

BRAUNSTON PARISH CHURCH The Revd. Michael Tompkins,
The Rectory, Braunston. Tel.No. Rugby 890235.
CHURCH SERVICES Each Sunday at 8.00am Holy Communion
at 10.30am March 4th & 18th Parish Eucharist.
March 11th Family Parade Service March 25th Mothering Sunday Service.
Evensong at 6.30pm on 4th March.

FUNERAL: 7th February. George Charles Buse aged 57 years.

Our deepest sympathy to Eileen, Dominic and Christopher.

The PCC has decided that it is time to provide more space for burials in the Churchyard extension (what we all call the Cemetery). This will be a big and expensive undertaking, because it is felt that we need to start again at the top, near Church Road. A new fence will need to be erected, and the old fence and hedge removed, and a new path will need to be laid. This can't be done in a rush, but it will have to be done soon, because there are very few grave spaces left. There are, however, some spaces which have been left within the existing area, and I would like to fill these before we commence the new section. None of these spaces have been officially allocated, but if anyone thinks that they have a space 'reserved', please get in touch with me and I will see what arrangements can be made.

After the storms and the damage of late January and early February, we have some beautiful warm summery weather. I was going to write that it is unseasonal, but I note that I said that last year! Perhaps late February is a warm and sunny time of the year; I hope the school-children appreciated it. Spring will soon be here, and Lent starts on the last day of February. The seasons of the year give us many and varied jobs to do at work, in the home and in the garden, and the Church's seasons provide us with an equally varied range of things to do. Yes, I say 'to do', because we must always be positive and forward looking. Lent is traditionally a time of fasting - giving something up. That is not that we should be miserable about it, because we should have a good reason for our abstinence. It could be that we like to fast, just to discipline ourselves, and a good thing too, but we also have the opportunity to review our relationship with God, his people and his creation. By all means give up sweets or cigarettes, but only as a part of remembering what we have made up our minds to DO. And, it is a good idea to use the money we save to help someone disadvantaged, or some project which can help a vulnerable part of God's world.

May God bless your Lenten discipline. Michael Tompkins.
CESSATION OF WASTE PAPER COLLECTIONS As already notified in the February edition, regretfully there will be no further collections of waste paper in Braunston. Every parishioner should have received a special circular last month in which the Chief Executive of the Independent Waste Paper Association based in Daventry explained in a concise manner the apparent reasons for U.K. merchants being unable to maintain collections. If anyone missed this circular further copies are available upon request. Hopefully the situation will change for the better in the not too far distant future enabling us to resume village collections. Meanwhile it seems most appropriate the opportunity is taken to say a word of thanks to all those associated with collections since we began in the Autumn of 1984. During the period of over 5 years, the Church Building Fund has benefitted by a sum in excess of £3,000 and last year alone approximately 50 metric tons of waste paper left Braunston for recycling.

Grateful thanks are due to all villagers who carefully put out their old newspapers, magazines and cardboard each month and also in recent years a number of folk in Daventry and surrounding districts for their contributions. Special thanks to the band of volunteers who turned up in all weathers to collect, using their own vehicles, and to the youngsters who helped with the loading. In the early days we were grateful for storage space and thanks are due to Viv and Alison for the use of their garage and the Thompsons for use of their barn. In September 1988 we streamlined our collection procedure by using the "Old Plough" carpark for loading direct into the skip and we thank John and Kath Bown for this facility. Last but not least grateful thanks to our merchant Hollands Waste Paper of Darlaston and particularly the drivers for their help and co-operation.

Denis G. Foulkes.

BRAUNSTON FRIENDLY CLUB February 12th members were entertained by Mrs. Hazel Parsons of Barby, who sang several well known songs, also read a variety of poems. Mr. K. French gave the vote of thanks. Monday March 12th A Tea Dance has been arranged, when dancing will be led by Ron and Jean Stanley. Don't forget your dancing shoes!! Monday March 26th Mrs. Hilda Martin of Willoughby will give a demonstration of Flower arranging.

BRAUNSTON WOMENS INSTITUTE Our first meeting in 1990 was certainly one of interest. Serious thought is to be given on how to raise money to help educate the women of Brazil. Mrs. Taylor gave a very informative talk on the "Work of the Chest, Heart and Stroke Association". Also Mrs. Norma Smith of Smith's Travel set us all thinking of summer and those outings and holidays to come. Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm Tuesday 6th March when Mr. B. Dawson will be asking "What's in a Map?" JUMBLE SALE March 10th 2.0pm Village Hall.

BRAUNSTON PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION are holding their annual sponsored walk on March 25th starting from the Barby Road Playing Field at 9.30am. The route covers 10 miles and takes in Barby, Willoughby and Grandborough. All are welcome to take part, please contact Mr. T. Hewitt on 891226 for a sponsorship form.

BRAUNSTON PLAYGROUP are holding an Easter Coffee Morning on 2nd April at 10.30am. There will be an Easter Bonnet parade, various stalls and refreshments available. Please come along and support us.

BRAUNSTON VILLAGE HALL New Perspectives Theatre Co. will perform a live play "The Devil's only Sleeping" on Saturday 24th March 7.30pm. See posters for details.

Sam Begley would like to thank all his friends and relations for their kindness to him during his late illness. Thank you.

VILLAGE NOTES We are all welcoming the lengthening of the hours of daylight and even more so are the birds as this is a busy time of the year when they are building nests preparatory to laying their eggs. It is also the time at which the songsters are most vocal. Poets have gone into rhapsodies over the song of birds. Shelley poured out his thoughts in a lyrical description of The song of the skylark but more critical observation shows that lark cock bird is attracting his lady love and once he has secured her attention he is busy warning off any would-be rival. His song says "This is MY property and KEEP OFF or else", An extreme example is the behaviour of the cock robin. His sweet song will attract the lady of his choice but should a rival appear the first tenant makes such a ferocious attack on the intruder that the intruder beats a quick retreat to try his luck elsewhere. *Very easily* distinguishable are the calls of the robin and surprisingly for so small a bird, the wren. Later on we hear the distinct call of the chaff chaff, as well as blackbird and thrush. Whether it is the harsh meandering call of the crow rook or the twitter of the house sparrow, all of the birds' calls convey the same message to another bird and if the songs are only second hand for the unfeathered bipeds why should we not enjoy the sounds which gladden our spring-time.

<u>SIDESMENS ROTA</u>	<u>8am</u>	<u>10.30am</u>	<u>6.30pm</u>
March 4th	L. Thompson	G. Powell & C. Dunn	E. Clarke
11th	E. Thorp	B. Wasser & C. Wasser	
18th	F. Spencer Lee	M. Chamberlain & K. French	
25th	D. Hamer	D. Foulkes & J. Reed	

MATERIAL FOR THE APRIL ISSUE SHOULD REACH THE EDITOR BY 21st MARCH
Duncan A. Gallie (Hon. Editor),
Alston House,
High Street,
Braunston.
Telephone No. Rugby 899200.