 Seniors  | Christmas Disco £1 | Village Hall |
| 15th Dec | 6.30-7.30 Juniors  | Crafts/Games       | Village Hall |
|          | 7.30-9.00 Seniors  | Social/Games       | Village Hall |
| 5th Jan  | 6.30-7.30 Juniors  | Crafts/Games       | Village Hall |
|          | 6.30-9.00 Seniors  | Crafts/Games       | Village Hall |
| 12th Jan | 6.30-7.30 Juniors  | Popcorn & Video    | Village Hall |
|          | 7.30-9.00 Seniors  | Popcorn & Video    | Village Hall |
| 19th Jan | 6.30-7.30 Juniors  | Games/Crafts       | Village Hall |
|          | 7.30-9.00 Seniors  | Social/Games       | Village Hall |

o 6.30-7.30 for Junior School Children-charge 50p  
7.30-9.00 for Senior School Children-charge £1

*Friends and Guests welcome to the Christmas Disco  
Tickets £1*



## November W.I.

*A gloomy November day was rounded off brightly with a talk and painting demonstration given by local Wellingborough artist Michael Peachey. Not only did he produce a painting people would have been pleased to take home with them but he did it effortlessly, aided by Margaret Scott, whose artistic talent had hitherto been concealed. This month we were delighted to welcome two more members. As ever new ideas, thoughts and ways of improving the way we run, are all welcome and what better way to do it than from within the organisation. Our December meeting will be a musical evening presented by Clive and Valerie Kelsey from Milton Keynes. Guests welcome.*

## Ecton Fellowship

*Our December meeting is our Christmas party. It is on Tuesday December 14th at 2.30pm. Everyone is welcome. Please try to bring a friend who is not a member of the Ecton Fellowship.*  
Joan Dickens.

## Ecton Short Mat Bowls

*A first time for Everything*

*On Tuesday 2nd November Ecton Short Mat Bowls club made another journey to Cogenhoe. Due to lack of players we were only able to take 2 teams instead of the usual 3. One of our teams won and the other lost, but when the overall shots were added up Ecton were declared winners by 1 shot. Our first ever win!! Things are definitely looking up. The Ecton teams were:-Maurice Creed(capt.), Shirley Cart, Dorothy Creed, Tony Green, Freda Richards, Melvyn Savage, Peter Scott & Jane Wiggins.*

## Cogenhoe Short Mat Bowls Gala Day

*Ecton once more entered the Gala and came 3rd in their group, winning 2 matches and losing 2. Their final match was level until the last end which unfortunately they lost.*

**New to the Village?  
Have you got a copy of the Village Book?**

**They are available from  
Sheila Ingram on 406038  
for a mere £10.00**

## **REM – Around The Sun**

*I sometime wonder if I'm listening to or watching the same things as critics who write reviews in the national press, and this new offering from REM is a classic example.*

*After reading two poor reviews of 'Around the Sun' I almost didn't bother to pre-order this album. However, as I have every other REM album in my collection I thought I'd make my own mind up. Boy am I glad I did! This is a superb collection of classic REM songs – I'll be listening to them for the rest of my life just like the songs from 'Automatic For The People' and 'Out Of Time'.*

*Prior to writing for 'Around The Sun' Michael Stipe had lost his muse but encouraged by Bono who said 'we're songwriters – just write the songs' he has written some typically enigmatic lyrics that are intertwined with haunting REM-penned melodies and classic pop hooks.*

*REM are, even to the critics of this album, a class act and though this superb set doesn't break new ground, it's a wonderful collection of songs if you love REM and a great way to fall in love with their music if you don't already own lots of it.*

*Opening with the evocative new single 'Leaving New York' and featuring twelve other tracks including the infectious 'Wanderlust', the hauntingly beautiful 'Outsiders' and the epic 'Boy In The Well' – my advice is buy this record and enjoy it despite what the critics might say.*

## **Brian Wilson – Gettin In Over My Head / Smile**

*That 62 year-old Brian Wilson is alive, let alone touring the UK with 'Pet Sounds' and 'Smile' is a miracle after more than thirty years in a wilderness of madness, sickness, obesity and drugs. However he is back, and as anyone who has seen his recent shows live or on TV will testify this is indeed A WONDERFUL THING.*

*On that basis, and the fact that the mid-90's 'Imagination' was a superb BW album, I bought 'Gettin In Over My Head'. Oh dear! It's hard to recommend anything on this album as being of the standard you might expect from a legendary genius – the songs are ropey, the production average and the collaborations with Elton (How Could We Still Be Dancin'), Macca (A Friend Like You) and Eric (City Blues) trite and ill at ease. There is good music here but you've got to be a die-hard fan to get to it through stuff you'd only want to listen to once. Brian duetting with his long departed brother Carl on 'Soul Searchin' is poignant but flawed and some of the Van Dyke Parks stuff is interesting to us fans – but that's about it I'm afraid.*

*As an antidote to this you could listen to 'Smile' Brian Wilson's 'lost album' from the sixties released at last in September 2004. There's some weird stuff on this too – but where else could you listen to 'Heroes and Villains', 'Surf's Up' and 'Good Vibrations' in that order as originally intended on the same album?*

## T'was the Internet Night Before Christmas

T'was the night before Christmas, when all through the Net,  
There were hacker's a surfing. Nerds! Yeah, you bet.  
The e-mails were stacked by the modem with care,  
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.

The newbies were nestled all snug by their screens,  
While visions of Java danced in their dreams.  
My wife on the sofa and me with a snack,  
We just settled down at my rig (it's a Mac).

When out in the Web there arose such a clatter,  
I jumped to the site to see what was the matter.  
To a new page my Mac flew like a flash,  
Then made a slight gurgle. It started to crash!!

I gasped at the thought and started to grouse,  
Then turned my head sideways and clicked on my mouse.  
When what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
My Mac jumped to a page that wasn't quite clear.

When the image resolved, so bright and so quick,  
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick!  
More rapid than mainframes, more graphics they came,  
Then Nick glanced toward my screen, my Mac called them by name;

"Now Compaq! Now Acer!", my speaker did reel;  
"On Apple! On Gateway!" Santa started to squeal!  
"Jump onto the circuits! And into the chip!  
Now speed it up! Speed it up! Make this thing hip!"

The screen gave a flicker, he was into my "Ram",  
Then into my room rose a full hologram!  
He was dressed in all red, from his head to his shoes,  
Which were black (the white socks he really should lose).

He pulled out some discs he had stored in his backpack.  
Santa looked like a dude who was rarin' to hack!  
His eyes, how they twinkled! His glasses, how techno!  
This ain't the same Santa that I used to know!

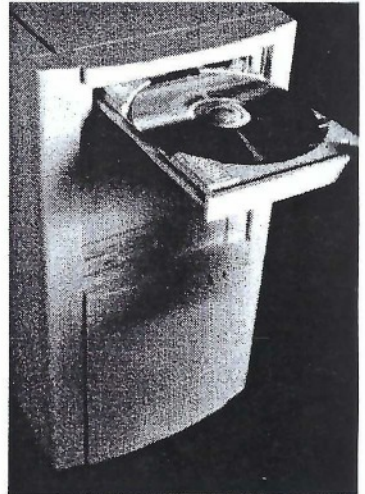
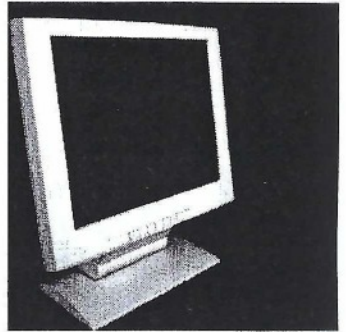
With a wink of his eye and a nod of his head,  
Santa soon let me know I had nothing to dread.  
He spoke not a word, gave my Mac a quick poke,  
And accessed my C drive with only a stroke.

He defragged my hard drive, and added a "Dimm",  
Then threw in some cool games, just on a whim!  
He worked without noise, his fingers they flew!  
He distorted some pictures with Kai's Power Cool!

He updated Office, Excel and Quicken,  
Then added a screensaver with a red clucking chicken!  
My eyes widened a bit, my mouth stood agape,  
As he added the latest version of Netscape.

The drive gave a whirl, as if it were pleased,  
St. Nick coyly smiled, the computer appeased.  
Then placing his finger on the bridge of his nose,  
Santa turned into nothing but ones and zeros!

He flew back into my screen and through my uplink,  
Back into the net with barely a blink.  
But I heard his sweet voice as he flew from my sight,  
Happy surfing to all, and to all a good byte



## OLDE ENGLISHE CHRISTMASSE

*Christmas is the annual festival of Christ's birth.*

*Christmas as we know it today is a 19th century invention, Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's husband introduced the decorated Christmas tree to England, where it had been common in German countries for centuries. Carols were revived and many new ones written with traditional song.*

### How to make Hackin

take the bag or paunch of a calf and clean it well with water and salt; then take some beef suet, and shred it small, and shred some apples, after they are pared and cored, very small. Then put in some sugar, and some spice beaten small, a little lemon peel cut very fine, and a little salt, and a good quantity of grots, or whole oatmeal, steeped a'night in milk; then mix these all together, and add as many currans pick'd clean from the stalks, and rubb'd in a coarse cloth; but let them not be washed. And when you have all ready, mix them together, and put them into the calf's bag, and tye them up and boil them until they are enough. You may' if you will, mix up with the whole, some eggs beaten, which will help to bind it. This is our custom to have ready, to have ready at the opening of the doors on Christmas day in the morning. It is esteem'd here; but all I can say to you of it, is, that it eats somewhat like a Christmas pye, or is somewhat like that boil'd. I had forgot to say, that with the rest of the ingredients, there should be some lean or tender beef minced small.

Richard Bradley - Country Housewife and Lady's Director (1736)  
- submitted by a gentleman of Cumberland.



*Christmas Card about 1860*

