

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

Morning and Evening Prayer are said daily in church at 9.00am & 6.00pm.
The seven Parishes of the Daventry Team usually share Evensong on the
third Sunday in the month, but this month there will be no Team Evensong
because there is to be a United Service for all the Churches in Daventry
on 19th January at Daventry Methodist Church.

The Sunday School, known as Adventurers and Lazers, meets at 10.15am in
church each Sunday; all children are welcome.

FUNERALS: December 20th. Peter Ernest Terry, aged 58 years.

December 27th. Priscilla Sarah Amy Childs, aged 76 years.

December 27th. John Owen, aged 82 years.

December 27th. Graham Camp, aged 62 years (in Australia).

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

Dear Parishioners,

On July 24th 1991, the Queen, in Council, approved an Order which
created the new Daventry Team Ministry, which includes Braunston. This
Order comes into effect on the 24th January 1992. (I have not yet found
out why there has to be a six-month delay!)

What difference will this make to the people of Braunston? In the short
term, not a lot.

The main reason for this scheme is the increasing shortage of clergy and
money in the Church of England. The Established Church believes that it
has a responsibility to all the people of England, so it cannot close
down and concentrate where it is most 'successful'; the only alternative
is to spread itself more thinly over the parishes - I, am sure you know
of clergy who have charge of two or more Churches (the vicar of Badby
has five parishes to look after). Ever since I came, I have worked only
'part-time' in Braunston, giving some time to working in Daventry; my
predecessor in The Rectory devoted some of his ministry as an Assistant
Chaplain at Onley. The Rev. Bev. started this "to try to keep a Rector
in Braunston", as he told me.

So, there will be no change in the amount of work I do in the Parish,
that will continue as before and there should always be a resident
Minister in the Parish. In the planning of the Daventry Team I argued
strongly that the Team Ministers should live in their Parishes and retain
the name of them, so one change is that I now become known as the Vicar
of Braunston. The other change that will eventually be seen is the more
rapid turnover of clergy - the Team Vicars have a contract of only seven
years, no more Rectors with nearly twenty years standing like the Revds.
Griffiths, Ruddy and Humphreys - but the Village will get used to that.
The important thing is that there will always be a Minister available if
required. Things may be tight and sometimes difficult, but we are here
to stay.

With these slightly changed circumstances in mind, we are holding what
we are calling a Parish Day on Sunday 19th January, from noon to about
3.00pm, to discuss our hopes for the future of All Saints', Braunston.
You are welcome to come and to let us have your ideas for the future.

May God bless you all in 1992.

Michael Tompkins.

BRAUNSTON FRIENDLY CLUB had two very enjoyable meetings in December.

On the 9th it was our Mince Pie Tea and on the 16th we had a delicious Turkey Dinner plus all the trimmings. Our club raffle raised nearly £150 for funds. After the draw for prizes we finished the meeting with carols. January 13th. Mr. & Mrs. Farley from Barbry. January 27th. Frank, John and Ken will entertain.

BRAUNSTON WOMENS INSTITUTE had a very enjoyable visit to Pebble Mill before Christmas and another outing is planned on January 18th, this time to "Aladdin" at Derngate.

We also look forward to another year of events starting in February when Anne Wright will give us a talk on "The Best kept Secret in the W.I." Our meetings take place in the Village Centre on the first Tuesday in the month at 7.30pm. How about joining us? You will be most welcome.

BRAUNSTON & DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION wish to thank all who contributed so generously to the 1991 Poppy Appeal.

House to house collections raised £417.76
Church Collection £ 85.50

BELLRINGING

The main purpose of ringing bells is to call people to worship and act as a call to prayer or as a reminder that worship is taking place to those who cannot come. Bells are also rung to celebrate occasions such as weddings and other occasions of note, and have been for centuries. We hope that you enjoy hearing Braunston's bells which do have a lovely tone, but we do realise that prolonged ringing may sometimes cause inconvenience.

If there is to be prolonged ringing at any time, we will try and forewarn you of when and why it will be happening.

VILLAGE NOTES by Mr. Dick Herne.

Next door to "Southfield House" is "The Cottage", an odd name for a house of classical appearance and proportions. Like other old houses in Braunston it is built of stone, but early in Victoria's reign was refaced in brick. The front elevation has a chequered pattern formed by the sides of red bricks alternating with the ends of blue bricks. The roof has a steep pitch, originally designed to allow water to run off the thatch. The gables are edged with coping stones, a familiar feature in this locality.

Another building further along High Street - Langdon House - has a similar frontage but it has been extended in more modern brick, enabling it to be divided into two dwellings. The original building has large dormer windows with elaborately carved barge boards, probably added in the later 19th century. This house with its large barn, yard and stables was once a farm belonging to the Reeves, one of the old Braunston families.