

Published by All Saints' Church for every home in Braunston

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 2nd February

8.00 am Holy Communion  
 10.30 am Parish Eucharist & Holy Baptism  
 6.30 pm Candlemas at St. Mary's , Staverton

Sunday 9th February

8.00 am Holy Communion  
 10.30 am Family Service

Monday 10th February

2.15 pm The Little Fishers (Toddlers' Service)

Ash Wednesday. 12th February

7.30 pm Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes (here)

Sunday 16th February

8.00 am Holy Communion  
 10.30 am Parish Eucharist  
 6.00 pm "Your Life in their Hands"  
 at Holy Cross, Daventry

Sunday 23rd February

8.00 am Holy Communion  
 10.30 am Parish Eucharist  
 6.00 pm "Your Life in their Hands"  
 at Holy Cross, Daventry

Monday 24th February

2.15 pm The Little Fishers (Toddlers' Service )

Parish Priest : Revd. James Watson 890235 (Rest Day - Thursdays )  
 Churchwardens: John Caunt 890776 and Trevor Minett 890908

**Funerals**

10th December Enid SCOTT  
 10th December Patricia LEE  
 18th December Florence NURSER  
 19th December Spencer LEE  
 30th December Geoffrey CURTIS  
 21st January Florence KING

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

The Children's Society

Thank you to all who helped to make the Christingle Service so successful - the Brownies, Junior Choir, Christingle makers and everyone who came to the service. Thanks too to those who delivered the envelopes and to those who returned them. You all helped us to raise £ 247.32 which has been sent to the Society.

*Your Life*

**In Their Hands**

16th February - 21st March

Exhibitions, meetings & discussions in Daventry

**Vicar's Letter**

Dear Parishioners,

This month you will receive with your BVN a brochure about "YOUR LIFE IN THEIR HANDS", a series of exhibitions and discussions organised by the Daventry Team Ministry of which Braunston is part.

"YOUR LIFE IN THEIR HANDS" is about informing ourselves about, and discussing, some of the issues in society to-day. The subjects range from the Media, the Environment, Education, Industry and Politics which will of course become a major issue as we approach the General Election.

Each week begins with an invited speaker giving an address on Sunday evening at Holy Cross, Daventry. During the week, on Wednesdays, from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm there will be exhibitions by groups which work in the relevant areas, and on the same evening, there will be an open forum, rather like "Question Time" on television in which YOU can put YOUR question to the people who make the decisions which affect You from day to day.

If you are someone who feels strongly about the way our society is going, then "YOUR LIFE IN THEIR HANDS" is an opportunity for you to let your voice be heard. I am sure that many people will want to attend this important event and show that they are concerned about the way our society is changing.

With best wishes,  
 Rev'd James Watson

Material for March edition to Owen Davies, 63 High Street by 23rd February please.

### **Braunston Friendly Club.**

The Friendly Club had its first meeting of the year on Jan 13th. It was well attended especially as so many of the villagers had been ill over the Christmas period. We were entertained by a small group of W.I. members with a 'Radio style' pantomime of 'The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe or The Beast of Braunston'. Original script by Dawn Quinn and musical accompaniment by Greta Raftery.

Next month on Feb 10th members are asked to write a poem or make a card suitable for Valentine's Day.

Feb 24th. A speaker to be arranged.

### **Braunston Memorial Hall. Vacancy.**

The Memorial Hall Committee are currently advertising the position of CARETAKER(S) to the Hall. For further information and/or application form, please contact the Secretary:

C. Ashley,  
60 Welton Road.  
Tel: 891580.

Closing date for applications: 14th. February 1997.

### **BRAUNSTON W.I. NOTES.**

Christmas now seems a long way off but happy memories remain of our party early in December when we were entertained by the Braunston version of The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe and of our Service at All Saints on Dec. 15th. when we were joined by five other W.I.'s for a lovely service of Readings and Carols.

Instead of meeting as usual in the Village Hall in January, we met at the Wheatsheaf on the 14th. for an excellent 3-course luncheon. We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Things get back to normal this month when we meet as usual in the Village Hall on the 4th. at 7.30 p.m. After business matters we shall have a talk on the making and selling of Grandfather clocks. This will be an open meeting so do join us if the subject interests you.

### **Braunston Twinning Association.**

#### **Forthcoming Events:**

- Meet in the Wheatsheaf at 8 p.m. on Tuesday 25th. February to talk about Twinning activities.
- There are still some seats available on the coach for the trip to Quincy-Voisins (3rd. - 5th. May) - ring Beverley Hankinson on 891221 for details.

Want to visit our twin village but be independent? Reasonably priced B&B accommodation available in Quincy-Voisins. (Again, ring Beverley for details.)

### **Braunston Guides and Brownies.**

Braunston Guides and Brownies are holding a **Blue Peter Bring and Buy Sale for Leprosy** at the School on Monday 3rd February, 6.30 - 7.30 p.m. We are hoping to have toy, book, cake, tombola and white elephant stalls (no jumble) as well as a raffle, games and refreshments. Please come along and support this event.

Last term the Guides took their Crime Prevention Badge with the help of P.C. Dickinson. They have an interesting year planned including a walking weekend in Derbyshire and an International Camp near Kettering this summer.

The Brownies no longer have a waiting list so any girls aged 7, who are interested, should contact Kathleen Minett on 890908.

### **Village Notes - Dick Hearne.**

The coming of the canals transformed life in Braunston. The first to open was the Coventry and Oxford canal in 1790 linking the industrial Midlands with the Thames, London and the export market. Its course followed the contour round the ridge on which the village stood and turned right under the Chester Road. Then it wound its way across the fields and over the Leam by an aqueduct beyond Wolfhamcote Church. The short cut from the double iron bridge in Braunston across the valley to Wolfhamcote came later in 1829. Digging the canal occupied many labourers known as navvies (navigators) from their work. Many more found regular work loading and unloading goods. The price of coal and manufactures in the district fell sharply.

The success of the canal led to another venture - the Grand Junction Canal from Braunston to London. This involved the construction of locks and a tunnel between Braunston and Welton. Most of it was complete by 1800 but the Blisworth tunnel was not finished until 1805. The locks drained water from the summit into three reservoirs; it was then pumped back by a Boulton and Watt beam engine sited above Bottom Lock. This was replaced by an engine housed nearer the canal in a building with a tall chimney stack dated 1895. The reservoirs have recently been connected to the canal and now are extensively used as moorings for boats which use the canal for pleasure cruising.