

ECTON PARISH MAGAZINE



Parish Magazine issue 22 December/January

Bethlehem

A little child,
A shining star,
A stable rude,
The door ajar.

Yet in that place,
So crude, forlorn,
The Hope of all
The world was born.

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

Mrs Sandie Simpson
31 Bentley Close
Northampton NN3 5JS
Tel: 01604 410541

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: Rodney Ingram
Tel: 01604 406038

Booking Clerk: Marlene Green

Mums & Tots

Contact: Vicky Chapman
Tel: 01604 788748

Most Wednesdays
1.30—3.15pm 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: 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

7.30-8.30 Senior Youth Club

Village Hall

Badgers Group

Tuesdays 5.45 - 7.15pm Village Hall
Contact: Vicky Chapman 788748 or
Nita Gill 493455

Editors Ramblings

DECEMBER and our thoughts turn to arrangements for the Christmas festivities, some of pleasure and others of trepidation. All the church activities are included in this issue and on the back page are Christmas greetings for the village.

Also in this issue are pictures of the well attended "Act of Remembrance" at the shrine and the elderly persons lunch following at the Three Horse Shoes, which was put on by Cathy and Val .

For those of you who do not like the traditional Christmas Plum Pudding there is a recipe for a Frozen one on page 7 and if you want ideas for cocktails try page 19. For CD's look at page 14.

On page 18 there are some village photos from 2005. The answers to the art quiz are detailed below but if you want to see the pictures again but in colour go to www.ectonvillage.co.uk where you will find the magazine and much, much more! The village website continues to grow and is well worth a visit as many people from throughout the world have found. Our thanks to epostmaster Vickie and her helpers for giving ecton a first class website.

In the new year I would like some help with the magazine, that is, someone to get advertising that will make it nearly self sufficient. I have lots of ideas for getting the advertising but not the time to do it, so if you have an hour to spend and would like to help give me a call. I hope to achieve this before my term as editor finishes, so any help would be appreciated.

So I hope you all have a great Christmas
and a happy and peaceful New Year

Answers to the Art Quiz

1) Da Vinci 2) Carravagio 3) Titian 4) Botticelli 5) Matisse 6) Van Gogh

Copy for The **February** Magazine to
Colin Tinston Rectory Farm House High Street

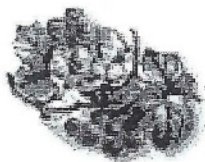
Telephone: 412233

e-mail: navigator@ectonvillage.co.uk

by 22nd January

You must give some time to your fellow men. Even if it's a little thing, do something for others - something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it.

Albert Schweitzer



December by John Clare



While snow the window-panes bedim,
The fire curls up a sunny charm,
Where, creaming o'er the pitcher's rim,
The flowering ale is set to warm;
Mirth, full of joy as summer bees,
Sits there, its pleasures to impart,
And children, 'tween their parent's knees,
Sing scraps of carols o'er by heart.

And some, to view the winter weathers,
Climb up the window-seat with glee,
Likening the snow to falling feathers,
In fancy infant ecstasy;
Laughing, with superstitious love,
O'er visions wild that youth supplies,
Of people pulling geese above,
And keeping Christmas in the skies.

As tho' the homestead trees were drest,
In lieu of snow, with dancing leaves,
As tho' the sun-dried martin's nest,
Instead of ickles, hung the eaves,
The children hail the happy day -
As if the snow were April's grass,
And pleas'd, as 'neath the warmth of May,
Sport o'er the water froze as glass.

+++++



The Next Ecton Witches
Night is
Friday 27th January at
17:30pm in the Village Hall
Tickets are £5 to
subsidise hire of the hall
Please bring a bottle of
your favourite potion
R.S.V.P. (so we know how
high to fill the cauldron)
to Sarah 411281 or
Caroline 407113

Ecton Fellowship

Our next meeting is on Tuesday December 13th - Our Christmas Party! This will be held in the village hall from 2.30pm onwards.

This year we are to be entertained by "DUO" - David Wilson and Richard Oberman, who will give us a programme of stories and poems for the festive season. We offer a welcome to everyone to share in this party. Mince pies and a cup of tea will follow the readings.

Any profit will be donated to the Macmillan Nurses. There will be no lucky dip this year. Do come and join us.

New Years Meeting

will be on Tuesday 10th January at 2.30pm. at 40 High Street, Ecton.

Jenny Parkin is coming to tell us more about her work and Ministry.

Everyone is very welcome.

Joan Dickins

Ecton W.I.

" Ecton WI group had been looking forward to an evening of music from the Neme Consort Recorder ensemble and we were not disappointed. We enjoyed an hour of delightful music, the highlight being a solo from Simone Curley, a recent graduate from the Guildhall College of Music in London. Some of our intrepid walkers were not deterred by the threat of bad weather and enjoyed a walk in Salcey Forest. There is an excellent cafe there that provide hot snacks and a lovely hot chocolate drink. We were content to return to home to a good book chosen from the WI book club that meets once a month. We now have support from nine members for these groups and are planning to start a 'craft' group in the new year. We are now preparing for our Christmas Party on Tuesday 7th December at the Village Hall. Visitors will be very welcome. We are particularly interested in welcoming the new residents of Ecton. Transport can be arranged. Please phone 01604 414216 if you would like to come." from Gill Leggett, President.

		CHURCH LOTTERY November
£50		Mrs. V. Palmer
£10		Tom Richards
£10		Jan Rollings
£10		Y. Miller
£10		George Allen

Childrens Society

Ecton St. Mary Magdalene
Box Collection

£387.19

Thank You

JENNYS PAGE

Dear Friends,

It is hard to find a theme that spans December and January, but I think it is **HOPE!**



The hope of a better world should be in all our hearts at the end of a year which has seen still more lives lost in Iraq; the heartbreak of such extreme poverty in parts of Africa; the devastation caused by earthquake and hurricane and the suicide bombings in London which have brought fear and tragedy so close to home. There are many people who will find seasonal celebrations difficult this year. But with a New Year comes **HOPE**; a fresh start and once the shortest day has passed, the promise of Spring.

Meanwhile, with the whole of December to go and darkness falling earlier each day, it is easy to lose sight of hope. The real meaning of Christmas gets overshadowed when the shops have been encouraging us to spend money since September and we are all so busy and tired.

Christians believe that the baby born over 2000 years ago in such humility came to bring '**HOPE!**' The baby Jesus grew into the Saviour whose arms opened wide on the cross to show God's love for the world.

May the God of Hope fill your hearts with peace and bless your homes and families.

Jenny

Calling all children!

Christingle : 3.30pm Sunday 4th December
Crib Service : 3.30pm Christmas Eve

British Legion Poppy Appeal 2005

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this worthy cause.

The total collected in Ecton was £359.84

Thanks also to the collectors:

Mike Baylis, Ken Jones, Vic Lester

Fred Wallis & Tony Weddle

Thanks as well to the Three Horseshoes

Sylvia Saunders

Frozen Christmas Plum Pudding Recipe

Recipe Ingredients

4 cup dried fruits (mixed), finely chopped,
1 tsp orange rind, grated
2 tbsp cocoa
1/2 cup brandy or masala
2 tsp gelatine
1 tbsp water, boiling
1 gal ice cream, vanilla, slightly softened, but not melted

Recipe Preparation

Combine fruit, spice, orange rind, cocoa and brandy in a large saucepan. Over medium heat, bring almost to a boil, stirring occasionally. Cool, stirring occasionally.

Mix gelatine and boiling water; simmer in a small pan for a few seconds, until evenly melted. Blend into fruit, chill. Fold the fruit into the softened ice cream, blending evenly. Pack into foil lined bowl, cover with foil and freeze overnight or longer.

To serve, unmould onto a serving plate, cut into wedges and serve with cinnamon-flavoured whipped cream.

Church Cleaning Rota

Date		Team	Brass Cleaning
December	3rd	A	Ingrid Cartwright & Barbara Jones
	17th	B	
	31st	C	
January	7th		Walter & Gwenda Barty
	14th	D	
	28th	A	
February	4th		Pat Baylis & Dorothy Creed

Coffee Rota

December	4th	Marian Gleave & Joyce Orford
	11th	Margaret Weddle & Anne Henderson
	18th	Pauline Cook & Joy Wilson
January	1st	Trudie Warner & Fiona Major
	8th	Dorothy Creed & Christine Murray
	15th	Nick & Mary Greene
	22nd	Rita Ward & Angela Allen
	29th	Marian Gleave & Joyce Orford

Sidespersons

Morning

Evening

December	4th	David Dicks & Alice Adams	3.30pm M Gleave & S. Saunders
	11th	Ken Jones & Nick Greene	
	18th	Margaret & Tony Weddle	6.00pm G. Harlott & Joy Wilson
	24th		11.30pm Walter Barty & John Parkin
	25th	Tony & Marlene Green	
January	1st	Brian & Sylvia Saunders	
	8th	Michael & Pauline Cook	
	15th	Walter Barty & John Parkin	
		David Dicks & Alice Adams	
	29th	Ken Jones & Nick Greene	



Pictures at the
meal prepared by
Cathy & Val
at the
three horseshoes
on
Remembrance Day



***A big
thanks to
Cathy
&
Val***



Church Diary

Sunday 4th December

9.30am

3.30pm

Tuesday 6th December

9.00am

7.30pm

Sunday 11th December

9.30am

Tuesday 13th December

9.00am

7.30pm

Sunday 18th December

9.30am

6.00pm

Tuesday 20th December

9.00am

7.30pm

Saturday 24th December

3.30pm

11.30pm

Sunday 25th December

9.30am

Second Sunday of Advent

Parish Communion: Isaiah 40. 1-11;

Psalm 85. 1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3. 8-15a; Mark 1. 1-8.

Christingle Service

Holy Communion.

Quiet Meditative Service

Third Sunday of Advent

Parish Communion: Isaiah 61. 1-14, 8-11;

Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5. 16-24;

John 1. 6-8, 19-28.

Holy Communion.

Quiet Meditative Service

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Parish Communion: 2 Samuel 7. 1-11, 16;

Psalm 89. 1-4, 19-26; Romans 16. 25-27;

Luke 1. 26-38.

Carol Service

Holy Communion

Quiet Meditative Service

Crib Service

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

Parish Communion: Isaiah 52. 7-10;

Psalm 98; Hebrews 1. 1-4, (5-12);

John 1. 1-14

Church Diary

Sunday 1st January

9.30am

Second Sunday of Christmas

Parish Communion: Isaiah 61. 10-62. 3;

Psalm 148; Galatians 4. 4-7;

Luke 2. 15-21.

Sunday 8th January

9.30am

Epiphany

Parish Communion: Isaiah 60. 1-6;

Psalm 72. (1-9), 10-15; Ephesians 3. 1-12;

Matthew 2. 1-12.

Tuesday 10th January

9.00am

Holy Communion

Sunday 15th January

9.30am

Second Sunday of Epiphany

1 Samuel 3. 1-10, (11-20); Psalm 139. 1-5, 12-18;

Revelation 5. 1-10; John 1. 43-51.

Tuesday 17th January

9.00am

Holy Communion

Sunday 22nd January

9.30am

Third Sunday of Epiphany

Parish Communion: Genesis 14. 17-20;

Psalm 128; Revelations 19. 6-10; John 2. 1-11.

Tuesday 24th January

9.00am

Holy Communion

Sunday 29th January

9.30am

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Parish Communion: Deuteronomy 18. 15-20;

Psalm 111; Revelation 12. 1-5a;

Mark 1. 21-28. Preacher from URC.

Tuesday 31st January

7.00pm

Holy Communion

Youth Club

2 Bikes were stolen from outside the village hall during a recent Youth Club session. This must have been done by people from outside the village. If anyone has information then do contact Margaret Tinston TEL: 412233

The Christmas Disco

will be on Wednesday 14th December.

Tickets will be available at the Youth Club priced £1.50

You may bring a friend along with you.

Wanted

Knitters to help teach the children to knit

Ring Margaret 412233 if you can help



The well attended
'Service of Remembrance'
at the Shrine

CHANGE OF DAY



PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Ecton Parent and Toddler Group now meet every Friday 1.30pm
– 3.15 pm at Ecton Village Hall.

All parents and children welcome from new born - pre-school age.

Why not bring your little one along to meet and play with other children of the village and enjoy a friendly chat over tea or coffee?

£1 per child which includes drinks and biscuits.

Any queries telephone Maria on 01604 403049

Some ideas for Christmas presents

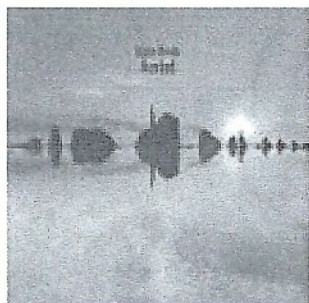
Her best album since "Ray Of Light" Confessions on a dance floor



It can be hard for Madonna when she is releasing a new album because people always have high expectations from her. With "American Life" not quite the album everyone hoped it would be, people assumed she was on the downward spiral.

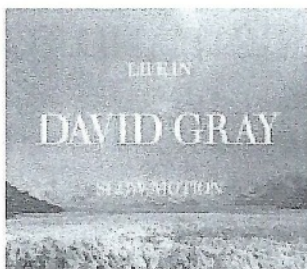
"Confessions.." is her best album for years, also one of the best pop albums I've heard in a while. Tracks like "Get Together" and "Future Lovers" are clubland cyber disco monsters.

The best thing about this album is there is not one single ballad. Madonna is at her best singing up tempo dancefloor pop songs, in the case of this album songs like "Jump" and "Push" fall into that category.



Aerial marks the long awaited return of Kate

Bush—one of the UK's most unique, respected and influential figures. The double album, Kate's first since 1993's *The Red Shoes*, presents the perfect opportunity to reintroduce Kate to her global fanbase and introduce her work to a whole new audience. The album will be released as a double CD in special gatefold card packaging (plus 24 page booklet).



Evidently not one for squatting on his laurels—years of pre-fame self-sufficiency has seen to that—Gray has toiled towards new horizons, drafting in an external producer for the first time. Marius De Vries, whose duties grace the more recent works of Bjork, Madonna and Rufus Wainwright, adds a more poetic dimension to such Thomas Hardy-esque musical landscapes as "Now And Always" and "Nos Da Cariad", where the negligibility of human emotion is contrasted with the raw omnipotence of the environment and the succinct brutality of existence. Not that Gray is a total mope; "The One I Love"—a paean to life expressed through the lips of a dying battlefield casualty—is a fine, if anomalistic, pop song in the Springsteen tradition and the cinematic sweetness of "Alibi" disguises its hair-tearing, long-distance estrangement in one of Gray's more superlative radio friendly tunes.

Life In Slow Motion might well be David Gray's darkest hour yet but for homogeneity, ambition and self-expression it's also his most realised record by some distance.

Advent 1955 John Betjemen

The Advent wind begins to stir
With sea-like sounds in our Scotch fir,
It's dark at breakfast, dark at tea,
And in between we only see
Clouds hurrying across the sky
And rain-wet roads the wind blows dry
And branches bending to the gale
Against great skies all silver pale
The world seems travelling into space,
And travelling at a faster pace
Than in the leisured summer weather
When we and it sit out together,
For now we feel the world spin round
On some momentous journey bound -
Journey to what? to whom? to where?
The Advent bells call out 'Prepare,
Your world is journeying to the birth
Of God made Man for us on earth.'

And how, in fact, do we prepare
The great day that waits us there -
For the twenty-fifth day of December,
The birth of Christ? For some it means
An interchange of hunting scenes
On coloured cards, And I remember
Last year I sent out twenty yards,
Laid end to end, of Christmas cards
To people that I scarcely know -
They'd sent a card to me, and so
I had to send one back. Oh dear!
Is this a form of Christmas cheer?
Or is it, which is less surprising,
My pride gone in for advertising?
The only cards that really count
Are that extremely small amount
From real friends who keep in touch
And are not rich but love us much
Some ways indeed are very odd
By which we hail the birth of God.



We raise the price of things in shops,
We give plain boxes fancy tops
And lines which traders cannot sell
Thus parcell'd go extremely well
We dole out bribes we call a present
To those to whom we must be pleasant
For business reasons. Our defence is
These bribes are charged against expenses
And bring relief in Income Tax
Enough of these unworthy cracks!
'The time draws near the birth of Christ'.
A present that cannot be priced
Given two thousand years ago
Yet if God had not given so
He still would be a distant stranger
And not the Baby in the manger.



Blacksmiths and Wheelwrights of Ecton

Using Trade Directories.

1847	Thomas Langdell Mrs. Elizabeth Langdell Richard Downs John Wright	Blacksmith 'Horse Shoe' Farrier Builder, Blacksmith, wheelwright, timber merchant
1854	Thomas Langdell Mrs. Elizabeth Langdell	Blacksmith (beer retailer)
1864	Thomas Langdell William Pettit John Wright	Blacksmith Blacksmith Wheelwright
1874	John George Green Thomas Langdell Wm. Pettit	Wheelwright, Carpenter Blacksmith Blacksmith
1894	John George Green Wm. Pettit	Carpenter, Wheelwright Shoeing, General Smith
1914	Frost Baker John George Green	Blacksmith Wheelwright

As Mrs. Elizabeth Langdell is in the 'directory' as being at 'The Horse Shoe', one must presume that Thomas Langdell's Smithy was at the Horse Shoe'. These premises have long been associated with smithing, Benjamin Franklin's uncle had his forge on the site. Next time you visit The Three Horseshoes look at the initials on the outside wall at the back L.G.E. They probably belong to Elizabeth Langdell. If in 1864 Thomas was working at the Horseshoe, then perhaps William Pettit had his forge at the present day Blacksmiths Yard.

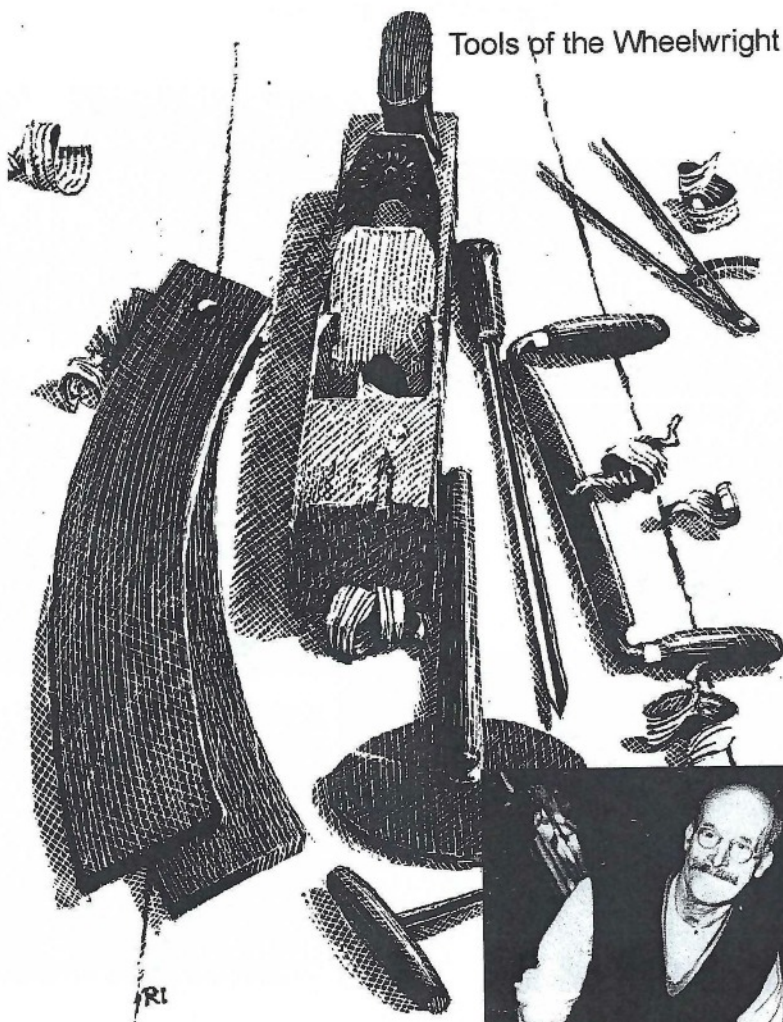
By 1894 Wm. Pettit was the only smith in the village and he was followed in the business by Frost Baker. Some residents in the village still remember Frost. In 1864, the aptly named John Wright was the wheelwright, but ten years later John George Green was the wheelwright and he didn't retire until 1923.

Bringing into the early twentieth century, Victor Lester says that previous to 1923, his father Harry worked with John George Green, the premises being close to Blacksmiths Yard, but in that year John George retired to Earls Barton. Harry with financial help from his father bought two cottages which are now Wheelwright Cottage on the High Street, and all the land behind stretching to West Street. It was at the West Street end of the plot that Harry had his workshops. This is where Harry made and repaired wheels and when needed coffins.

Vic Lester still has the ledgers from the early days of his father's business and they make fascinating reading.

Betty Shearing

Tools of the Wheelwright



'FOB' Baker
in his Forge



Some Village Pictures
from 2005



Some ideas for Christmas Cocktails



COSMOPOLITAN

- 1/2 oz Triple Sec
- 1/2 oz Cranberry Juice
- 1/2 oz lime Juice

- Glassware: Cocktail Glass

Shake all the ingredients in a shaker with ice and strain into a cocktail glass

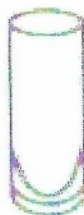


HARVEY WALLBANGER

Ingredients:

- 1 oz Vodka
- 3 oz Orange Juice
- 1 oz Galliano
- Glassware: Highball Glass

Mix vodka and orange juice the ingredients in a mixing glass with ice and strain into a highball glass. Add galliano on top



Jamaican Fizz

- 2 oz Dark Rum
- 1 oz Pineapple Juice
- 4 oz Club Soda
- 1 tsp Superfine Sugar
- Glassware: Collins Glass

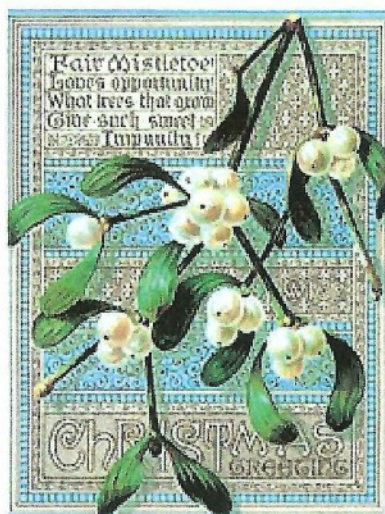
Shake rum, pineapple juice, and superfine sugar in a shaker with ice and strain into a collins glass over crushed ice. Add club soda and stir.



Scotch Cobbler

- 2 oz Scotch
- 3 oz Club Soda
- 1 tsp Superfine Sugar
- Garnish: Cherry, Orange Slice
- Glassware: Old-Fashioned Glass

Dissolve the sugar in the club soda in an old fashioned glass. Add the scotch over crushed ice and stir. Garnish with cherry and orange slice.



Wishing all our friends in Ecton
a very merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year

From
Caroline, Richard,
Marmite & Lemon Tart
(Blacksmiths Yard)



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

From
Geoff Harlott



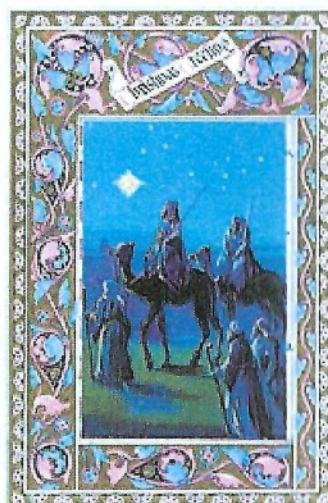
for a Merry Christmas
and happy New Year
to all my friends in Ecton

From
Denise Langley

Christmas Prayer
Robert Louis Stevenson

Oh, God...
help us rightly to remember
the birth of Jesus, that
we may share in the songs
of the angels, the gladness
of the shepherds, and the
worship of the wise men.

May the Christmas morning
make us happy
to be your children.



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

From
Colin and Margaret Tinston