

# ST MARY MAGDALENE ECTON



**PARISH MAGAZINE**

**APRIL 1997**

---

Contributions welcome towards cost of producing the magazine.

---

## PARISH AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

### BELL RINGERS

Contact Dorothy Creed  
Tel: 01604 407864

### CRICKET CLUB

Captain: Steve Wheatmen  
Tel: 01604 401714  
Secretary: Hilary Kearsley  
Tel: 01604 810922

### FELLOWSHIP

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

### MONDAY CLUB

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

### MUMS & TOTS

Contact Kate Kirton  
Tel: 01604 409809  
Most Wednesdays  
2.00-3.15 pm Rectory Room

### PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: David Dicks  
Tel: 01604 407145

### PRE-SCHOOL

Monday Tuesday Thursday  
and Friday 9.15 - 11.45 am  
Youth Club Hall, High Street  
Tel: 01604 784711

### PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Sheila Sayers  
Tel: 01604 409213

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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

### YOUTH & SENIOR CLUBS

Contact: Mary Beesley  
Tel: 01604 810577  
Youth: Wednesday 7-9 pm  
Senior: Tuesday 8.00 pm  
Club Hall, High Street, Ecton

---

### MAGAZINE EDITOR

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

### MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTOR

The Rector, 32 West Street, Ecton  
Tel: 01604 416322

---

**CHURCH DIRECTORY**

**RECTOR**

The Reverend Peter Naylor  
Ecton Rectory, West Street  
Tel: Home 01604 416322  
Tel: Office 01604 406442

**CHURCHWARDENS**

Dorothy Creed, 22a Church  
View - Tel: 01604 407864  
Jean Morrison, Apartment 8  
Ecton Hall - Tel: 01604 785158

**PCC SECRETARY**

Annette Tuck, 12 Botmead Rd  
N'ton - Tel: 01604 413035

**PCC TREASURER**

Les Mitchell, 12 Berrydale  
N'ton - Tel: 01604 415013

**ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER**

Mary Dicks, Field House  
West St - Tel: 01604 407145

**STEWARDSHIP RECORDER**

Marian Gleave, 19 Church  
View - Tel: 01604 407889

**SUNDAY FAMILY**

Contact Patricia Naylor  
Tel: 01604 416322  
9.25 am Rectory Room  
(Not First Sunday in the month)

**CHURCH ORGANIST/CHOIR MASTER**

Frank Brown  
40 The Scarplands, Duston  
N'ton - Tel: 01604 471026

**ECTON PARISH  
MAGAZINE**

**You will find**

**The Rector's letter  
on page 2**

**Church & Village Diary  
on pages 4 - 6**

**Church Rotas  
on pages 8 - 9**

All copy for April magazine  
to Ecton House clearly  
labelled 'parish magazine'  
by 14th April

## FROM THE RECTOR'S STUDY

By the time you receive this magazine you will no doubt have heard of my departure from Ecton parish. The announcement was made in church on Palm Sunday with considerable regret on my part because I have grown to 'love Ecton to bits' over seven years. I realise how privileged and honoured I have been to serve you as priest and pastor during this time.

What one learns in parish life is how difficult it is to please everybody and, no doubt, there are those who will welcome a change of leadership. To them I proffer my sincere apologies for any failure they have found disappointing. The reality is I have come to the end of slightly more than fifty years of full-time working life. Ecton for Patricia and I has proved to be a great blessing, and one we shall remember for the rest of our days. A lovely church in which to worship, set in a village of historic charm and character, and people who have proved to be so kind and supporting: for all this we are most grateful to God our loving Father in Heaven.

My last service is to take place on Sunday, 15th June, at 6.00 pm when I will preach my last sermon as your Rector. It will take the form of a Sung Eucharist when I shall give thanks for my time at Ecton and the end of my full-time life as a priest of the Church of England. I hope that you will join me in church on this occasion. Some will wish to receive the Blessed Sacrament, others a blessing, but if you wish to remain seated in your pew during the administration that will be perfectly acceptable. Other arrangements are to be announced at a later date.

The Bishop of Peterborough has graciously accepted my resignation which will take effect from 31st July 1997. There is hope that one of his senior colleagues can be present.

Another event of importance that needs your support is the Annual Parochial meeting planned for Sunday, 20th April when we elect our Churchwardens and members of the Church Council for the next twelve months. The meeting will be held at Ecton House at 7.00 pm following Evensong in church (6.00 pm). For my last meeting of this kind when I shall be in the chair, it would be good to have a full house. Please remember that you cannot stand for election, or vote, unless your name is on the Electoral Roll of the Church.

*Every Blessing*  
*Peter Naylor*

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE REPORT



Wednesday 2nd April in the Rectory Room.

Speakers: Ex Mayors of Wellingborough  
Mrs E Higgins, Mr Partidge-Underwood

Competition: My Favourite Scarf - Swan Ornament/Dec.

Teas: Mrs J Knight, Mrs M Scott

Minutes read and approved.

Friday, 9th May, suggested date for outing to Hatton Village - names to Millie please.

Possible outings to be considered:

- a) Theatre - Deringate, The Castle.
- b) Mini Bus to Bay Tree Garden Centre, Spalding.
- c) Swimming - Over 50's - Danes Camp.

Other suggestions welcomed.

Village Map - A meeting has been arranged on Monday 24th at 10 am, 68 High Street to discuss how we proceed with this project. Please come if you are interested and have plenty of ideas.

Triennial General Meeting - Birmingham NEC - 3/4th July. Delegate required please. There will be time to browse through the Lifetime '97 Exhibition - and to enjoy a Gala Concert on the Tuesday evening.

Our speaker, Miss Bull, entertained us with her slides on the 'Rose of the Shires'. Her photography was excellent and her knowledge of local history enlightened us all. This is a very historical area along with pleasant rolling countryside. We roamed through the villages, learning of beautiful mosaic pavements; discovered sites of old manor houses; history of churches; knowledge of the family names associated with Lampart Hall, Fotheringhay, Castle Ashby and many more.

Hopefully, we shall all be more observant, and appreciative of our heritage in the future.

Vote of thanks - Mrs M Scott.

Competition - Decorated Egg - June, Stella, Dorothy

June Marshman

## APRIL 1997 DIARY

- Tuesday in Easter Week, 1st April**  
7.30 pm Holy Communion
- Wednesday in Easter Week, 2nd April**  
9.30 am Holy Communion  
7.30 pm Prayer & Praise at 34 West Street  
7.30 pm Women's Institute meet in the Rectory Room
- Thursday in Easter Week, 3rd April**  
7.30 pm Holy Communion
- Sunday, 6th April : FIRST AFTER EASTER**  
9.30 am Holy Communion (said)  
Exodus 15. 1-11 : John 20. 19-29  
10.30 am Sunday Praise  
6.00 pm Holy Communion (1662) with hymns
- ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD TO THE  
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY : Monday, 7th April**  
7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel  
7.30 pm Holy Communion
- Tuesday, 8th April**  
2.30 pm Ecton Fellowship meet in the Rectory Room
- Wednesday, 9th April**  
9.30 am Holy Communion
- Thursday, 10th April**  
7.30 pm Holy Communion
- 2 AFTER EASTER : Sunday, 13th April**  
9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday Family  
Revelation 19. 6-9 : Luke 24. 13-35  
6.00 pm Evensong
- Monday, 14th April**  
7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel  
2.30 pm Monday Club meet in the Rectory Room
- Wednesday, 16th April**  
9.30 am Holy Communion  
7.30 pm Prayer & Praise at 48 High Street

- Thursday, 17th April**  
7.30 pm Holy Communion
- 3 AFTER EASTER : Sunday, 20th April**  
9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday Family  
1 Corinthians 15. 1-11 : John 21. 1-14  
6.00 pm Evensong  
7.00 pm Ecton Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
(following Evensong)
- Monday, 21st April**  
7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel
- Wednesday, 23rd April**  
9.30 am Holy Communion
- Thursday, 24th April**  
7.30 pm Holy Communion  
7.30 pm Monday Club Whist Drive in the Rectory Room
- ST MARK THE EVANGELIST : Friday, 25th April**  
7.30 pm Holy Communion
- 4 AFTER EASTER : Sunday, 27th April**  
9.30 am Parish Communion and Sunday Family  
Revelation 3. 14-end : John 21. 15-22  
6.00 pm Evensong
- Monday, 28th April**  
7.50 am Holy Communion in the House Chapel  
2.30 pm Monday Club meet in the Rectory Room
- Wednesday, 30th April**  
9.30 am Holy Communion  
7.30 pm Prayer & Praise at 34 West Street
- ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES, APOSTLES :**  
**Thursday, 1st May**  
7.30 pm Holy Communion
- 5 AFTER EASTER : Sunday, 4th May**  
9.30 am Holy Communion (said)  
1 Corinthians 15. 21-28 : John 16. 25-end  
10.30 am Sunday Praise  
6.00 pm Holy Communion (1662) with hymns
-



## **PRAY FOR THE DAYLIGHT CENTRE**

Heavenly Father, bless we pray the work of the Daylight Centre.

May it be a haven of your love & peace and a source of hope and help to all who use it.

Give patience, wisdom and strength to staff and helpers.

Provide we pray the resources that are needed, the willing hands and loving hearts to show your care, and guide its future direction according to your will.

Through Jesus Christ our ever caring Lord.

Amen

## **Give Thanks & Pray for**

**Sunday**  
Chairman and Trustees

**Monday**  
Manager and Staff

**Tuesday**  
Volunteers and  
Councillors

**Wednesday**  
Supporting Churches  
and MU

**Thursday**  
Users and Families

**Friday**  
Homeless and  
Unemployed

**Saturday**  
Future Funding and  
Support



**STOP PRESS:**

**MUSICAL EVENING WITH BUFFET SUPPER**

given in aid of The Children's Society

**FRIDAY 23 MAY AT 7.30 PM IN ECTON HOUSE**

A varied programme of classical and popular music

VIOLINIST: Tessa Robbins Khambatta

SOPRANO: Sue Roy

PIANIST: Ian Roy

**TICKETS £10 inc. supper**

**RAFFLE**

Tessa has played for many years in the top national orchestras both here and abroad and is a professor at the Royal College of Music. Sue and Ian are well known in the music world in and around Colchester.

-----

**TICKETS VERY LIMITED:**

To secure immediately please contact:

Ingrid 425086 or Mary 407145

Offers of help with catering/raffle prizes would be appreciated.



## COFFEE ROTA

6 April	Ingrid Cartwright
13 April	Sue and Les Mitchell
20 April	June Marshman and Marian Gleave
27 April	Millie Harlott and Christine Murray



## CLEANING ROTA

5 April	PINK	A
12 April	YELLOW	B
19 April	BLUE	A
26 April	GREEN	B

**BRASS CLEANING** ◆ Saturday, 5 April

<b>ROTAS</b>	<b>6 April</b>	<b>13 April</b>	<b>20 April</b>	<b>27 April</b>
<b>SERVER</b>	Pat Baylis	Charlotte Greene	Graham Jordan	Marcus Alcock
<b>CHALICE</b>	Pat Baylis	Pat Baylis	Graham Jordan	Alice Adams
<b>CRUCIFER</b>	Dorothy Creed	Charlotte Greene	Graham Jordan	Marcus Alcock

## WEEKDAY SERVERS

<b>TUESDAY 1</b>	Pat Baylis
<b>WEDNESDAY 2</b>	Dorothy Creed
<b>THURSDAY 3</b>	Patricia Naylor
<b>MONDAY 7</b>	Marcus Alcock
<b>WEDNESDAY 9</b>	Trudie Warner
<b>THURSDAY 10</b>	Patricia Naylor
<b>WEDNESDAY 16</b>	Dorothy Creed
<b>THURSDAY 17</b>	Patricia Naylor
<b>WEDNESDAY 23</b>	Trudie Warner
<b>THURSDAY 24</b>	Patricia Naylor
<b>FRIDAY 25</b>	Pat Baylis
<b>WEDNESDAY 30</b>	Dorothy Creed

## WHAT ARE THE "CORPORAL ACTS OF MERCY"?

Traditionally seven, they are:

- Feeding the hungry
- Giving drink to the thirsty
- Harbouring strangers
- Clothing the naked
- Visiting the sick
- Ministering to prisoners
- Burying the dead

The basis of these acts is St Matthew 25 v 31f.

Such Acts are essential aspects of any Church's ministry, and it is clear from the Gospel passage that they are not merely added extras, some sort of superogatory list, but are an integral part of the Christian life. This may sound self-evident, but it is all too easy for Christians to focus on the salvation of the soul, while conveniently forgetting the salvation of the body.

Christ's ministry was not compartmentalised. He travelled Israel and reached out to all sections of society, offering material as well as spiritual healing. Indeed, Christ was particularly concerned with the poor, and his concern for the physical well being of those he encounters is plain. How it is possible then for any disciple of Christ to ignore the plight of those in need? And yet when the Church seriously attempts to highlight the issue of social inequality in this nation, as in the 1985 report "Faith In The City", or in the more recent publication from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales entitled "The Common Good", it is attacked from some quarters for meddling in politics.

There is, of course, a philosophical reason underpinning the reluctance to attend to the physical needs of people. Ever since Plato, western philosophy has divided body and soul. Whereas the soul is to be valued, the body is of no real importance. This is necessarily a gross simplification, but the duality of body and soul is a key concept that has been absorbed by the western world. One of the repercussions of such thinking in some Christian circles is that the state of an individual's soul is attended to as if that were a separate component of the human being. This is certainly not the original Hebraic understanding, where body and soul are one, and nor should it be ours.

However, I suspect that philosophical underpinnings for the neglect of the material condition of people do not really come into the picture. If we are honest, the real reason we neglect those in need is because it is easy to do so. Christianity then becomes merely a matter of morals, divorced from the physical realities of life. Yet the Gospel of Christ is one that reaches out to the total needs of people. It is interesting to note that the greek meaning of the word we translate "salvation" is in fact "wholeness". As Christians, we have a duty to offer this nation the salvation of Christ.

"But I am in no position to harbour strangers or feed the hungry" you may retort. Maybe not, and I am not suggesting that if you don't perform every one of these acts then you aren't fulfilling your Christian calling. (Taken in total, these acts are specifically addressed to the clergy, as the burial of the dead is not to be found in the Gospel passage). However, we each have an unmistakable responsibility to attend to the needs of the hungry, the sick, and those on the fringes of society in whatever way we think is best. A general election is looming, so this is an excellent time to consider how best to help the marginalised, as Christ directs us.

Marcus Alcock, Lent 1997

# Ecton Village Pre-School

A FRIENDLY VILLAGE PRE-SCHOOL ONLY A  
COUPLE OF MINUTES FROM NORTHAMPTON  
EASTERN DISTRICT FOR CHILDREN FROM  
2 YEARS 9 MONTHS.

SESSIONS FROM 9.15 AM - 11.45 AM HELD ON  
MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY  
DURING TERM TIME.

COST £2.60 PER SESSION INCLUSIVE OF A  
DRINK AND SNACK.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ARRANGE  
A VISIT PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
PRE-SCHOOL ON NORTHAMPTON 784711

## Ecton Village Mums & Tots

What do you do with your  
pre-school child on a  
Wednesday afternoon ?



Why not come along to  
the Mother and Toddler  
group in Ecton Village.  
It is open to non village  
children and their mums.

Going to Mums & Tots is  
great for younger pre-playgroup toddlers, as they get  
to know each other before starting at the Ecton  
Village playgroup. This makes the transition to  
playgroup easier and less daunting for many of them.

The session runs from 2:00 - 3:15  
Wednesday at the Rectory Room,  
Ecton House, Church Way, Ecton

Costs only 50p, tea or coffee included!



## THE MONDAY CLUB

I know everyone in the Club will miss Eileen very much, having been a committee member for twelve years. She was my right hand, and would always remind me of things we should be doing. I don't know how I shall manage without her.

I am trying to sort out some outings for the summer, will keep you posted.

Club dates at 14th and 28th April.

Whist Drive - 24th April.

Freda Richards

## ECTON FELLOWSHIP

The next meeting is on Tuesday, April 8th at 2.30 pm. We are having a talk by a speech therapist. We hope you will be able to join us.

Joan Dickins Tel: 415576

Ecton Fellowship Tea Helpers  
Dorothy Austin and Dorothy Cross



## **ECTON VILLAGE APPRAISAL**

Everyone is asking us when the book will be available - well, the publication date will be sometime in May, slightly later than we originally hoped but necessary to enable us to include some last minute articles and photographs.

The date of the launch - we are hoping to make a wine and cheese evening of it - should be in the next parish magazine.

Incidentally if you have any interesting artefacts connected with the village which we could include as illustrations we should be interested to hear from you.

**Rodney Ingram Tel: 406038**

## **PRAYER & PRAISE**

7.30 - 9.00 pm : April 2nd at 34 West Street

7.30 - 9.00 pm : April 16th at 48 High Street

7.30 - 9.00 pm : April 30th at 34 West Street

# CORRYMEELA LINK



Appointed agent of the CORRYMEELA COMMUNITY,  
registered as a Charity in Northern Ireland.  
Registered Number: IN 48057A

PO Box 118 Reading Berkshire RG1 1SL  
Telephone: Reading (0118) 958 9800

#### THE PATRONS OF CORRYMEELA LINK ARE:

Rt. Rev. John Bone Bishop of Reading  
Most Rev. & Rt. Hon. George Carey Archbishop of Canterbury  
Adam Clarke representing the Religious Society of Friends  
Rt. Rev. Crysipus Helleis K.C. Bishop of Portsmouth  
His Eminence Cardinal Basil Hume Archbishop of Westminster  
Most Rev. Patrick Hilly Archbishop of Liverpool  
Very Rev. John Mathew Dean of Ripon  
Most Rev. Keith Patrick O'Brien Archbishop of St. Andrews & Edinburgh  
Very Rev. John Pacey Provost of Coveentry  
Jonathan Sacks Chief Rabbi  
The Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council  
The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

October 1996

Dear Friends,

This year has seen the miserable spectre of violence return to our streets. The IRA cease-fire ended with the Canary Wharf bomb in February. On the very afternoon in June, when the Link held its AGM, Manchester was bombed. Now, even as I write, the news is of a particularly barbarous attack by the IRA on the Army HQ in Lisburn. It is quite possible that by the time this letter is read, the so-called Loyalist paramilitaries will have broken their cease-fire. We can only pray that they don't fall into that trap.

Nearly everybody knows in their hearts that nothing will be gained by violence. Without totally sealing off Northern Ireland the IRA cannot be defeated by military means. Likewise, the British resolve not to see violence overthrow democracy, however flawed, cannot be shaken. Bombing simply makes people dig their heels in. Ask anyone old enough to remember the 1940-41 blitz.

Fear and lack of trust between communities provoke the activities that lead to violence. It has been the ongoing work of the Corrymeela Community since 1964 to fight fear and mistrust by bringing together people of different traditions and viewpoints, however extreme, and to provide a neutral but Christian meeting place where reconciliation can begin to take place.

At a time when there is a growing reaction to our subculture of violence, family breakdown and irresponsibility throughout the UK, the Corrymeela Community, like many embattled churches in our inner cities, rolls up its sleeves and shows in practical terms what Christianity is about.

Corrymeela Link channels the support of thousands of people throughout Great Britain for the Community. Their prayers, their time, their educational and fund raising activities are of immense value.

The support of the churches and of individuals is a solid rock, and a matter of great pride. Through thick and thin, and despite ever increasing demands on your giving, you have sent us the money which allows Corrymeela to do its work. In the midst of violence, where others have despaired, you have supported us. During the cease-fire, when Northern Ireland was no longer

'news' you have supported us. There are times when it seems that our newspapers are only interested in the Church if there is a juicy scandal or some schism to report. The steadfast support of the Church for Corrymeela tells a different story.

Corrymeela Sunday is celebrated in many churches throughout the UK on the Sunday before St Patrick's Day which in 1997 falls on Sunday March 16th. We invite your church and congregation to join us then in worship and prayer for Northern Ireland and the Corrymeela Community. If you wish to receive more information, contemplate organising a service, or wish to make a donation, please contact the Corrymeela Link Office at the above address.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God".

Ray Netherclift  
Chairman, Corrymeela Link.

.....  
Please send me more information about the Corrymeela Community and Corrymeela Link, including information on Corrymeela Sunday March 16th 1997.

Please send information on the work of the Community and Link (please tick).....

I am contemplating organising a service for Corrymeela Sunday or commemorating it within our normal service (please tick).....

I would like someone to visit to give a talk on the work of Corrymeela (please tick).....

I wish to be put in touch with my nearest Support Group. (please tick).....

I wish to make a donation towards the work of reconciliation and enclose it with this reply slip. £.....

From: Name.....

Address.....

.....  
Post Code..... Tel No.....



Diocese of Peterborough

CHURCH URBAN FUND  
&  
FAITH IN THE CITY NEWS.



No 5. JANUARY 1997

FROM THE EDITOR.

The violent death of Christopher Gray outside his Liverpool Vicarage brought home to many the cost of "Staying in the City". Other clergy and their families could tell stories of times when they came into real danger, but without the same tragic outcome.

At the November Conference of Diocesan Urban Link Officers senior politicians from the three major parties were invited to speak to us of their policies and how they would address the real problems of the urban parishes. Simon Hughes M.P. paid particular tribute to the Church of England for "being there" and speaking "with the authority of presence". It would be tragic, he said, if the Church were to withdraw from inner cities and estates and its voice be stilled.

I would like to be persuaded that I am wrong in my concern lest a convergence of factors should promote such a withdrawal.

Any unilateral withdrawal from the Parish Share system by financially self-sufficient parishes could put less well-off ones at risk. An eclectic congregationalism could become unrelated to the community around and unrepresentative of it. A hasty disestablishment of the Church of England without very careful thought about what alternative arrangements would express the responsibility of the Church of England for all communities could lead to what Bishop Winter, writing a number of years ago about the United States, described as "The Suburban Captivity of the Churches".

At the October Conference for Urban Clergy about 16 of us considered collaborative ministry and heard about two different models of it - at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Bretton, and at St. Barnabas, Peterborough. We seemed to moving away from recounting the problems to rediscovering an encouraging vision for urban parishes.

I believe that the UPA's are asking questions of the wider church about how congregations are related to their communities. On the answer, of course, depends far more than the future of UPA ministry.

#### URBAN TRENDS.

The main findings of the 1991 Census according to Urban Research Summary No 8 published by the Dept. of the Environment, are:

- \*The division between urban and rural areas has widened.
- \*Population decline in urban England continued in the 80's but at a lower rate than in the 70's.
- \*Most large cities continued to lose employment, though at a slower rate than the 70's.
- \*Inner city residents face increasing competition for jobs at a time when jobs are declining in number and shifting from the manual jobs on which they largely depend.
- \*The number of households with no member in the labour market increased steeply in metropolitan areas.
- \*One in five children live in households with no earner.
- \*The division between rich and poor is most apparent in London.
- \*There has been a slight increase in the concentration of ethnic minorities in metropolitan areas.

*"There are many signs of deteriorating conditions in England's larger cities and their inner areas, and where there have been improvements in absolute terms, these have often been at a slower pace than the rest of England. Hence there has been a widening of differentials across the urban-rural scene." (page 2)*

#### THE ARCHBISHOP SPEAKS

At the November meeting of the Diocesan Urban Link Officers, the Archbishop of Canterbury said that "Faith in the City" had demonstrated to millions that the Church was on their side. Since its publication little had improved the inner cities. The Church's special contribution to them was that it remained there, and its priests lived there, when other institutions and professional people had fled. He went on to say that the Church does not necessarily speak with special authority and expertise, for example Archbishops are not expert in assessing the practical effects of different political or economic options.

The Daily Mail, predictably, carried the headline "Carey admits: The Church was wrong to play politics" and took what His Grace said to imply a criticism of "Faith in the City".

All good knockabout stuff, but what an odd ecclesiology! Archbishops may not be experts in politics or economics, but is the Church solely Archbishops? Are there no lay Christian politicians or economists? Have Archbishops no advisers?

The Archbishop's point (hopefully!) was the need to be properly researched before social comment.

## LINK OFFICERS' CONFERENCE

ACUPA Link Officers from all the dioceses, members of CUF staff and four Bishops (Barking, Woolwich, Bradwell and Aston) met at High Leigh in November under the chairmanship of Roger Sainsbury (Bishop of Barking).

Speakers were Michael Heseltine, Frank Dobson and Simon Hughes representing the three major political parties, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Will Hutton the Editor of the Observer and author of the best-selling book "The State We're In".

At the end of the conference, having heard the input from the politicians about their respective policies as they applied to the problems of social deprivation and disintegration, the following conference resolution was passed. It has the obvious limitations of any such resolution, but those involved have a wide knowledge of the situation in their own dioceses.

The text is as follows:

*"Claiming the authority of the continued presence of the churches in urban areas; this conference: deplores the deepening divisions and inequalities in our society, believing that poverty, stigmatisation and social exclusion are an affront and that all people are of eternal value to God; welcomes the Catholic Bishops' document, 'The Common Good'; and challenges church and nation to:*

*admit our failure as a society to create a fair and undivided community;*

*listen to the voices of those marginalised by failure; work for the adoption of policies which:*

- provide resources through higher rates of taxation for those earning more and for more rigorous corporate taxation;*
- build up sustainable community life;*
- redress the imbalance of work, wealth and opportunity.*

Support was expressed by participants for a proposal by Bishop Peter Hall (Woolwich) to call on all political parties to address the issue of the 'forgotten thirty percent' through a rally to be staged in London to highlight concerns, and other similar regional events, prior to the General Election.

## PROJECT NEWS.

A number of possible project applications within our Diocese are being investigated. However, the evidence is that Church Urban Fund applications are having to go through even smaller hoops to be successful. In particular the status of any parish in relation to its OXLP Score is being even more strictly adhered to. It would be to the advantage of applicant projects to revisit their parish map and to correlate it with census enumeration districts so that its place on the scale of social deprivation can be assessed. It is essential that dealings with CUF are channelled in the correct way - via me (David Staples) and reach CUF with the approval of the Bishop, and not go directly to CUF.

It was good to see that the Daylight Centre in Wellingborough featured in "City Lights", the Autumn 96 Newsletter of the Church Urban Fund, as exemplifying good practice. 95 people per week now use the facilities it offers (hot meals, showers, laundry, referral for specialist help and a cosy base for those in B & B or on the streets). This is a Mothers' Union Project and received £30,000 from CUF. 95 is four times the number when the centre opened two years ago.

## KINGS HEATH DROP IN SHOP.

Kings Heath is a local authority housing estate in Northampton with a population of 4,000. Facilities are minimal. 9 shops remain in an area with 16 units. There is no doctor's surgery, no bank or building society.

The community has a strong sense of identity and has received help in the last 18 months from the government's Single Regeneration Budget. (SRB).

Over 2 years ago there was some provisional thought about a drop-in centre in one of the unsightly empty shop units.

As parish priest I contacted David Staples about the possibility of a CUF grant. The good news is that we no longer need one because SRB has been able to fund the project.

The Borough Council is providing the shop rent and rates free. It will provide an information point, tea and coffee, counselling and therapy sessions. The community will have access to a large number of support groups. Groups include Baptist and Anglican Churches, CAB, Health Promotion, Homestart, Nu-track, Comsport, Health Visitors, Victim Support, Crime Prevention, Youth Service, CAN, Welfare rights, Age Concern, Children in Need, CVS.

An excellent example of a community identifying its needs and securing funding. CUF is now free to help and fund another project. Owen Page.

## CHURCH URBAN FUND NEWS.

Requests for CUF funding continue. Contributions are still welcome. Pay into any bank for the credit of Natwest Bank, Millbank Branch, Sort Code 56 00 33, or send to the Donations and Finance Section, Church Urban Fund, 2, Great Peter Street, London SW1P 3LX, or to David Staples (address below) for forwarding.

Not all gifts come through me, but amongst those which have are Great Brington PCC (£100), Oakham School (£100), West Haddon PCC (£75), Brixworth PCC (£35). Ravensthorpe is to send 50% proceeds of Autumn Fellowship Lunches. Thanks to all.

Angela Sarkis is now Chief Executive of the Fund, and is planning to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Fund with a "Thankyou Roadshow" and worship material. She would welcome ideas.

## BOOKSHELF.

**FAITH IN DARK PLACES** by David Rhodes.

Triangle. pb £5.99. All royalties go to CUF. Stories from the inner city with a fresh approach to the Gospel. It explores the idea that the good news of God's love is being spoken to a tired and damaged world by those rejected as worthless: the homeless and the poor.

**THE STATE WE'RE IN** by Will Hutton. Vintage Press. pb. £7.99. A refreshing analysis of political and economic policies and their result, with his own alternative proposals.

**UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE FUTURE OF WORK.** To be published by the Council of Churches for Britain & N. Ireland. Look out for this 300 page report.

This Newsletter comes with the compliments of the Revd. David Staples, Diocesan ACUPA Link Officer and CUF Projects' Officer, West Haddon Vicarage, Northampton NN6 7AY. (Tel:01788 510207).



## ECTON HOUSE

---

### **"THINKING IT WAS THE GARDENER"**

---

A DAY OF MEDITATION ON THE RESURRECTION  
APPEARANCES OF CHRIST LED BY THE  
REVEREND PETER NAYLOR

**TUESDAY, 8TH APRIL, 1997**

---

The Reverend Peter Naylor has been a parish priest for 36 years, having spent the preceding working years in industry and the army. Peter is now the Warden of Ecton House as well as the Rector of the parish of Ecton.

The out-reach of the Church is a passional interest of his, finding expression in theatre and football club chaplaincies.

---

Arrive for coffee at 10 am and depart after tea at 4 pm.

A light lunch will be available at 1 pm, which should be booked, but you are welcome to bring your own packed lunch if you prefer.

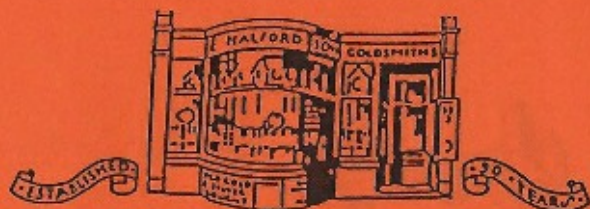
Cost for the day £3 without lunch: £6 with lunch.

---

ENQUIRIES AND BOOKINGS TO THE WARDEN, ECTON HOUSE  
CHURCH WAY, ECTON, NORTHAMPTON, NN6 0QE

Telephone: 01604 406442 Fax: 01604 787052

---



## *E. Halford & Son*

Jewellers, Gold & Silversmiths  
Watch Makers

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

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

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

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

Stockist  
of Avia  
Watches

We also purchase all  
types of jewellery

Stockist  
of Zenith  
Watches

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



## ECTON HOUSE

Bless, O Lord, the work of Ecton House.  
Bless its staff and all who use it for  
retreats and conferences: may they know  
your presence and the power of your  
love, and have grace in their hearts,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen*

**VISIT THE LIBRARY - OPEN TO ALL**

WARDEN: THE REVEREND PETER NAYLOR, ECTON HOUSE  
PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTRE  
CHURCH WAY, ECTON, NORTHAMPTON, NN6 0QE  
TELEPHONE: 01604 406442; FAX: 01604 787052

