

**CHURCH SERVICES.**Sunday 1st February.

8.00 am Holy Communion.  
10.30 am Sunday School.  
10.30 am Parish Eucharist.  
6.30 pm Evensong.

Monday 2nd February.**CANDLEMAS.**

7.30 pm Eucharist

Sunday 8th February.

8.00 am Holy Communion.  
10.30 am Family Service.

Monday 9th February.

2.15 pm The Little Fishers.

Sunday 15th February.

8.00 am Holy Communion.  
10.30 am Sunday School  
10.30 am Parish Eucharist.  
6.30 pm Team Evensong at Helidon

Sunday 22nd February.

8.00 am Holy Communion.  
10.30 am Sunday School  
10.30 am Parish Eucharist.

Monday 23rd February.

2.15 pm The Little Fishers

Ash Wednesday, 25th February

7.30 pm. Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes at St. Mary's Staverton.

**DON'T FORGET -**

That THE LITTLE FISHERS meet every 2nd and 4th Monday in the month at 2.15 pm in church. Bring your child along to sing songs, hear a story and do an activity, and make new friends! All pre-school children welcome.

Midweek Communion: Wednesday, 10.30 am.

Matins is said daily at 9.00 am and Evensong at 6.00 pm.

**NOTICES.****FUNERALS.**

7th January. Beatrice Mary Hyatt and Jean Margaret Sigsworth.

*May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them*

**THE VICAR'S LETTER**

Dear All,

*We have now come to that time of year when most of us are finishing off the last scraps of Christmas cake and any remaining chocolates. Soon we will be thinking about hot cross buns and Easter eggs! Perhaps it is just as well that there is Lent in between!*

*Lent is the period of forty days which is used by the Church as a time to prepare for Easter through reflection and acts of devotion. Lent is often seen as the time to give something up, usually something like chocolates or alcohol but it is actually better to make the most of Lent by taking something on, for example by paying more attention to saying our prayers regularly or attending some of the Church's services. As well as this, we shall be running Lent house groups so that we can share together as we journey through this season.*

*However, before we begin Lent, we take a last look back at the events of Christmas. CANDLEMAS celebrates the time when Jesus was presented in the temple as an infant - rather as we baptise children today. When Jesus and his parents were there a wise old man named Simeon came up to them and told them that Jesus would be a "light to lighten the Gentiles". In mediaeval times, when this event was celebrated, everyone would bring a candle into church. During the service these candles would be blessed and lit, so that the building was filled with light. This is how candlemas got its name.*

*Candlemas will be celebrated this year at Braunston with a Eucharist and Procession on Monday 2nd February at 7.30 pm. Please bring your candle with you.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Rev. James Watson.*

**CHURCH FLOODLIGHTING.**

5th December Karim and Janie Smith's 10th Wedding Anniversary.  
8th December Birthday memories of the late Phyllis Cullinane from her family.  
11th December In memory of Spencer Lee.  
14th December Peter Wenham's 70th Birthday, from Mary.  
18th December Birth of Jacob Patrick Andrew Wright.  
23rd December In memory of Pam Thompson on her Birthday.  
26th December On the 38th Wedding Anniversary of Bob and June Arrowsmith.  
31st December In memory of Gladys Law on her birthday.  
31st December For Tony Wilson on his 30th Birthday, from his family.  
31st December Anniversary of Walter Taylor's death.  
5th January In memory of Norma Thorp, on her Birthday.  
6th January Peter and Margaret Hick's 30th Wedding Anniversary.

7th January In memory of Eric Thorp on his Birthday.

8th January For Sara van Wyk.

9th January For Christopher Price on his Birthday.

12th January In memory of Walter Taylor whose Birthday was on this day.

16th January For Margaret Naylor whose 100th Birthday would have been today.

19th January On Ric's Birthday, from Peggie.

20th January On Peg's Birthday, from Richard.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE CHURCH SPIRE LIT UP FOR YOUR CELEBRATION OR SPECIAL EVENT, THEN PLEASE FILL UP A FORM ON THE TABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.

#### BRAUNSTON PRE-SCHOOL.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Coffee Morning. We raised over £270 which will be spent on much needed toys and equipment. We need replacement dolls clothes so if you have any to donate please speak to Carole Dickinson on 891942.

Maria Hopcraft (play assistant) is leaving us. We thank her for her hard work and wish her well for the future.

#### PLAY GROUP ASSISTANT.

**Braunston Pre-School require an assistant to work up to three mornings a week. Sessions are 9.15 to 11.45 plus setting up/clearing away. Interest in children essential - training available. Please ring Alison, 891096.**

#### BRAUNSTON PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION.

Thank you to Mr. Berry who responded to our request for cutting the hedge by the road end. The hedge-laying of the far end was started when volunteers turned out despite the foul weather. Many of you will have noticed the new sign by the playing field. This went up when our Lottery Grant was approved and things started moving on the new sports facilities development.

#### BRAUNSTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION.

The *INVASION* of Braunston's visitors from Quincy-Voisins draws nearer. Join the fun over the weekend of 2 - 3 May.

Call Beverley Hankinson on 891221.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 18th February, at 8 p.m.

#### DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY!!

Come to the Twinning Association Barn Dance on Saturday 7th March at 8 p.m. in the School Hall.

Tickets - £5 including supper - from the Post Office or from Elizabeth Gwynne on 891331.

#### 2nd. BRAUNSTON SCOUTS - THE DEN.

**Our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have been homeless for over a year. We urgently need to repair The Den and we need your help. Are there any former Scouts (particularly ex-Braunston) with construction skills or purchasing power who could give something back to the Scouting Movement? There is a lot needs doing but windows and brickwork are the priority. Sir Bob said, 'We'd like people to give money but, more importantly, we need people to give of themselves'. All offers of help, practical or otherwise, to our Chairman, Louis Prat on 890776. Honestly, even the smallest offer will be appreciated.**

#### TO LAY A HEDGE.

Is the opposite of 'To lay in bed'. But it's fun and you can work at your own pace to make a tough assignment relatively easy. But why bother? Some years ago farmers laid hedges as part of field management and made a haven for birds and small mammals. Sheer cost makes that difficult today. Birdsong is more muted now. But if a group of local friends can come together, get some training and offer their services to lay some village hedges they could make a difference. By chance there is another training session in hedgelaying with BTVC at the playing field in Barby Lane on February 14th and 15th. (Dates provisional.) Give John Daymond a ring for details on 891325.

#### DEADLINE!

**PLEASE BRING ALL MATERIAL FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER TO THE POST OFFICE BY 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY!!!**

#### BRAUNSTON GUIDES.

In November ten girls took part in a sponsored swim in aid of the National Asthma Campaign. Between them they covered a distance of over seven miles and raised £173-67.

#### W.I. NOTES.

Our New Year started with a celebration lunch on January 13th at the 'Wheatsheaf'. It was a happy social occasion.

At our first meeting of 1998, on Feb. 3rd., we will be having a talk by Mr. S. Hegarty entitled 'Aloe Vera - Better Health Naturally'. Do come along if you are interested. New members are always welcome, and what better time than now!

#### THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION. BRAUNSTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday February 10th 1998 at the George Hotel, Kilsby, commencing at 20.00 hours.

At our last meeting we were pleased to welcome a new member and we are hoping for another two, possibly three, new members at our next meeting. Anyone interested in becoming a member or associate member should contact the Secretary on 01788 891124.

#### WORD PROCESSOR AND PHOTOCOPIER.

Olytext typing system with TV monitor, word processor and daisywheel printer, requires some attention but is available free to an organisation or Charity. Manual included. An older style photocopier with spares is also available on the same terms. Please phone 890590.

#### ACRE CountryWork Grant Scheme.

This scheme, sponsored by BT, the Post Office and the Rural Development Commission, aims to promote employment in rural areas and seeks to raise awareness of the scheme in Northamptonshire. Owen Davies has their leaflet, 'Country Work - helping your community with employment'.

As well as outlining the scope of CountryWork the leaflet mentions two schemes in our County which have been awarded grants, at Cold Higham (Computer training) and Yardley Hastings (a Community Office supporting Community Groups and local people). For more information contact Jason Middleton (Rural Officer) on 01604 765888.

#### BLUE PETER APPEAL

**In aid of Cystic Fibrosis. Kelly Brewster would like anyone who has unwanted gifts, toys or games (adult or junior) to bring them to 39 Archer Avenue by 6th February, in time for the Bring and Buy Sale at School.**

**Painting and Drawing- Mondays 7p.m. in the Village Hall  
This Adult Education class would welcome new members.  
Anyone interested should pop along and see Judy on Monday evening or telephone the college on 01327 300232**