

BRAUNSTON PARISH CHURCH The Revd. Michael Tompkins. The Rectory, High St. Telephone No. 890235

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 at 6.30pm EVENSONG, only on the first Sunday in the month

A Happy New Year to all our Readers! I know that you will have celebrated the New Year by the time you get this, because Marguerite Foulkes is waiting patiently for my (late) contribution. I would like to thank Marguerite, and all who help in the preparation and distribution of the Village News, for their efforts in 1990; I hope that our combined efforts will maintain standards in 1991.

Thank you, too, to Janet Cox and her gallant band for all the beautiful floral decorations in All-Saints' in the last year, they are most appreciated. Janet tells me that she could do with one or two more people to join her flower rota; if you want to help please ring her on 890142.

I was pleased to see, in the Rugby Advertiser, that Braunston had gained a second place in the Best Kept Village competition; the significance of 94 marks out of 100 for the Churchyard was not revealed, but it does give us some room for improvement! This year we are aiming for 100 out of 100. The work that Bill Dickins has done on the path next to the Mill has already improved the appearance of the 'upper Churchyard' and Spencer Lee has undertaken to spearhead the Church's efforts in keeping the surroundings of the church weeded and free from rubbish, but, of course, the state of cleanliness of the Churchyard, as of the Village, depends on people treating their environment carefully.

Most of you will know that we have increased the usable area of the Churchyard Extension, better known as the Cemetery, and there is still some work to be done there before interments can take place. (This work has been greatly assisted by a thankoffering for departed loved ones.) This last dry summer has caused the earth to contract and many monuments are now awry, some dangerous and some collapsed. Remedial action will be needed; two of the fallen monuments are to a Hall family and to a Haynes family, I would be grateful if anyone can assist me in tracing these families before I consider removing the fallen stones.

Michael Tompkins

Best of luck to Braunston for the competition for 1991.

FUNERALS November 27th. Beatrice Griffiths, aged 81 years

November 28th. Annie Childs, aged 75 years

December 19th. Frederick George Hargrave, aged 79 years

We pray for the repose of their souls and offer our deepest sympathy to their families.

SIDESMENS ROTA

8.0am

10.30am

6.30pm

January 6th

L. Thompson

K. French & M. Chamberlain

B. Dawson

13th

E. Thorp

F. Cox & K. Minett

20th

F. Spencer Lee

D. Turner & B. Dawson

27th

D. Hamer

G. Powell & C. Dunn

ALTAR FLOWERS

High Altar

St. Giles

January 13th

Miss Chamberlain

Miss Thorp

27th

Mrs. Hick

Mrs. Cox

There will be no flowers during Lent.

BRAUNSTON VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE would like to thank Nora and Sydney Holder for their ten years hard work as caretaker and bookings clerk for the Village Hall. We hope that they will enjoy a happy healthy retirement, and send our best wishes for the new year. We welcome our new caretaker Sylvia Fuller and bookings clerk Terry Fuller - Telephone 890883. The next committee meeting is on Thursday 17th January at 8.0pm in the library.

BRAUNSTON FRIENDLY CLUB The Mince Pie tea was a great success. A total of £43.75 was raised for club funds with the help of a raffle & Bring & Buy. Also during December we had an excellent Turkey lunch with wine supplied by Pauline Gurney and Christmas crackers by Mrs. C. Coles. This was followed by carol singing accompanied by John Bradshaw at the piano. Many thanks to Pauline, Mrs. Coles and John for making our Christmas lunch so enjoyable. Our thanks also to Braunston Family Butchers who organised a very successful raffle which raised nearly £68 to help offset the cost of the lunch. Thank you to all who purchased tickets. There is still a set of wine glasses to be claimed by G. Cooper - address not known ticket no. Buff 94.

Jan.14th A representative from the "World of Difference" will give a talk. Jan.28th Gill Powell will talk & show slides about Bavaria & Oberammergan.

WOMENS INSTITUTE Another year has passed and what a year it's been, with the December meeting climaxing 70 years of Braunston's W.I. We celebrated in great style with songs, dance and verse, good food and drink. Not forgetting Father Christmas who came bearing gifts for all.

No meeting in January, instead we will be visiting the Derngate Theatre on Friday 18th to see the Pantomime "Snow White". The coach leaves The Green at 5.45pm. Anyone wishing to be picked up from The Wharf please telephone Gill on 890763. Our next meeting - Tues. 5th Feb. 7.30 in V.H.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH

A Grand Variety Concert will be held in the Village Hall on 9th February 6.30pm. Admission £1.50 Adults 75p children. There will be a raffle and refreshments will be available.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL Thank you to all who supported and gave so generously. £496 was collected in Braunston. Overall including Ashby, Welton & Braunston £941.72 was raised.

BRAUNSTON VILLAGE GARDENS ASSOCIATION will be holding a special meeting to discuss The Annual Village Show on January 15th in "The Wheatsheaf" at 8.0pm. All committee members are invited along with any new members. Further details from Frank Cox 890142 or Melanie Walsh 891174.

KEEP FIT CLASS - Tuesday afternoons 1.45-2.45pm Village Hall. This friendly class with excellent creche begins again on 8th January. Suitable for all ages and all levels of fitness. Come and work off all that Christmas stodge! Further details from Kathryn Howarth, 891146.

VILLAGE NOTES by Mr. Dick Herne

The coaching route along the Old Road passed by the Castle Inn, over the canal bridge and then turned sharp left towards Dunchurch. Another 'old road' crossed the field towards the church and village of Braunston. It is still visible as a depression in the grass to the right of the present path. On both sides of the old road lies the ridge and furrow of former ploughland. These ridges were made by the plough turning over the soil as the oxen tramped up and down the length of the field. The undulation of the land is a reminder of farming methods before the Act of Enclosure of 1779. Then Braunston grew its own cereals in a rotation of wheat, barley and fallow in three open i.e. unhedged fields.

Near the entrance to Manor Farm the old road into the village curves round towards the church and the High Street. Manor Farm is an early seventeenth century building which belonged originally to one of the Isham family, rich wool merchants and lords of the manor of Braunston for over a century until they sold out to Sir John Webb in 1687.