

BRAUNSTON PARISH CHURCH The Revd. Michael Tompkins. The Rectory, High St. Tel. 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. Evensong (with Hymns and sermon on the first Sunday of the month, 7th. June, only)

Morning and Evening Prayer are said daily in church at 9.00am and 6.00pm. The seven Parishes of the Daventry Team usually share Evensong on the third Sunday in the month, this month the Team Evensong will be at Helidon at 6.30pm on 21st. June. Services on Saints' Days are published in the weekly Bulletin. The Sunday School, known as Adventurers and Lazars, meets at 10.15am in church each Sunday; all children are welcome.

BAPTISMS: May 10th. Martyn David Catchpole
Lucy Rebecca Morgan

Welcome them into the Family of the Church and into the promise of Eternal Life.

WEDDING: May 2nd. William Graham Alec Leslie and Stephanie Catherine Williams.
We wish them a long and happy marriage.

FUNERALS: May 19th. Rosamund Eva Garner, aged 66 years
We pray for rest her soul and for comfort for her friends.

*JULY 4th. CHURCH FETE*JULY 4th. CHURCH FETE*JULY 4th. CHURCH FETE*

Dear Parishioners, The Churchyard - again!

Long before I was ordained into the Church's Ministry a clergyman friend said to me, with much feeling, "If they ever offer you a parish with a churchyard, don't take it." I now know what he meant. The Churchyard extension, known to most people in Braunston as The Cemetery, can take up a lot of clergy time and can cause great difficulty and upset for some of our parishioners, who think they have been wronged. The most common problem is one about memorials; this is a problem as much for me as for relatives who want a particular memorial. Most difficulties arise from misunderstandings and from not appreciating that there are clear rules about the insertion of memorials into Churchyards. First, it must be remembered that the Churchyard belongs to The Church of England, not the Parish, and that The Church's permission is required to do anything with its property. Secondly, the regulations governing memorials are laid down by the Church's legal authority, the Chancellor, not by the vicar; these have been tightened up in the last few years and are posted on the Notice Board in the church porch. Thirdly, that I am here to help parishioners, in any way that I can, to have a suitable memorial for their loved one. I have been given limited authority to grant permission for the insertion of some headstones, but I can also advise and help if something outside my authority is wanted, needing permission to be obtained from the Chancellor. It is important to consult me, or other Church official, before contacting the Stonemason, so that we can prevent difficulties arising.

The Church Council are doing all it can to keep the Churchyard tidy and in good order and we are grateful that the Parish Council keeps the grass mown.

The Churchyard is more than a Burial Plot, it is set aside to be a place of peace for everyone, a place where we can find some quiet, to pray for those buried in this sacred plot and to be close to them, and to be with God.

An amusing postscript to my letter about my supposed departure. Jean Hossain (née Gallie) wrote to tell me that in 1946/47 she was reliably informed that her father was moving to another village - she was even told which one - and that the Council had allocated their house to a particular family. I feel that I am unable to give any undertaking to remain here for another 43 years, as Duncan did.

Michael Tompkins.

We gratefully acknowledge donations to BVN, £6 anonymously and £20 from BVGA.

The Red Cross Collection made £275. My thanks to all those who gave so generously and special thanks to the collectors for giving their time. Rachel May

THE FRIENDS OF BRAUNSTON C.E. SCHOOL would like to thank everyone who supported the Prize Draw and Spring Fling on 21st March and helped to raise the total of £355.55 net. The money will be used to buy books for the school library and a colour printer for the children's computer. We have a thriving Chess Club but we are in need of adults to help with coaching and teaching the children from September onwards. The children are aged between six and eleven with varying degrees of ability. If you are interested in helping please contact Mrs. Partridge at the school. The Summer Fete will take place on Saturday 13th June, opening at 11am with the crowning of the Rose King and Queen and the children's display of dancing. The Friends of Braunston School are organising stalls and side-shows, together with a competition (open to all children of primary school age) for a garden in a seed tray. This can be based around a real garden or be a flight of fancy. We'd also like to see how long a line of twopence's we can make - could we get from the school gate to Mr. Thrower's office. Bring along your twopences and join in the fun. Everyone welcome.

BEAVER SCOUT COLONY will restart in the Autumn. Children aged 6-8years are welcome to join. If you would like your child to come along to Beaver Meetings phone - Alan Attack on 891482 with your child's name, address, telephone no. and date of birth. If you would be willing to assist at meetings, please let Alan know.

BRAUNSTON FRIENDLY CLUB On April 27th we had a very interesting slide show and talk by Simon Ainley on the history of the Grand Union Canal. We can look forward to celebrating the 200th anniversary of the canal in 1993. Sue Jackson gave us some refreshing ideas for summer meals and sweets on May 11th. The coach trip to Moreton in the Marsh was a great success on May 19th. The weather couldn't have been better and we had an interesting drive through the villages of Oxfordshire and the Cotswalds. Most of us found plenty of bargains in the market and all agreed it was a very enjoyable day out.

Monday June 8th will be a demonstration of Flower Painting,
Monday June 22nd Weather permitting we will have a Ploughmans Lunch in the Rectory Gardens at 12.30 for 12.45pm. If wet it will be held in the Village Hall - same time.

PARISH COUNCIL For some months now the Parish Council has been trying to establish the right of parishioners to automatically receive a Northampton Telephone Directory. Unfortunately British Telecom will not agree and OfTel say they have no powers to intervene in matters of this nature. However B.T. have agreed to deliver directories to customers who require them if they will contact the phone book group on an individual basis. They can be contacted FREE OF CHARGE by dialling 0800 243778.

BRAUNSTON WOMENS INSTITUTE At our May meeting Mrs. Cobbold gave us a talk on her many excursions abroad including trips to Indonesia, Nepal and Australia. Several members and friends set out for our walk on May 9th to Welton, via the canal and "tunnel road", braving the rain, on arrival at Welton, sandwiches were eaten in the church porch. Better luck next time! Every W.I. in Northamptonshire is making a village scrapbook of 1992. We are interested in all items of village life including all the events that are planned in Braunston this year, please forward all information on these to Pam Price, 36 Greenway.

Our next meeting June 2nd, Mr. Pallin will talk on "The History of

Campanology".

VILLAGE NOTES by Dick Herne.

"The Shambles" is one of the larger stone houses in the village. The original thatched roof has been replaced by tiles and the windows have been enlarged. The house has no connection with the butchery trade! It acquired its name from the state in which some previous owners found it when they moved in. For many years it was occupied by Mr. Rodhouse, last representative of one of the old village families. He kept the Post Office in the house and it is reputed that King Edward VI called there while visiting 'friends' at Braunston House, now the Boatman Hotel.

The Shambles stands on the corner of Nibbits Lane, named after a small-holder whose plot is shown on a 1797 estate map as 'Libbits'Close. For a time the lane was known as Station Road as it was the way from the village to Braunston Station on the LNWR Weedon-Leamington line. Since the line was closed in the 1950's it has reverted to its former name.