

BRAUNSTON PARISH CHURCH The Revd. Michael Tompkins,  
The Rectory, High Street. Tel.No. 890235.

CHURCH SERVICES, each Sunday at 8.00am - Holy Communion  
10.30am The Parish Eucharist  
except 2nd Sunday in the month when we have a FAMILY SERVICE.  
at 6.30pm Evensong (with Hymns & Sermon on the first Sunday of the month  
only)

This month TEAM EVENSONG is at Holy Cross, Daventry, on 17th at 6.00pm.  
Morning and Evening Prayer are said daily in church at 9.00am & 6.00pm.  
Services on Saints' Days are published in the weekly Bulletin.  
The Sunday School meets at 10.15am in church each Sunday; all children  
of Primary School age are welcome.

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Dear Parishioners,

We have done our best in recent years, to keep the Churchyard tidy and  
it is to Spencer Lee's credit that we have done so well in the 'Best'  
kept Churchyard' scheme. The area around the church is a 'public space'  
and as such is maintained by the Parish Council. I have had a few  
informal words with the Chairman of the Parish Council and she has agreed  
that, together, we ought to make some long term plans to maximise the  
beauty and use of this space. If anyone has any practical suggestions  
Janet McCarthy or I would be glad to hear them.

When the Churchyard was cleared I expect that there was a great  
exercise in obtaining relatives consent to the removal of some of the  
headstones; those who wanted memorials to stay had their wishes granted.  
What a pity it is to see the desecration that has occurred to some of  
them, at the end of last month. We only expect to see the desecration  
of the graves of someone else's loved ones in pictures from abroad where  
cultural conflict has suspended the normal decencies of society. I am  
saddened to find this lack of respect in my own Churchyard and my  
sympathy goes to the relatives of the people buried there.

In our worship we are trying to make our Family Service (on the second  
Sunday in the month) more of a family affair, by using more of the  
Church family to design and conduct this service. I think the name  
'Family Service' may be a little confusing; I want this service to be  
for all members of the Church or Village family, whatever their age or  
status; not a special service catering only for families. We will be  
holding planning meetings for this service three or four Wednesdays  
before the event to which everyone is invited. I hope that you will  
come and share the fruits of these plans in the coming year.

A very Happy New Year to you all.

Michael Tompkins.

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THANK YOU We gratefully acknowledge £5 donation from Braunston  
Pantomime Group and £1 anonymous donation towards the  
cost of producing the B.V.N.

BRAUNSTON FRIENDLY CLUB On Monday December 14th the members were invited to see the School Production of "The Sorcerer's Apprentice". This was a really excellent performance. Many congratulations to the children and staff for such a fantastic effort. Afterwards there was a mince pie tea in the Village Hall with a Bring and Buy Sale. The Christmas Dinner on December 21st was of its usual high standard - Turkey and all the trimmings, followed by carols accompanied by John Bradshaw. The Club raffle was drawn, winners names have been displayed in the Post Office.  
Monday January 11th Some songs by the W.I. Singing Group.  
Monday January 25th Speaker to be arranged.

BRAUNSTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION remind you that you are invited to join them on 14th January for an open meeting (followed by the A.G.M.) at 8pm in the lounge of the "Wheatstheaf". Find out more about "twinning" in General and about the trip to Quincy-Voisins from 30th April to 3rd May. Please come along - you'll be very welcome! If you can't attend on the evening but would like more details, please ring Ian Bennett on 891094.

BRAUNSTON & DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION wish to thank everyone who contributed so generously to the annual Poppy Appeal which this year raised £511 - also a grateful thanks to the voluntary collectors whose time and efforts make it possible.  
District Total - Ashby St. Ledgers, Braunston, Welton - £1,179.00

THE BLUE PETER BRING & BUY SALE on Saturday December 12th raised £107.77. Many thanks to everyone who either gave goods or bought and sold them.

MRS. NORAH HOLDER wishes to thank all friends for their kind messages of condolence in the sad loss of her husband Sidney.

#### VILLAGE NOTES by Dick Herne

Cross Lane takes its name from a wayside cross that stood at the top of the lane. It was one of a series that marked the route from Braunston to the convent in Nuneaton which owned land in the village. By the time Bridges wrote his county history C.1720 it had disappeared. On the eastern corner of the lane was the Baptist Chapel and house for the minister, built in 1796, just one year before the Methodist Chapel. On the other corner was one of the village wells, sunk in 1807 to provide water for the many small cottages in the lane. Cross Cottage, a larger house facing the canal, was at one time occupied by a lady who kept a small school. A later owner was a Mr. Bland who bought several cottages in the lane above his house. An old thatched cottage stood opposite; it had its roof blown off about twenty years ago and was damaged beyond repair.

At the bottom of the lane was Butcher's Field, used for grazing cattle and subsequently much excavated for clay used in making tiles. Visible in the grass is the circular path made by the horse turning the roller which pressed the clay into sheets suitable for cutting into tiles.

Material for the February Issue could reach Mrs. M. Foulkes by  
24th January.