

BRAUNSTON PARISH CHURCH

The Revd. Michael Tompkins,
The Rectory, Braunston.
Telephone No. Rugby 890235.

CHURCH SERVICES

Every Sunday, Holy Communion at 8.00am and Parish Eucharist at 10.30, including the 2nd Sunday which is PENTECOST and will be a Parade Service, followed by Parish lunch on Rectory Lawn.

7th Evensong at 6.30pm

4th ASCENSION DAY We are asked to join Daventry for the Eucharist 7.30pm.
3rd PCC Meeting at the Dawson's, 48 Kilsby Road, Barby.

BAPTISMS: April 9th Charlotte Louise Trew
Ritchie Paul Lister

We welcome them into our Church Family.

FUNERAL: April 15th Sandra Irene Jackson

We extend our deepest sympathy to Robert and all the family and continue to hold them in our prayers.

With the decreasing numbers of clergy in general, and in this area in particular, it might be of interest if I told you the present position, as I see it. The Daventry area seems to be particularly down at the moment; there used to be three clergy at St. Augustine's and now there is only Fr. Dermot; Daventry, Holy Cross had three until the Revd. Michael Eden went in February; there is still no-one at Welton and Ashby and the Vicar of Staverton retires in July. The People of Staverton, Helidon and Catesby are currently reconsidering joining the proposed Daventry Team Ministry, if they decide to join it will mean that from July onwards there will be seven churches to be served by the Team, but only two priests to do it (I am one of them). We have an urgent need for a priest at Welton and for the Revd. Alan Wintersgill to be replaced at Staverton etc. Most Sundays I take the 8 o'clock here, go to Ashby for their 9.15 and back again for our 10.30, although I do go to the other churches occasionally. I honestly don't think I can do more. This situation is one common to many rural areas and is under constant discussion with my colleagues at Daventry, so far no congregation has suffered. But, of course, all the Parishes have a need to be served during the week as well (births, marriages and deaths as a minimum). If you don't see me about quite as much as you used to, it is not that I am always on holiday, I may be conducting a funeral in Daventry or taking a wedding in Ashby, or later in the year, seeing to some of the needs of Staverton. Whatever I may or may not be doing you can be sure that the first call on my time will be the needs of Braunston: I came on that understanding with the Bishop and nothing has changed my view.

Michael Tompkins.

SIDESMENS ROTA

May 7th	L. Thompson	8am	10.30am	F. Cox & B. Dawson	6.30pm	E. Clarke
14th	E. Thorp			T. Minett & C. Dunn		
21st	F. Spencer Lee			E. Thorp & M. Chamberlain		
28th	D. Hamer			G. Powell & J. Reed		
<u>ALTAR FLOWERS</u>		High Altar		St. Giles		
May 7th	Mrs. H. Rowley			Mrs. J. Rowley		
14th & 21st	Lady McGowan			Mrs. J. Arrowsmith		
28th	Mrs. P. Evans			Mrs. P. French		
June 4th & 11th	Mrs. J. Lee			Mrs. P. Streeton		
18th & 25th	Mrs. Knibbs			Mrs. Biddell		

After fifteen months here in Braunston Michael has been persuaded to try and take a regular day off each week. It is very difficult for any clergyman to take a day off without going out of the parish.

We would appreciate it if you would try not to telephone or call at the Rectory for non-urgent 'business purposes' on THURSDAYS so that Michael and Wendy can have a day off at home.

Many thanks, Sheila & Brian, Church Wardens.

BRAUNSTON FRIENDLY CLUB. It was a cold afternoon when members visited Ashby St Ledgers to view the daffodils, but they were soon warmed up in the Village Hall where a nice tea was served by the ladies of the village. Mrs. Barbara Pearson of East Haddon entertained with several humorous readings. Mrs. Janet McCarthy thanked all concerned for a very happy afternoon. Members spent a most interesting afternoon at the Carlsberg Brewery in Northampton. They were most impressed by the huge vats and of the amount of lager brewed every week. A taste of the products was given to the visitors with orange juice for the teatotallers. Tuesday 16th May A trip to Leicester has been arranged. The coach will leave the Green at 9am returning at 3pm. Monday 22nd May A theatre group will entertain.

A very happy afternoon was spent at the last meeting, in the company of the "Three Musketeers". Members joined in singing some of the old songs with Mr. John Bradshaw at the piano & Mr. Walter Beckett on the accordion. Mr. Frank Cox compered the proceedings & entertained in his usual humorous way. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs. Janet McCarthy. FRIENDS OF BRAUNSTON SCHOOL would like to thank everyone who came along to the Antiques Roadshow and made it such a success. The experts cast their eyes over many valued treasures, and gave some pleasant surprises. It was a most interesting and enjoyable evening. Our next event is a Jumble Sale to be held on Saturday May 20th at 10am in the School Hall.

BRAUNSTON SCOUTS AND CUBS The AGM of the Group was held in March but the Leaders and Committee were disappointed that no parents of members attended. However there has been a very generous response in the Village to the annual Bob-A-Job week held during the Easter holidays. The money raised helps towards the upkeep and running costs of the Den building and activities for the Scouts and Cubs themselves. The Group has also received a most generous donation from the Pantomime Group - for which many thanks. As Mrs. Hick will be leaving the Cubs in July after 10 years of service, there will be an urgent need for people interested in the Scouting aims and ideals to come forward so that the Group can continue to be an immensely rewarding activity for boys in the Village. Please contact Mrs Hick (890780) or Mr. Atack (891482) if you feel you would like to help. BRAUNSTON CRICKET CLUB are holding regular training sessions on Thursday evenings at 7.00pm on the Playing Field. All interested youngsters are invited to attend for tuition from our fully qualified coach.

SOCIAL SERVICES are looking for volunteers who would be prepared to visit and befriend a lonely or housebound person. If you have some time to spare and feel you can help, please contact Margaret Hutchinson on 97 300567.

ADULT EDUCATION Braunston now requires a new organiser for evening classes in the village - for full job description and details of pay please contact Janet McCarthy on 890336.

MEALS ON WHEELS are looking for a new organiser in Braunston. The work is voluntary and requires only a little time each week, together with the keeping of quarterly accounts and the payment of petrol money. If you feel you can help please contact Janet McCarthy on 890336 for details.

BRAUNSTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION Easter saw the visit of the football team from Quincy-Voisins for what was a highly successful weekend. Thanks to the Plough Social Club, the hosts and everyone concerned. Congratulations to the Plough team for winning the match four goals to one. A party of fifty adults and children will be leaving for Quincy-Voisins on Friday, 12th May, for what we are sure will be an equally memorable weekend.

VILLAGE NOTES Each season of the year brings out its own variety of birds, insects or plants. In Spring we have varieties which are only waiting to bring out their flowers. One variety the Common Arum (Lords and Ladies, Cuckoo Pint) is hardly attractive for its floral beauty though it is related to the lily so graceful, so often used in expensive exotic floral displays. The flower consists of a form of leaf, enclosing the stamens and seedboxes carried by a central upright stem and column ending in a purple cylinder. The arrow shaped leaves will not invite a second tasting as they contain needle sharp crystals of calcium oxalate a very evil-tasting poison.

MATERIAL FOR THE JUNE ISSUE SHOULD REACH THE EDITOR BY 21ST MAY.

Duncan A. Gallie (Hon. Editor)
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