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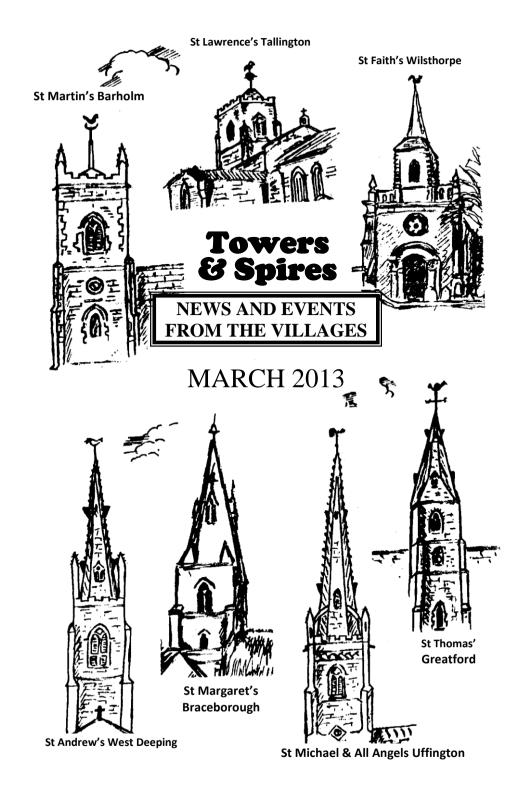
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EDITORIAL SECRETARY Mrs Gail Genever.

Uffington Tel: 01780 765005

PLEASE NOTE THAT A COPY OF ALL ENTRIES MUST REACH THE EDITOR BY THE 16TH OF THE MONTH

Preparation for Printing Pete Hickman

Tel: 01780 754417 Please e-mail articles (in MS Word format) to Towersandspires@hotmail.co.uk

VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES

Barholm with Stow. - Mrs C Baldwin. Tel 01778 560586

Braceborough - Mrs F Grindey, The Old Coachouse. Tel: 01778 560570

Greatford - Mrs B Everitt, Greatford Gardens. Tel: 01778 560473

Tallington - Mrs L Pollock St Lawrence Way. Tel 01780 740445

Uffington – Mrs Gail Genever, Uffington Tel: 01780 765005 email: gailgenever@btinternet.com

West Deeping—Jean Stowe Tel: 01778 346779 Email: jean@stowe.vispa.com or jean.stowe@abelgratis.com

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Dear All

This year Holy Week falls right at the end of March, with Easter on the 31st. Mothering Sunday is on the 10th, with a family service at Uffington at 10.30am, when we'll bless bunches of flowers for the children to give out, then Palm Sunday is on the 24th - why not come along for the blessing of the palms and the reading of the Passion story at the services that day.

There's plenty going on in Holy Week across the group, too, with at least one service every day, so that you can follow the story right the way through the week and walk the way of the cross. On Monday and Tuesday evenings there will be communion services at 7.30pm - Monday at Greatford, Tuesday at Uffington - and on Wednesday there will be a communion service at 10am at West Deeping. On Thursday evening there will be a commemoration of the Last Supper starting in Braceborough village hall and moving on to the church - see the separate notice for details. This is a great opportunity for fellowship as well as a chance to learn about the first Holy Week, and well worth coming to.

Good Friday is going to follow the same pattern as the last few years. The church services will take place as usual, in West Deeping at 11am and Uffington at 2pm, and once again some of us will be walking (on footpaths, not the road) from one church to the other, with a pause in Tallington on the way. You can come to just the services, just the walk, or join us for part of the route - check the posters at each church for exact timings, and let's hope that the weather stays fine... There'll also be our usual evening service at Barholm at 7pm.

Easter Day will be full of services - not only will there be a communion service in each church, as usual, but we're going to start the day with an Easter Vigil and the lighting of the new fire, otherwise known as a dawn service. The good news this year is that the service is later than usual - not until 6am... (tho' don't forget that's the day the clocks change). That's when we'll gather in the dark to read Bible stories by torchlight, as we wait to celebrate the discovery made at break of day, when the women went to the tomb and found that Christ had risen. As a sign of the light of the risen Christ coming into the world, we'll light first one and then another six Easter candles, and take them on to the parishes for the communion services later in the day. Why not stagger out of bed and really know you're celebrating Easter - and don't forget to bring bells/jangling keys/anything else that makes a joyful noise, for use during the service.

Please come and join in on Easter Day and during the preparation for it, as we experience the richness of the Christian story and celebrate the new life God gives us in Christ.

Yours,

Carolyn Kennedy.

READINGS FOR MARCH

	Psalm	ОТ	NT	Gospel
3rd March	63:1-9	Isaiah	1 Corinth	Luke
Lent 3		55:1-9	10:1-13	13:1-9
10 th March				
Lent 4	32	Joshua 5:9-12	2 Corinth.	Luke 15:1-
	l	Exodus	5:16-21	3, 11b-32
or, for Mothering	34:11-	2:1-10	Colossians	Luke
Sunday	20		3:12-17	2:33-35
17 th March	126	Isaiah	Philippian	John
Lent 5	l	43:16-21	S	12:1-8
			3:4b-14	
24th March	31:9-16	Isaiah	Philippian	Luke
Palm Sunday	l	50:4-9a	S	22:14-23:56
			2:5-11	
31st March			Acts	John
Easter Day			10:34-43	20:1-18
7 th April	150		Acts	John
Easter 2			11:1-18	13:31-35

Usually, the readings for communion services are the NT and Gospel, and for Morning or Evening Prayer the Psalm, OT and NT, but in Eastertide the reading from Acts is compulsory, so from Easter onwards all services will use Acts and the Gospel. The colour in church is purple (or blue) until Palm Sunday, which is red- and, of course, there are no flowers in church in Lent. Maundy Thursday is white, on Good Friday there are no frontals or hangings at all,, then Easter is white and gold and full of flowers (but if you're using lilies, please remember to remove the stamens!)

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral

Greatford 20th February Alan Lionel Rose(aged 82).

The Last Supper

7pm, Thursday 28th March, in Braceborough Village Hall

Tickets £2, family ticket £5, to cover a light supper

This year we're going to share a meal and service following the pattern of the early Christian church, the first followers of Christ.

When Jesus met with his friends in the first Holy Week they shared a meal and fellowship, eating and chatting, before the meal became special and significant in a new way, as Jesus blessed the bread and the wine and gave it to his disciples. We will do the same thing, sitting at table together and sharing a simple meal of bread, cheese and fruit and a glass of wine before hearing the story of that Last Supper and moving on to a celebration of communion, still seated at table.

We will also re-enact some of the other events of that evening. Just as Jesus washed the feet of his disciples (shocking them, because they thought he was too important to do that for them), so the tradition is that the most senior clergy wash the feet of at least some of those present at the service – in a cathedral, it would be the bishop or the dean. Here, the Rector is as senior as you get (NB having your feet washed is not compulsory – volunteers only!). And at the end of the evening, as Jesus and the disciples went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray, we move on to the church, where traditional psalms will be read and the altar stripped, ready for the bleakness of Good Friday.

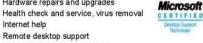
If you'd like to find out more about the Last Supper, and how communion as we know it started, why not come along and find out. This celebration is open to everyone, whether they've been confirmed or not, and is a family occasion where children are welcome (it will go on until at least 8.30pm, but families can opt out of the time in church). Tickets are available from the churchwardens or the Rector – please do book, so that we know how many we are catering for. Also, please note that this is a *light* supper – you'll need to eat beforehand.



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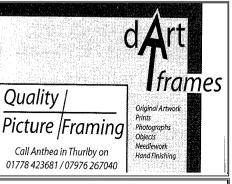
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WILSTHORPE

Holy Communion is at 10.30am on the 1st Sunday of every month. Please come along and join us, where you will be made most welcome.

Easter Services – A list of the Easter Services will be put on the church notice hoard

Neighbourhood Watch in Wilsthorpe – If anybody not already part of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme would like to join [it's free!] please contact Susan Burgoin at Corner Cottage or email susan_burgoin@hotmail.com for further information.

1st Time Sewerage – No start date has yet been fixed for the 1st Time Sewerage system. Apparently AWA are still negotiating with a local land owner for the siting of the pumping station.

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CLERK'S NOTES OF BRACEBOROUGH & WILSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 4TH FERRUARY 2013 AT BRACEBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL.

A disappointing number of residents and visitors attended the presentation of superfast broadband by Ian Ransom (Community Broadband Officer) before the Parish Council meeting. Mr Ransom informed the meeting that funding for the project was to be divided by Government, European Union, District & County Councils with match funding by the broadband provider at a later date. He said that the LCC 'Demand Register' was closed on 28th January 2013 and the website was being revamped to show more detail in your area. Mr Ransom informed the meeting that at present planning permission was required for the placement of the green cabinets with fibre optic wire up to the box then copper to the property. He reported that fibre optic was not always suitable and there was also the possibility of an airborne solution, best placed on a church. He reported that government bodies were expecting the public to make greater use of the internet. He concluded that it was hoped that 90% of all premises in the county would have superfast broadband.

Residents informed the meeting that both pumps had failed at the Pumping Station, Braceborough and Anglianwater had to resort to pumping out the tanks into lorries for two days. The clerk reported that she had contacted Anglianwater regarding the raw sewerage floating out of a manhole cover after the heavy rains but had received no reply. It is understood that the main issue lies at Essendine.

Concern was again expressed about the blocked drain in a field at the bottom of Quincey's Lane and the flooding this was still causing. It is understood that LCC Highways are waiting for drier weather so that large equipment can safely access the land.

It was reported that speeding was an on-going problem in many local villages especially between 7.30am-9am. The best way forward is for individuals to take a note of the vehicle registration number & time, then report to the police. It was also suggested that the Parish Council purchase 'Speed Signs'.

Councillors had concerns about the extension of the Equine Building at Spa House and its close proximity to the river. There was no representation to the felling of one Silver Maple at The Leazers. The removal of fruit trees at Ivy Farm had been allowed. The application for the grass airstrip and erection of buildings at The Lodge would be going to SKDC Committee in March.

C.Cllrs Martin Trollope-Bellew reported that the Government had reduced the County Councils grant by 42million which was going to very difficult to achieve. He also reported that EMAS had suggested that it may increase the number of hubs in Lincolnshire from 8 to 13. He also reported that LCC wind turbine consultation had been well received. Finally he said that there was plenty of salt in storage and Civil Parking Enforcement was working well in Stamford. Parish Councillors agreed that it was easier to find parking bays. C.Cllr suggested that the Parish Council contact the Road Safety Partnership in regard to highways safety and re-active signs.

D.Cllr reported that there had been a problem with flooding at Wilsthorpe and enquired about other parish issues mentioned at the previous meeting.

The next meeting to take place on Monday 4th March 2013 at Braceborough Village Hall. All Welcome. Rosemary Woolley, Clerk to the Council. Email-bwparishcouncil@msn.com or 560634 (answer machine), Website-parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/BraceboroughandWilsthorpe

WEST DEEPING

Carpet Bowls Club. There are sessions on Wednesday afternoons and Thursday evenings and the starting age is 11 years. We'd like others to try Carpet Bowls. Contact: Chairperson June Thomas 01778 343434.

West Deeping Walkers. Sunday 10th March led by Roger and Joy, 01778 343263. Sunday 24th March is a local walk. Meet outside village hall at 2.00pm. For further details call Annie, 01778 346805, or email snewbigging@talktalk.net

Bible Studies. On Tuesdays 2.45 for 3.00pm Cromwell House. One hour's study and discussion is followed by tea. For more information contact Susanna Aldred on 01778 380014.

Coffee Morning. Saturday 16th March 10.30am-12noon West Deeping Village Hall. Members of St Andrew's Church will give you a friendly welcome. There'll be home-baked cakes and preserves for sale and organized activities for children as usual.

Social Event. Saturday 23rd March 2.30-4.30pm. West Deeping Village Hall. Springtime tea and cake afternoon, bookstall and raffle. Everyone welcome.

Rambling Readers. Friday 5th April 7.45pm West Deeping Village Hall. NB this is a date change to avoid Good Friday. We normally meet on the last Friday of the month. If you are interested in reading a new book each month, supplied by Lincolnshire Libraries, please ring Liz Noble 01778 344674.

West Deeping Heritage Group AGM. Tuesday 19th March 7pm for 7.30pm. West Deeping Village Hall. You don't have to be a member and there's no charge. We will review the year's activities, and update ourselves on 'The Boaty Story' project. There will be some formal elements to the meeting, as we need to agree the minutes of the last AGM and look at the accounts. We are looking for nominations for the role of Secretary, as Anne will be stepping down at the end of March. To finish there will be a light, informal session on 'Heritage Treasures'. Join in by bringing your own item of personal interest and tell us about its history and significance. This could be a family heirloom, an object of local interest, or a document such as a property deed or old letter.

Boaty Craft Morning. If you have children or grandchildren, or if you'd like to help, make a note in you diary for Tuesday 9th April 10 – 12am. There will be a "Boaty Craft Morning" in West Deeping Village Hall. More details next month or from Tracy Williams, 01778 347115 or Liz Noble 01778 344674.

West Deeping's new website is now largely in place and can be found at http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/westdeeping/ Do have a look because apart from carrying information about village rganizations and activities, it provides other news items such as details concerning the road works on the A1175 (A16).

BRACEBOROUGH

Sunday 31st **March** - **Holy Communion at 9am.** Please come along and join us for Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome.

Saturday 2nd March - Bingo and Fish & Chips Supper in the Village Hall. A fish & chip supper and a chance to play a few games of Bingo. Supper Cost: Adults £7, Children of school age £3-50. Licensed Bar & Raffle. Proceeds in aid of Village Hall Funds. 7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets available from Committee Members.

Thursday 28th March - 7pm Agape in Braceborough Village Hall. An opportunity to take Holy Communion in a setting recalling the 'Last Supper.' A simple meal of breads, cheese and fruit will be shared. Carolyn will offer to wash feet of those present and there will be readings made and hymns sung. Afterwards we shall adjourn to St.Margaret's where the church will be stripped and left bare as a mark of symbolism for Good Friday. We shall then leave in silence. A donation is requested to help cover the cost of food and drinks provided.

Future Events.

Saturday 20th April - St.George's Day Celebration. 7pm for 7.30pm - Bangers & Mash followed by a choice of traditional English desserts. Several varieties of sausage will be available for you to try. Red & White dress code (with a bit of white, if you like!) Licensed Bar & Raffle.

Saturday 18th May - Community Choir & other music in St Margaret's Church – followed by afternoon tea in the Village Hall. More details next month.

Saturday 20th July - Mini-Rock-Fest & Hog Roast. Village Hall. Live local bands, food & licensed bar.

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UFFINGTON

Church Flowers

3rd March – LENT 10th – Mothering Sunday 24th – Palm Sunday 31st – Easter Sunday – ALL HELP

UFFINGTON WI. If it's true that a picture's worth a thousand words. Rutland photographer Richard Adams must be sitting on a literary goldmine. Richard, who has become a favourite speaker at Uffington WI. showed the February meeting a presentation with music of worldwide charm and beauty captured by his camera: from the bicycling citizens of Beijing, through glaciers in Iceland, to wildlife and landscapes in Peru and Namibia. Not surprisingly, during Margaret Walker's speech of thanks, there was a clamour from the floor for tips on taking photos the Adams way. We're all hoping for developments......ooops! Members, including one new member, were welcomed by the President, Maggie Carter, who reminded the meeting that tickets were on sale for the Home Economics meeting at Bourne on March 25. The branch has also received the new programme of courses available at the WI's Denman College. The committee has selected the Red Lion at West Deeping as the venue for its annual birthday celebration on March 6th. A letter was received from the Springfields retail park at Spalding to say that free parking for WI members ceased at the start of 2013. It had been in place only for the year the WI was its chosen charity. There are still places available on the South Lincs Federation of Wis' holiday to Folkestone and Kent in May. Six Uffington members have already booked. A competition for a childhood photograph was won by 1st Mary Johnston, 2nd Jenny Peear, and 3rd equal, Margaret Walker and Alison Dodsworth.

Flying the Flag. There have been no requests to fly the flag recently. Why not sponsor either the Union Jack or St. George's flag to be flown to mark a birthday, anniversary, or any special occasion? The fee is only £5 for Church funds. Call David or Gail Genever (765005) or Graham Creedy (481084).

GREATFORD

Church Flowers: (none in Lent), Easter Day: Diana White Church Cleaning: Sue Barker & Jean Cross

Easter Day (31st March): Holy Communion will be celebrated at 9am – everyone is welcome (and everyone is also welcome at the usual services on 10 and 24 March).

Carlby & District WI: This WI has members attending from Carlby, Bourne, Thurlby, Wilsthorpe, Braceborough and Greatford. The next meeting is at Carlby Village Hall on Tuesday March 12th at 7.30 pm when there will be a members' evening. New members and visitors are always welcome. For further information please telephone 01778 590180.

Bell-ringing: Greatford practice: Wednesday 13th March.

Mobile Library: The mobile library visits Greatford every four weeks on a Thursday and the next visit will be on March 14th from 11.30 to 12.00 at the Phone Box in Main Street.

Flying the Flag: You can help to raise funds by having the Union Jack or the Flag of St George flown in honour of any special event. The Flags can be flown at the Village Hall in aid of Village Hall Funds or on the flagpole outside the Church in aid of Church Funds. Please contact Cyril Webb on 560437 in either case.

RUTLAND WATER SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE

Why not have a great day out and support a worthy cause. The NSPCC is organising this event to take place on Sunday 23rd June. Enjoy the glorious views and surrounding on the 17 mile ride whilst raising funds for the Charity. To enter go to www.nspccbikeride.com or contact John Burcham on 01780 752941 or 07880 600635.

TALLINGTON

Church Flowers

3rd and 10th March Lent 17th and 24th March Lent 31st March Mrs A Knox

St Lawrence Church: The Annual General Meeting of St Lawrence Church will be held on Thursday 14th March at 7.30 pm in the Church..

200 Club January Winners: No 107 James Allen £15; No 110 Gemma Stent £10; No 159 Robert Fry £5

Social Evening: Everyone who attended the Soup Evening in January enjoyed the range of soups on offer despite the chilly evening outside. This month we hope to see many of you at the Race Evening on Friday 22^{nd} March which is a week earlier than usual as the last Friday is Good Friday. Please note that the Village Hall Committee will not be sending out any more flyers just before the monthly event. Please remember to check what is on offer in Towers and Spires.

Village Hall: The Village Hall is kept clean by a number of volunteers. Unfortunately, for various reasons, people have to say they cannot do it any longer. If you have a couple of hours to spare, approximately every twelve weeks, and are willing to join the rota please 'phone Liz Allen (740076) who will be very happy to welcome you to the team.

Flying the Flag: The flag was flown on Wednesday 30th January to celebrate the 70th Wedding Anniversary of Vera and Jack Pearson and again on Thursday 31st January to celebrate Vera's 90th Birthday. These were both sponsored by Pamela O'Malley.

Mobile Library Service: The Mobile Library will be in Church Lane on Thursday 14th March between 10.00 and 10.30am.

Parish Council: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 12th March.

WILDLIFE GARDENING IN MARCH

Last month we talked about bird boxes. This month we are following that theme with ways to encourage bees into the garden. Bees are probably the most important pollinators of crops and other plants in the world, but like many other wild species they are facing declines in their numbers due to loss of feeding and nesting habitats.

We are probably all familiar with the Honey Bee which is kept in hives from where their honey is collected (although some nest in hollow trees). About 8 Bumblebee species live in and around our gardens and all are useful in pollinating flowers. These include the Common Garden Bumblebee, the Large Red-tailed, Buff-tailed and Early Bumblebees. Because there is a large variation in colour and pattern they can be difficult to tell apart.

They can fly in quite cold weather by 'shivering' to warm up their muscles before taking off, and so can be seen in early spring visiting flowers like *Primulas* and Violets. They need lots of sugary nectar for energy and will feed continuously from dawn to dusk from spring to late autumn. As they feed on the nectar they transfer pollen from flower to flower. Really useful plants for them include Cornflowers, Candytuft, Zinnia, Poppy, Nigella, Silene, many other varieties which flower through the summer as well as vegetable crops like runner beans, and orchard blossom. Clover in lawns is also very important to them, and perhaps you could consider leaving small patches of flowering clover through the summer, mowing round them for a while, and then as the flowers fade cut these areas but leave other clover areas un-mown to provide the nectar?

Bumblebees can build their nests in holes in the ground, in moss or in old bird's nests and even in bird nest boxes. However, there are other bees that nest on their own: known as solitary bees. These also pollinate flowers and some help to control garden pests. They use hollow stems, bare sandy earth and holes in walls and fences in which to lay their eggs. These solitary bees will also use bee nest boxes (either bought or home-made) which consist of a wooden box, open at one end and covered by a roof and tightly packed with varying sizes of bamboo stems and blocks of wood in which holes have been drilled. Placed in a sunny position on a wall or fence, the bee box can be a good home for insects that are really helpful to the gardener!

Donna and Tim





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CHURCH SERVICES AND DIARY DATES FOR MARCH 2013 VOLUME 27 NUMBER 12

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
31 st March		
EASTER DAY		
6am Wilsthorpe Dawn Service		
9am Greatford HC		
9am Braceborough HC		
9am Greatford HC		
10.15am WDeeping HC		
10.30am Uffington HC		
10.30am Tallington HC		
10.30am Wilsthorpe HC		
3 rd	4 th	5 th
Lent 3		
9am Braceborough HC	1.45pm Tallington VH Whist	
10.15am WDeeping MP		
10.30am Wilsthorpe HC		
10.30am Uffington HC		
6pm Barholm ES		
10 th	11 th	12 th
Lent 4 - Mothering Sunday		
9am Greatford HC	1.45pm Tallington VH Whist	
10.15am WDeeping HC		
10.30am Uffington Mothering		
Sunday Service (FS)		
1.45pm WDeeping Walkers		
Tallington Joint with UFFINGTON		<u>.</u>
17 th	18 th	19 th
LENT 5		
9am Barholm HC	1.45pm Tallington VH Whist	7 for 7.30pm WD VH
10.15am WDeeping MP	7.30pm WD VH Parish	Heritage Group AGM
10.30am Uffington HC	Council Meeting	
24 th	25 th	26 th
PALM SUNDAY		
9am Greatford HC	1.45pm Tallington VH Whist	7.30pm Uffington HC
10.15am WDeeping HC	7.30pm Greatford HC	
10.30am Uffington FS		
10.30am Tallington HC		
1.45pm WDeeping Walkers		

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 st	2 nd
			7 for 7.30pm Braceborough VH Bingo & Fish/Chips
6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th
2pm Tallington VH Bingo 2-4pm WD VH Bowls	Uffington WI 68 th Birthday Party @ the Red Lion West Deeping 8-10pm WD VH Bowls		
13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th
2pm Tallington VH Welcome Club 2-4pm WD VH Bowls	8-10pm WD VH Bowls		10.30am WD VH ST Andrew's Church Coffee Morning
20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd
2pm Tallington VH Welcome Club 2-4pm WD VH Bowls	8-10pm WD VH Bowls	7pm Tallington VH Social	
27 th	28 th	29 th	30 th
10am WDeeping HC	8-10pm WD VH Bowls 7pm Braceborough VH	GOOD FRIDAY 11am WDeeping HC walk to Uffington	
2pm Tallington VH Welcome Club 2-4pm WD VH Bowls	The Last Supper	2pm Uffington HC 7pm Barholm HC	