

BRAUNSTON PARISH CHURCH The Revd. Michael Tompkins,  
The Rectory, High Street. Tel. 800235

CHURCH SERVICES each Sunday, at 8.00am -- Holy Communion  
at 10.30am - the Parish Eucharist  
except 2nd Sunday in the month when we have a FAMILY SERVICE.

There will be NO EVENSONG on Sunday 1st December, because there is a LEANERY ADVENT CAROL SERVICE at Holy Cross at 6.00pm on that day.  
Morning and Evening Prayer are said daily in church at 9.00am & 6.00pm  
The seven Parishes of the Bavertry Team usually share Evensong on the third Sunday in the month, but this month there will be no Team Evensongs because of all the Christmas activities.

Services on Saints' Days are published in the weekly Bulletin.  
The Sunday School, known as The Adventurers, meets at 10.15am in church each Sunday; all children are welcome.

SPECIAL SERVICES for December.

1st at 6.00pm Advent Carol Service at Holy Cross

3th at 6.00pm CHRISTINGLE SERVICE at All Saints'

14th at 4.00pm Candelit Carols at Wolfhamcote Church

19th at 10.00am BRAUNSTON SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE in All Saints' Church

24th at 11.30pm 'Midnight Mass', the First Celebration of Christmas

25th CHRISTMAS DAY 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Eucharist with Carols

29th at 10.30am CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

On Sunday, January 5th our services will be at the usual times of 8.00am and 10.30am and Evensong at 6.30pm.

FUNERALS: November 1st. Barbara Anne Hamer aged 40 years.

November 20th. Emma Jane (Ginny) Russell aged 78 years.

November 25th. Ernest Leonard Turner aged 86 years.

We pray for their souls and extend our deepest sympathy to their families.

Dear Parishioners,

Christmas is coming, as if we need to be told! But what sort of a Christmas will it be? If the television adverts are anything to go by it will be an expensive and electronic Christmas for some and a Christmas of unthought-of, or even unwanted, gifts for others. It seems that we are incapable of wishing people well without spending money. 'Say it with money' seems to be the way of greeting friends these days. I am sure it wasn't always the case and I am sure that we can greet each other satisfactorily and cheaply without being the least insincere. Before you liken me to the major character of Dicken's 'Christmas Carol', I would agree that presents are a valued part of our way of showing affection for one another, but I do question whether there is a direct relationship between the value of a gift and the depth of love that goes with it. But to stand my own argument on its head 'Say it with money' may be the only way we can say that we care, particularly when we want to support the many charitable causes which seek to relieve the sufferings of the world. I know money is short at the moment, but, at this time, I would urge you to give to a charity of your own choice, so that they may have something to celebrate at Christmas. You will receive with this Newsletter an envelope for the Children's Society and there will be a Christingle Service on 8th December when it can be returned; no-one will call to collect it, but if you cannot bring it to church, please give it to someone who is coming or get it popped through the Rectory letter-box. If this is not a charity you wish to support, please consider one of the many bodies which seek to help the hungry, the homeless or those suffering injustice, because in the Church we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus who came to bring peace and hope to those sorts of people - as well as to the rest of mankind.

Michael Tompkins.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS. Village Gas The anticipated date for 'Gas Up' in Braunston is July/August 1992. To make the scheme viable, British Gas anticipate having to make a charge to consumers, to assist with the capital cost of bringing the supply to the village. They indicate that this charge should be less than £500 but the final contribution will be based upon take up and viability.

Dog Faeces The last 6 months have seen an unwelcome increase in dogs fouling our footpaths and the Playing Field. Dog owners are requested not to allow their pets to roam free and to exercise them away from village pavements and verges. School children are now being put at risk when using the Playing Field for their sporting activities. Under the new Environmental Protection Act, dog faeces are classified as 'litter' and local authorities are empowered to impose a fixed penalty, on the spot fine of £10 on offenders. Failure to pay could result in being taken to Court and a maximum fine of £1,000. Nobody wants to see these measures imposed in Braunston and with a little thought and co-operation, we can keep our pavements and recreation areas clean, for the benefit of all.

BRAUNSTON PLAYGROUP The Christmas Coffee Morning will be held on 13th Dec. at 10.00am. Grand Raffle, Cake Stall, Decorations, Face Painting, Handicrafts and lots more, or just come for a coffee and chat. All welcome.

BRAUNSTON FRIENDLY CLUB Oct. 28th We had an entertaining visit from Mr. Jerome the village vet who told us some interesting anecdotes about his life & work. Nov. 11th Mr John Gray from Ashby St Ledgers talked about the work of the British Legion & members brought war-time photos & memorabilia. Over £33 was raised from a Bring & Buy for Legion Funds.

Dec. 9th Mincepie tea plus Bring & Buy Stall.  
Dec. 16th Christmas lunch - a traditional Turkey meal plus trimmings, 1.00pm in the Village Hall followed by Carols.

BRAUNSTON WOMENS INSTITUTE had a bumper evening last month when 39 members enjoyed Betty Dex's talk and demonstration on Cake decoration. The Christmas Party will be on Dec. 3rd when the committee will provide seasonal fayre, and the entertainment by the Kilsby Singers. Dec. 17th Outing to Pebble Mill Studios, the coach will leave The Green at 9.30am & return approx. 3pm.  
2nd BRAUNSTON SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS meet weekly:- Beavers (6-8years) Monday evening 6-7pm at the School. Cubs (8-10½years) Tuesday evening 6-7.30pm at The Den. Scouts (10½-15½ years) Friday evening 7-9pm at The Den.

There are vacancies in all three groups, if you would like to know more about the activities contact: Scouts - Garden Kemp 890478. Cubs - Jane Benson 890015. Beavers - Carol Roberts 891976. The Leaders are always pleased to have help from anyone willing to assist occasionally with the groups. Please contact them on the above numbers.

BRAUNSTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE wish to thank all of those who made donations towards improvements to the Village Hall. Thanks to your generosity we can now go ahead and lower the ceilings in both the Main Hall and Games Room, thus making the Hall a lot warmer and attractive.

#### VILLAGE NOTES by Mr. Dick Herne

The house on the east side of Checkley Close - Southfield House - is part of a complex of buildings which emphasise its importance as one of the major village houses. It has an unusual southern aspect with only a few small windows facing the High Street. A wide carriage drive, closed by solid double doors, gives entry to a courtyard which is flanked by a row of stables. Beyond these are the remains of three small cottages which were once occupied by the outdoor servants of the main house. This looks out upon an ancient beech tree and a wide lawn in front of the kitchen garden. The house is in two blocks, the taller one contains the family rooms, the lower one originally housed the kitchen and the servants' quarters. The main door is on the south front of the house. It opens into a spacious hall with doors leading to the kitchen on one side, and the main reception room on the other. The house was the scene of much social activity when Mrs. Beech, a notable huntswoman related to the royal family, resided there.

The January Issue will not be out until well after the New Year.  
Material please to Mrs. M. Foulkes by the end of December.