

THE ECTON VIEW

February 2015

Issue 114



**THE ECTON FLAG
DESIGNED BY RODNEY INGRAM**

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EDITORS RAMBLING'S

The first magazine of 2015 and I have to start on a sad note with the death of Rodney Ingram a friend to many and, with his team, a compiler of the Books about Ecton. See page 8 for more about this remarkable gentle man.

Another loss to the village, Pearl Jones has sadly passed away. Most people will know Pearl from many village events. She was a brave and wonderful lady. We send our deepest Sympathy to her family.

While I write this piece the weather has turned really cold with a forcast of snow, which was not very different to the weather 200 years ago!

The weather in Ecton February 20th 1795:- Early dark and thick clouds - frequent flights of snow - enough to cover the ground - hollow wind, very cold - some snow at night. Recorded by Constantia Orlebar from The Cot.

In this issue we have details of a Night of Jazz on 14th February, a Race Night on 7th March and a Wine Tasting night on 14th April all at the village hall. Start getting your tickets NOW, and I hope to see newcomers to the village at one of these events. There is also details of how shopping on line can help support the village hall and church.

I have noticed over the last few months that some dog owners are not picking up their dog mess. We are surrounded by fields so there is really no excuse why dogs should foul the street. If you see it happening let me know, a picture would be even better. I know most dog owners are considerate and clear the mess so lets keep Ecton clean!

As the signs says YOUR DOG - YOUR MESS

Bin Collection for February & March	
Feb 6th Black	March 6th Black
Feb 13th Green	March 13 Green & Brown
Feb 20th Black	March 20th Black
Feb 27th Green	March 27th

Copy for *The March* magazine to
e-mail: navigator@ectonvillage.co.uk
by 20th February

A Poacher is but a gamekeeper turned inside out

SAFARI SUPPER

Very many thanks to all those who supported the Safari Supper. A cheque for £843 has been sent to Macmillan Cancer Support for Northamptonshire

29th November 2014
Mary and David Dicks





Ideas needed for events this year - we are out of sequence with the magazine but hope to rectify that next month. Our fish and chip lunch is scheduled for 30th January when we will plan the rest of the year's activities, trips and events. If you think you might be interested in joining our group please contact Sally on 403027 or Pat on 402582 or Kathy on 404590.

Village Hall

Last year we were successful in acquiring the additional space at the back of the Hall, previously occupied by the cricket club. We have some plans to create a bar and lounge area but we need to raise the money to make the necessary alterations. We try to organise a social event every month and your support is much appreciated. If you would like us to arrange a particular event or you would like to help organise something please let us know. Alistair on 402582 or Sally on 403027.

The Playing Field

As you know we have started to improve the equipment in the playing field. Unfortunately we were not successful in our second grant bid so we now need to continue to fundraise. We have just over £3000 in the bank and we need another £25,000 to complete our plans for a fully modernised playing area for toddlers to pre teens. We are continuing to seek grant funding but we will also be holding some more fundraising events during the year. We have plans for another children's sponsored event as well as a fete and a Ceilidh. Watch this space for further details.

There are
ALLOTMENT PLOTS
AVAILABLE IN THE VILLAGE

More details from
Melvyn Savage - 21 Church View, Ecton. - 07850 842505
Fisher German - 40 High Street, Market Harborough - 01858 410200

SIDESPERSIONS

Date	Time	Type of service	Duty Team
1st Feb.	6.00pm	Holy Communion	Steve & Linda Richards
8th Feb.	9.15am	Holy Communion	Mary & David Dicks
15th Feb.	11.00am	All age Communion	Brenda & Philip Foster
22nd Feb.	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Mark Aveyard & Charlotte Ely
1st March	6.00pm	Holy Communion	Wendy Villette & David Fuller

Tea / Coffee rota

Date	Time	Type of service	Duty Team
1st Feb.	6.00pm	Holy Communion	Anne Henderson & Charlotte Ely
8th Feb.	9.15am	Holy Communion	Wendy Villette & Joy Bond
15th Feb.	11.00am	All age Communion	Joy Wilson & Chris Jordan
22nd Feb.	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Fiona Major & Linda Richards
1st March	6.00pm	Holy Communion	Ingrid Cartwright & Linda Richards

CHURCH LOTTERY	
January 2015	
£50	M. Savage
£15	Susan Lewis
£10	Sue & Len Edwards

Services and Other Events for February

Sun. Feb. 1 st	Celebrating the Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas)	
	18.00	Holy Communion Ecton <i>Malachi 3:1-5; Psalm 24:7-end; Hebrews 2:14-end; Luke 2:22-40.</i>
Tues. Feb. 3 rd	No Midweek Service this week	
Sat. Feb. 7 th	10.00	'Open Church' Ecton & Gt. Doddington
Sun. Feb. 8 th	09.15	Holy Communion Ecton <i>Proverbs 8:1,22-31; Psalm 104:26-end; Colossians 1:15-20; John 1:1-14.</i>
Tues. Feb. 10 th	10.00	Holy Communion Wilby
Sun. Feb. 15 th	11.00	All Age Worship with Holy Communion Ecton
Tues. Feb. 17 th	10.00	Holy Communion Gt. Doddington
	Pancake parties at both Gt. Doddington & Ecton (see separate advertising for details)	
Wed. Feb. 18 th	ASH WEDNESDAY	
	19.30	Holy Communion Ecton <i>Joel 2:1-2,12-17; Psalm 51; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; John 8:1-11.</i>
Sun. Feb. 22 nd	09.15	Morning Prayer Ecton
	<i>Readings to be advised.</i>	
Tues. Feb. 24 th	10.00	Holy Communion Ecton
	14.30	Afternoon Songs of Praise Ecton

From the Rectory,



This is the first chance I have had to write since the beginning of the year, and so far it doesn't seem as if the world has got off to a very good start. The Ebola epidemic in West Africa shows little sign of ending, and terrorism seems very much on the increase across the world. I'm sure I speak for us all when I comment upon how we were scandalised by the news of the attacks in France and I read the other day of suspected action to come in this country. Clearly the so-called 'Islamic State' is **not** the face of Islam worldwide and I'm so pleased that leading Muslims in various countries have spoken out against what is actually just the brutal and inhuman work of an extremist group hiding behind the Muslim name. They are doing themselves no favours as they become more and more alienated from all groups across the world.

Turning to other matters, we've hardly put the Christmas decorations away, it seems, and we're starting to prepare for Easter! Easter eggs have been in the shops since immediately after Christmas, and hot cross buns – well, they are available all year round these days. I don't know if it's just a sign of my age, but I'm becoming more and more certain that both Christmas and Easter seem to come around more than once each year these days! How easy it is to permit these wonderful festivals to become little more than a drudge, like being on a treadmill, and the commercial world rubs its hands with glee as it sees in them nothing more than an opportunity to make more money.

But before we approach Easter we have the annual season of Lent. I welcome it, not because I'm a masochist who loves giving things up, but because it does give us a reasonable period (six and a half weeks) when we can be a little quieter and ponder the greater things of life; caring for our relationships, and especially our relationship with God. Great as big festivals are, and I love them so much, we all need normal times as well; time to consolidate, to do 'ordinary' things, as well as prepare for the next big event. Lent always begins on Ash Wednesday and this year that falls on February 18th. We always have a special service on that evening and this year it is the turn of Ecton to host it for our group of villages. Do come along and join us.

We're planning a special project on prayer for this year across our three churches. We long for greater growth but we know that this will never happen without faithful and committed prayer. We have a series of meetings during Lent which will focus upon this subject. Each Monday during Lent there will be an afternoon meeting in Ecton followed by an evening one on the same day which will alternate between Great Doddington and Wilby, so there should be a time that suits everyone. These meetings will focus upon this subject with video material, discussion, and a chance to pray ourselves as well. There is no doubt, God is **longing** to hear from us and we need to listen to Him too. Details of these meetings are being advertised through the weekly notice sheet that is always available in each Church.

With every blessing,

Chris Pearson.

Rodney Ingram 1941-2015

We had all been aware of Rodney's illness, but it still came as a shock to learn of his passing on 6th January. Rodney's contribution to Ecton has covered many areas of village life since he and Sheila arrived in Ecton, back in 1980.

Amongst his varied and lasting legacy to the village and community is the very detailed historical book published in 1997 and called 'Ecton—A Northamptonshire Parish'. This was a mammoth task undertaken by Rodney and, whilst not all written by him, he did manage to 'persuade' a lot of other people to write various articles and then to arrange the entire publication. A huge historical record and a remarkable effort !

It was very soon after this that he then became involved in the creation and design of a new Parish sign and Notice Board for the Parish Council, which was funded by proceeds from the Ecton Book, and erected in High Street to mark the year 2000. How fitting it was that he was able to see the result of the complete renovation of 'his' sign during last autumn.

Then he found another project to get stuck into, this being the old Youth Club building that was in a poor state of repair. Due to other circumstances, Ecton was now in need of a meeting place to replace the Church Room at the old Rectory. So again Rodney came to the fore to lend his considerable skills to the task. A Village Hall Committee was formed and efforts were made to raise the money needed to repair and extend the building which took the best part of 3 years to achieve. During this time Rodney was at his best in co-ordinating the design and project managing the whole job which ended with the opening in July 2004. A marvellous facility that we all see and enjoy today. Rodney continued to assist the Village Hall



Committee in many ways after this before retiring after more than 10 years.

During the next few years Rodney was able to focus more on yet another of his great passions - painting. He was a brilliant artist, whether sketching or painting, and there are a large number of his wonderful paintings of Ecton village and the local area, as well as his wonderful re-creation of a Village Map of the early 1830s complete with house numbers, residents and most of their occupations. This will serve as yet another part of his legacy for future years. Also during this time Rodney was obviously beginning to wonder just how he could apply his talents to another volume of the Ecton Book. He had often thought about how he could use the loads of old photos that he had been unable to include in the 1st Ecton Book. So along came his idea for the 2nd Ecton Book which was published in 2013, this time called 'Old Ecton in Photographs'. In addition to the number of previously unused photos, Rodney had managed to 'badger' lots of people to search for old records of Ecton life. What a tremendous response, fantastic old photographs suddenly came out of the 'woodwork' resulting in yet another brilliant historical record of past Ecton times and making another tribute to his most remarkable talents.

RODNEY INGRAM – ECTON THANKS YOU

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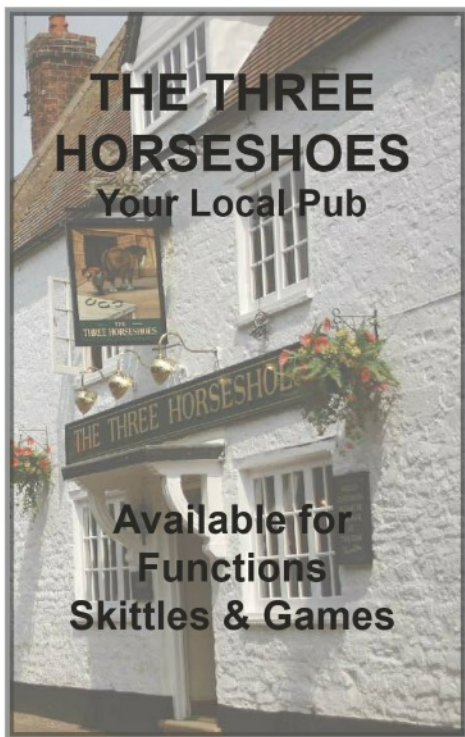
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ECTON VILLAGE YOUTH CLUB

Our Christmas outing to Beckworth ice skating was very well supported and we all had an enjoyable, although wet night. Already this year we have been roller-skating at Benham and had a cookery night at the village hall, along with the usual crafts and games.



Programme	
February	
4th	
11th	Cooking
18th	Social & Games
25th	Half Term
	Boys Rock climbing/ Girls Badminton- Benham
March	
4th	Girls Rock climbing/ Boys Badminton - Benham



We are organising a fund raising Bridge Drive on Wednesday 11th February. We are having a raffle on the day and would greatly appreciate any donations of raffle prizes.

Margaret Tinston 07970 270718

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Ecton Village Hall
Saturday 14th February at 7.30pm

Tickets £12 (conc £10)
which includes canapés

from Alistair on 01604 402582
or at 24 High Street



*The GREAT SEAL by Adrian Teal
Inspired by Ecton's links to American history....*

This painting was my entry for Art Prize 2014 in Michigan. It shows Founding Father BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, sitting atop the RATTLESNAKE from the GADSDEN FLAG, and helping to create the GREAT SEAL itself, both of which emblems Franklin was instrumental in developing.

In the background is ECTON CHURCH, with the grave of Benjamin's uncle THOMAS FRANKLIN. Also shown are GEORGE WASHINGTON, and his family's ancestral home in Northamptonshire, SULGRAVE MANOR. The Washington family's coat of arms is thought to have inspired the Stars and Stripes.

BETSY ROSS is sewing the E Pluribus Unum motto. Featured centrally is MICHIGAN MAN ROBERT G. HEFT, who designed the now definitive Stars and Stripes when he was just 17 years old. A grouchy TURKEY also appears, because Ben Franklin thought that this feisty bird would be a more fitting emblem for America than the featured BALD EAGLE. In the evening sky – which reflects the design of the US flag - are STARS representing the original 13 colonies; and an astronaut is planting the Stars & Stripes on the MOON.

If you'd like an A4 limited edition print of the painting, plus a
crib sheet explaining the history behind it, all for £10,
please contact Adrian Teal
by email adrian@tealcartoons.co.uk
or tel: 07885 021 217



CALLING ALL DOG OWNERS

PLEASE, WOULD ALL DOG OWNERS & WALKERS TAKE EXTRA CARE NOT TO LEAVE ANY DOG MESS ON OUR VILLAGE PAVEMENTS. YOU ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO CLEAN IT UP AND DISPOSE OF IT RESPONSIBLY.

FOR THOSE USING THE FIELDS AT THE END OF WEST STREET, THERE IS NOW (OR VERY SOON WILL BE) A NEW DOG POO BIN, SUPPLIED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

PLEASE MAKE GOOD USE OF IT

ECTON WINE TASTING

“Old World vs New World”

Saturday 18th April
7.30pm in the Village Hall



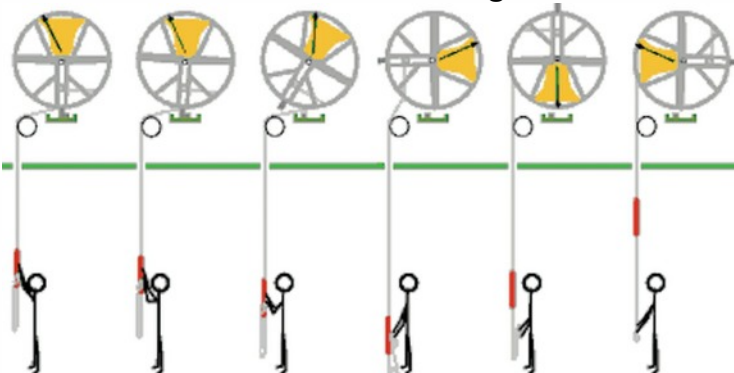
Tickets £15.00 includes meal and wine

Available from Nicky Bedford at 30 West Street
or Carol Armstrong at 47 West Street
carolarmstrong1@gmail.com 01604 402907

Are you interested
in learning how the bells of Ecton are rung?
Come along on Wednesday nights to find out.
7.30-8.30pm

For further details contact Jude 408588

All welcome-anyone aged from 10 onwards
can learn to bellring.



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DEBENHAMS

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