

ARMOUR RETURNS TO ST DENYS

SEVEN fragments of 17th armour were originally hung in St Denys Church on the east wall of the chapel, now used as the vestry. On 7th July 1969 they were taken down by the then Vicar, the Reverend B. Fernyhough, and given to the Northampton Museum on loan for an indefinite period.

The armour remained in two boxes in the basement of the museum and was never displayed. The museum, being unable to house the armour any longer, asked if we would like it back. In May 2003 it was returned. Since then the Parochial Church Council has discussed how it should be displayed and efforts have been made to identify the different pieces.

A glass fronted display cabinet was designed and a faculty obtained from the Diocese giving permission to place this on the north wall, next to the north door of the church.

Roger Hill has built and installed a very professional and beautifully crafted oak cabinet and, with a little help from your editor, arranged the display. The Parochial Church Council is very grateful to Roger who is shortly setting up his own carpentry and cabinet making business in the village. With his skills and plenty of support, he should do well.

The local tradition is that these pieces of armour were found at Naseby, after the great battle there in 1645. This may well be true, as the distance from Ravensthorpe to Naseby is only seven miles. However they could have also been removed from wounded and dying soldiers before burial. Armour was very valuable and any found on a battlefield was likely to be re-used.

Of the seven pieces it is pretty clear that two pairs are related to one another and therefore have been displayed together. The most interesting of these relics is the defence of the left arm and is in good condition. The couter (or coutiere) is of excellent design for forming a complete shield to the elbow, and is very flexible. It is ornamented and

strengthened by the usual rope moulding in the centre and around the edges. The part to defend the forearm, lower cannon (or vambrace) is constructed of two hinged portions curved to form a tube, having four rivets on each side. Those on the outside having the heads ornamented with stars, while those on the inside are plain. The defence of the upper arm, upper cannon (or rerebrace) was originally displayed separately but it appears to fit perfectly.

The next most important pieces are two taces (or tassets) for covering the thigh. The largest of these is formed by nine pieces of curved metal with rope-moulding riveted to strips of leather.

There are leather loops attached to the bottom plate for a lacing to prevent the

tace flapping away from the leg.

The second tace is smaller and possibly of Dutch design. It has six pieces of curved metal riveted to strips of leather. The leathers project at the top and that on the right side still has the buckle attached for fastening the tace to a breast plate.

There are two other pieces. One is probably for lower arm defence but the other has not been identified.

The preservation of these pieces of armour after over 360 years is remarkable and the leather that remains is still flexible. The Parochial Church Council hopes that this display will be of interest, enjoyment and a reminder of past times both for parishioners and visitors.

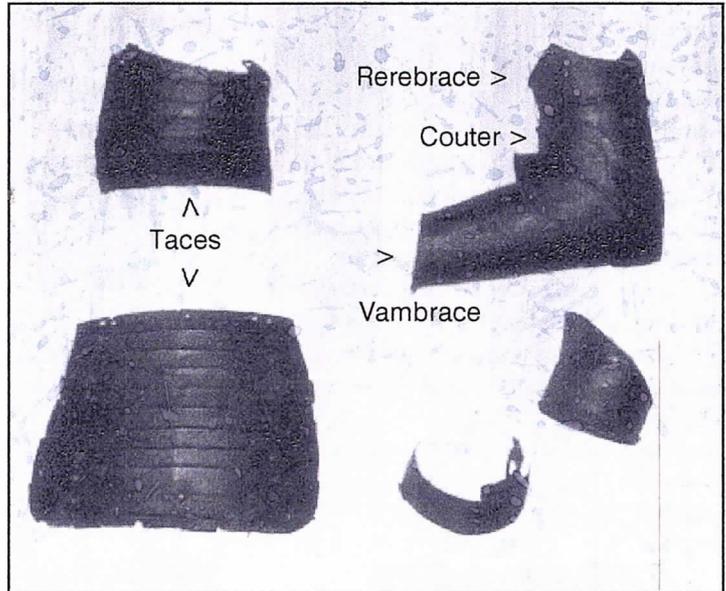


photo courtesy of Clive

VILLAGE PRODUCE SHOW 2005

THE schedules for this event have been printed and will be available from the village Post Office. Entry fee is 10p per class and exhibitors see the show for free - so what are you waiting for??!

There is something for everyone - if you are not a gardener or a cook you could enter a photograph or something from the Novelty Class. There are opportunities too for the children to enter - keep them busy during the Summer holidays!

We look forward to a good response - the deadline for returning your form is Friday 26th August, to Gill Douglas 770541 or Meg Benn 770629.

If you would like to help with this event, or if you are able to sponsor some of the prizes, please let us know. Your support is much appreciated.

The Show will open on Bank Holiday Monday 29th August at 3.00pm in the Village Hall. Delicious Teas will be

provided by the W.I. Ladies. Prizes will include "Best in Show" Trophy and will be presented at 4.30pm. Good luck and no cheating!

M. Lewis 770458

SUMMARY OF CATEGORIES

Section A - Vegetables / Fruit

Section B - Flowers

Section C - Home Cooking

with Men's Gingerbread

Section D - Children Only

Section E - Novelty Class

WALK THE WALK

Val Cole was able to complete the "Moonlight Marathon" (26.2 miles) in 7 hours and raised £577 for Breast Cancer Research.



A brilliant effort.

Over 17,000 people took part and Val says it was a unique experience walking through London during the night and seeing the sun rise over the Thames.

Her thanks to everyone who donated to this total, especially those who attended her Coffee Morning and her neighbour **Caroline** and participants of her Golf Day which raised £132.

Lorna Jones raised an additional £113 at her Coffee Morning and expresses her thanks for this generous support.

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Sufficient support for the Community Speedwatch Scheme has been received and 12 volunteers have been recruited.

It is expected that monitoring traffic speeds through the village will start in October after volunteers have been trained in the use of equipment including hand-held cameras.

POLICE CONSULTATIVE FORUM

Brixworth Village Hall
Wednesday 13th July @ 8.00pm

APOLOGY

The heifer which caused all the excitement in the village last month did not come from a herd owned by John Rathbone but from another source.

Sorry for any embarrassment caused.

The Editor

CHRISTIAN AID

A total of £510 was collected for this Charity. A huge thank you to all who contributed.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS PLEASE DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE IS 23rd AUGUST

Contact Editor John Mott, 16 Church Gables
Ravensthorpe Tel 770618 or
email: clive.jcapr.T21@btinternet.com

MACMILLAN CANCER RELIEF

We are again holding a
COFFEE MORNING
to raise funds for Cancer Relief
on
Saturday 24th September
in
Ravensthorpe Village Hall
10am - 12 noon
.Cake Stall .Bric-a-Brac Stall
.Bring & Buy .Raffle and more!

Can you help? If you would like to organise or help on a stall, help in any other way or donate goods or prizes please contact:

Pat or John Patrick, 32 High street
tel: 770596

Last year we raised over £640

Let's try and beat it this year!

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

DOREEN BUCK wishes to thank all those who helped and contributed to this appeal.

A cheque for £56 has been sent to the Society.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S LOTTERY FUND

THIS fund is at the forefront of engaging with young people and is committed to funding projects that young people both support and are involved in developing and running.

The multi-million pound fund aims to promote the well-being and personal development of young people across the U.K. by putting them at the centre of creating, planning and delivering projects with positive outcomes. These include being healthy.

For information contact"
Nottingham 0115 934 300
or email: www.biglotteryfund

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Monthly Meeting

in

The Village Hall

Thursday 21st July at 8.00pm

"Adventures in Bosnia"

by Karen Lock

Hostesses

C Buxton and M Hancox

New members and visitors welcome

ANNUAL OUTING 18th AUGUST

CHURCH SERVICES

ALTAR FLOWERS
AND BRASS ROTA

Sunday 3 rd July	11.00am	Family Service	Mrs Pauline Reeve
Sunday 10 th July	9.45am	Holy Communion	Mrs Yvonne Childs
Sunday 17 th July	11.00am	Holy Communion	Mrs Ros Jones
Sunday 24 th July	8.30am	Holy Communion	Mrs Vera Hickman
Sunday 31 st July	10.00am	Benefice Service Hollowell	Mrs Eileen Reid
Sunday 7 th August	-----	NO SERVICE -----	Mrs Rosemary Gee
Sunday 14 th August	9.45am	Holy Communion	Mrs Sally Marsh
Sunday 21 st August	11.00am	Holy Communion	Mrs Yvonne Reeve
Sunday 28 th August	8.30am	Holy Communion	Mrs Mary Hancox
Sunday 4 th Sept.	11.00am	Family Service	Mrs Barbara Glossop

Vicar: Reverend John Tarrant, Guilsborough. Tel: 743508