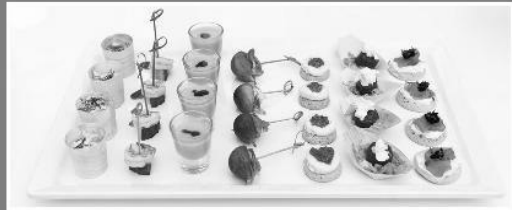


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Greatford - Mrs B Everitt,
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BARHOLM WITH STOWE

The December services at St Martin's - Advent Carol Service, Sunday 3rd December 6pm. Sunday communion December 17th 9am. Christmas morning communion service 9am. Group service 10.30am 31st December. You will find a very warm welcome at all our services. You will always find the church open during the day, kindly locked and unlocked by Tricia Brockhouse.

WELLAND MOTHERS' UNION

Monday 4th December 2pm

Carol Singing at Tallington Rest Home

Info from Elizabeth 01778 344674 or Anne 01780 740151



DON'T FORGET!



GREATFORD CHRISTMAS GREETING

Friday 8th December 3pm - 7pm

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Children's competition and Tombola

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From the Honorary Priest

Dear Friends

As we move in to December, the Church's season of Advent very much encourages us to look forward to Christmas – though perhaps not in quite the same way as the commercial world has been urging us in recent weeks. Some of the church's traditions of Advent have spilled over into the wider world: Advent calendars no longer depict religious images and subjects but now very often focus on chocolate treats; Advent candles probably now generally count down the days of December rather than the Sundays of the Advent season – though the candles which are lit in our churches on the four Sundays of Advent do help us to focus on the way that various people of old were given an insight into God's promise to send his Son.

During Advent this year, as well as many of our regular services, our various churches will have a number of special events – at which folk from any of our parishes (and beyond) will be very welcome:

- On 3 December at 6pm, Barholm Church will have an Advent Carol service – when in the special atmosphere of St Martin's Church we can savour the carols and bible readings recalling God's promises about the earthly birth of His Son.
- On 10 December, there is a Christingle Service at 3pm in Greatford Church when the young in heart can make their Christingles and enjoy the wonderful imagery of Christ the light of the world coming to the (orange shaped!) world, sharing the fruits of the earth in their seasons, and shedding his blood (symbolised by the red ribbon). And then at 6pm there is a carol service in Tallington Church.
- On 17 December, West Deeping Church will hold a carol and crib service designed for all ages, and at 6pm there will be the traditional service of nine lessons and carols for all the parishes in Uffington Church – there's still just time for singers to join the choir at the rehearsal in Copthill School on Wednesday 6th December.
- On 24 December we start with a (short) Communion service at 9am in Greatford Church focussing on the 4th Sunday of Advent theme of the Virgin Mary looking forward to Christ's birth; while at 10:30am the Uffington Crib Service, designed for all ages, will think of Jesus' birth.

Then during the afternoon of 24 December we move into full Christmas mode, with carol services at Wilsthope (3pm), Braceborough (6pm), and Greatford (6pm). And at 11:30pm, both Tallington and West Deeping churches celebrate the First Communion of Christmas – with our other five parishes having Communion services on Christmas Morning: Barholm, Braceborough and Greatford at 9am; Uffington and Wilsthorpe at 10:30.

The Christmas season can be a busy and demanding time, but we hope that you (and your families and visitors) will be able to find a time and type of service when you can join us to celebrate anew God's concern for humanity – demonstrated in the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ to enable him to show God's love and purity throughout the ages to all people.

Have a very happy Christmas

Martin

TALLINGTON

Church Flowers

3rd/10th December - **Advent**

17th/24th December – **Advent**

25th December - Mrs R Thurlby

St Lawrence Church December Services: The Tallington Carol Service is to be held on 10th December at 6.00 pm. Mulled wine, soft drinks and light refreshments will be served after the service. On Sunday 24th December the midnight communion will start at 11.30 pm. We look forward to seeing you at one or both of these services.

St Lawrence Church: The PCC would like to thank all those involved in looking after the Church throughout the year especially those who unlock and close it.

Coffee Morning: Please accept my apologies for omitting the date for this in last month's Towers and Spires. I hope you found the date in Diary Dates in the centre of the magazine or from the notice boards in the Village. Rest assured I gave myself the same berating as I used to give to my long-past students who made such an elementary mistake!

Towers and Spires: We are looking for a volunteer to sort Towers and Spires, take them to the people who actually deliver them and to deliver some down Barholm Road. Please 'phone Anne Knox (740268) if you can help.

200 Club Winners in October: No 13 Michael Knox £20; No 43 Patrick Allen £10.

Social Evening: Perhaps because it was half term there were slightly fewer people at the Fish and Chip Supper with Quiz but nevertheless much enjoyed. You now have a new Village Hall Committee who are very enthusiastic and will be organizing our annual Christmas Party on Friday 15th December from 7 pm.

Mobile Library Service: There will be no Mobile Library Service in December as their normal time would fall on Christmas Day but it will return on Monday 22nd January 2018 at the usual time of 11.15 to 11.45 am in Church Lane.

Flying the Flag: St George's Flag was flown from Thursday 2nd to Saturday 4th November by her family for Georgina Thurlby who celebrated her 18th birthday. Our congratulations and best wishes go to her.

The Parish Council: Please remember all residents are welcome at the Parish Council meetings. The next one will be held on Tuesday 09th January 2018 at 7.30 pm.

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WILSTHORPE

The next Service at St Faith's is Holy Communion at 10.30am on Sunday 3rd December. Please do come along and join us, where you will be made most welcome.

Harvest Festival – a well-attended service was enjoyed by all. Thank you to everybody who donated food for Bourne Food Bank, they were very grateful for our offerings which weighed in at 42 kilos!!! A thank you letter from them is displayed in the church.

Friday 22nd December 2pm onwards – We will be cleaning and decorating the church for Christmas, any help would be greatly appreciated, especially any children who would like to help decorate the Christmas tree!



Carol Service – Christmas Eve The Candle lit Carol Service and Dressing of the Crib will be at **3pm**, followed by mulled wine and mince pies, coffee and soft drinks. Everybody is most welcome. Last years' service, which was so well attended and was made even more special because of the participation of the children. A lovely way to start Christmas!

Christmas Morning - Holy Communion Service will be at 10.30am

Paperback books for sale! This is proving very popular with villagers and visitors alike. There are lots of books for sale in St Faith's Church, 50p each or 3 for a £1 – a bargain! The selection is frequently refreshed.

GREATFORD

Church Flowers: Rachel Barron-Clark with assistance

Church Cleaning: D of E Volunteer Heide Hooper

This year we will be having a post-Christmas clean on Friday Jan 5th at 10.30am

For details contact Cazz Anders on 561032

Church Services at Greatford this month are: **10th December** Holy Communion at 9am; **10th December** CHRISTINGLE SERVICE at 3 pm; **24th December** Holy Communion (said) at 9am; The Normal **Carol Service** with Seven Lessons will be held in Greatford Church on Christmas Eve at 6pm. **This year we would like to invite volunteers to read a lesson at this service**, If you are interested please contact Rod Campbell on 560406 or Bridget Everitt on 560473 as soon as possible; **25^h December** Holy Communion at 9am

Getting to know our Neighbour: On Friday 1st December from 6 to 8 pm. This function continues to be popular so please come and join us. Nibbles will be provided but please bring your own liquid refreshment. All ages are welcome and it is a Village event.

Bellringing: No practice in December. A special quarter peal was rung on Thursday 16th November to celebrate the life of Kate Sumner who died peacefully at home on 29th October. Kate lived in Greatford for many years with her husband George, before moving to Northorpe and was a very dear friend to us all.

Carlby & District WI: At the meeting on November 14th at 7.30p,m there was a fascinating talk about the supply and treatment of our local water supply entitled 'Save Every Drop' and was given by Liz Cornelius and Rachael Birt. We welcomed visitors from other local Institutes. Last month members also enjoyed visiting the Royal Courts of Justice. The next meeting is the Christmas Party to be held on Tuesday December 12th at 7.30 pm in Carlby Village Hall. New members and visitors are always welcome. For further information please telephone 01778 392838.

Mobile Library . Visits are on Mondays near the phone box from 12 to 12.30pm on 27th November and 22nd January. Please support this or the service will be lost. <https://lincolnshire.spydus.co.uk>.

Flying the Flag: To raise funds for Village Hall, or Church, fly the Flag for a special occasion with a donation of £5. For more information contact: Cyril Webb on 560437 in either case or email: lois.m.webb1@gmail.com

BEST KEPT VILLAGE The presentation of the plaque and certificate will be held in January, date to be confirmed, at the previous plaques area along the east end of the village, then at the Hare and Hounds for light refreshments.

Greatford Continued Elsewhere:


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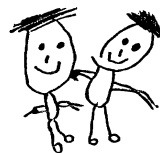
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Greatford Continued:

Village Hall: Many thanks on behalf of the Greatford Village Hall Committee for the sterling efforts demonstrated by all villagers and other local supporters of the Greatford Fete in September. After many years of fine sunshine this year for the first time we were sadly on the end of some inclement weather, but the event was still a success raising c.£800. The silent auction was a great contributor to that amount (thanks to the O'Flaherty's and all bidders/winners). A special thank you must go out to all who supported the event by either running stalls, contributing prizes or helping set up or take down the infrastructure for the day. We are truly grateful! RMc



DON'T FORGET! GREATFORD CHRISTMAS GREETING Friday 8th December 3pm – 7pm. Come to the Village Hall and exchange seasonal greetings with your friends and neighbours. Locally crafted decorations, cards and festive goodies Children's competition and Tombola Christmas sing-along at 6pm. £2 entrance includes a glass of mulled wine and nibbles (children free!) A festive occasion to share, prepare and celebrate the coming Christmas with your friends and neighbours of all ages. Enjoy a mince pie and a glass of mulled wine and browse. No need to send a card to neighbours, come to GREATFORD'S CHRISTMAS GREETING in the VILLAGE HALL. Homemade seasonal goodies, Locally crafted decorations and gifts, Children's competition. Hand-made Christmas cards. Tombola Donations of all kinds will be welcome. Proceeds to the Village Hall Fund and Salvation Army Christmas Fund

UFFINGTON WI

Diamonds may be forever but the long-neglected cameo brooch or pendant is making a comeback in the jewellery world. Uffington WI learned a lot about high-end gems and how to care for them when Sarah Stamp, managing director of Denhams Jewellers, spoke at their November meeting. A family business which opened its first store in Leicester in 1951, Denhams now has branches in Stamford, Market Harborough and Melton Mowbray. Ms Stamp spoke about her main area of expertise in the diamond sector, and also disclosed some useful tips on telling cultured pearls from synthetic. She was thanked by Jenny Ppear. A book sale was held to raise funds for the Lincs South Federation's 2017 Chairman's Challenge. The President, Gillian Johns, thanked Pauline Earley for making the recent visit to the Peterborough greyhound race track so successful. Plans for the annual birthday dinner next March were discussed. A delegate is needed for the Spring Council meeting in Spalding on March 13, at which Julie Summers, author of the book 'Jambusters', which inspired the TV series 'Home Fires' will be the speaker. A competition for a favourite piece of jewellery was won by 1 Alison Dodsworth, 2 Gillian Johns and 3 Carol Sylvester. The December meeting will take the form of a Members Night, with the usual Christmas bran tub. The competition will be for a handmade Christmas card.



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UFFINGTON

Church Flowers

3rd/10th Dec – Advent

17th Dec – Copthill School for Carol Service

24th Dec – Christmas Eve

31st Dec – New Years' Eve

Uffington 100 Club. Thank you to EVERYONE who pledged their support of the 100 Club. The response has been a warm and generous “Yes please, count on me”, so happily we can run it from January 2018. I will be in touch again very soon by email or in person, with details on paying for numbers and the prize draw etc. This is a significant future proofing initiative for Uffington Village Hall. If you missed the chance to get involved, or would like a number to give as a Christmas gift, there is still time, please contact Vanessa Kimberley, secretary@uffingtonvillagehall.org.uk Tel 01780 239463. THANK YOU.

Village Hall Containers. Update from UVH committee – 2 containers are now installed. Next stage is lighting and electrics followed by cladding in larchwood (as per planning permission). Thank you to those villagers who helped with temporary storage.

Parking and Attending UVH. Where possible please can you park at the rear of UVH when attending UVH events/classes during weekday business hours of 8am and 6pm. The Mulberry Bush Nursery kindly permits a max of 3 cars to use the rear/long stay carpark only, but needs the other spaces for children to be collected safely. Please respect this arrangement. Until the lighting has been installed at the rear of UVH, please use your torch.

Thank you to the mystery donor of 5 decorative plates with scenes of Uffington. They will be treasured. If anyone has one showing the church to complete the set, please get in touch with Vanessa Kimberley.

The UVH committee has a list of DIY projects to be done over the winter months and we would love to hear from villagers willing to volunteer to help us. Bring a friend and make a day of it!

For a list of the events happening in Uffington organised by the village hall, school, church, pub and cricket club in December, please see the centre diary pages of this edition of T and S.

NB The village hall dinner is on Saturday 9 December. Merry Christmas one and all.

WEST DEEPING

St Andrews Church. The Carol Service is on Sunday 17th Dec. at 10.30am followed by refreshments. Come and enjoy the service against the backdrop of all the decorated Christmas Trees. Contact Colin, 01778 348709; colin.blagrove@ntlworld.com

Lincolnshire Rural Arts. Friday 1st December 7.30pm WDVH Bette Davies presents *On the Edge*, which flags up the history of the American Motion Picture industry. These performances are always of a very high standard but it is worth checking if any tickets are left. They cost £10 from David James 01778 380197.

WD Walkers. Sundays. 3rd Dec. Local Walk. 17th Dec. led by Gill 01778 345589. 31st Dec. local walk. Meet outside the Village Hall at 1.45pm. Contact: Annie: 01778 346805, sneubigging@talktalk.net

Christmas Tree Festival at St Andrew's Church. Saturday 9th December. 10.00am-12.00 noon. Decorate your Tree in the theme of your choice. Saturday 16th December. 10.00am-4.00pm. Come and see the display of Christmas Trees. Mince pies and festive drinks. Raffle with great prizes. Contact Colin, Ruth 07772388981 or Tracey 07876504290 for further details or to book a tree, which they will supply.

Bible Studies. Tuesday 5th December. 2.45 for 3.00pm at Cromwell House. This will be the final meeting before the Christmas break. Contact: Susanna Aldred on 01778 380014.

Carols & Entertainment around the Xmas Tree. Sunday 10th Dec. 4.00-5.30pm WDVH. Everyone in the village and visitors too, are invited to come and sing carols. Anyone who wishes to perform – singing/acting/reading/playing an instrument should inform Melanie on 07815 776835. At this vibrant annual event children usually gather on the stage and sing well-known Christmas songs. No charge, mince pies and mulled wine provided.

Children's Christmas Party with Magic Show. Wednesday 20th December 2.30 pm. Village Hall. Fun, entertainment and tea. Friends, grandchildren and parents welcome. Hope you can come! Info from Elizabeth 01778 344674

Rambling Readers. Friday 29th December. 7.45pm. At Elizabeth's house, King Street. If you are interested in reading a new book each month supplied by Lincolnshire Libraries please talk to Elizabeth at 01778 344674.

Carpet Bowls Club. The group meets on Thursday evenings in the Village Hall. See centre pages. Chairperson: June Thomas 01778 343434.

Telephone Box: The Parish Council have “adopted” the 1935 red phone box on King Street. West Deeping Heritage Group proposes to set up a mini-museum Contact Maggie Ashcroft, 01778 344768 or wdheritage@hotmail.co.uk

Classes in the Village Hall: Step Clog. Fortnightly on Mondays 8-9.30pm. Call Laura 01733 267129, or email laura.clogteacher@gmail.com

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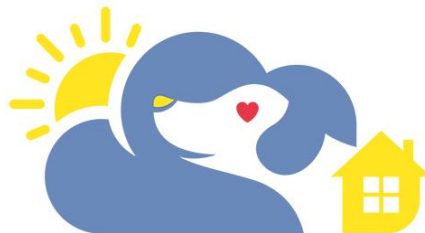
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BRACEBOROUGH

Holy Communion Service on Sunday 3 December at 9am St Margaret's Church. Please come along & join us. Everyone is very welcome.

Christmas Eve Carol Service – 6pm – Sunday 24 December, St Margaret's Church. Everyone is warmly invited to our Christmas Eve candlelight Carol Concert at St Margaret's Church. Please come along with your visiting family and/or friends. This year's service will again feature many of your favourite carols, popular seasonal readings and musical contributions from several within our community. To be followed by mulled wine, other drinks and seasonable nibbles in the village hall. What a great way to launch the eve of Christmas!

Christmas Day Holy Communion – 9am in church, Monday 25 December. Come and join us to celebrate this very special morning. You are all very welcome.

Lincolnshire Old Churches Trust 2017 Bike & Stride. Once again Clare completed her sponsored cycle ride around local churches and this year raised c.£200 towards the aims of the Trust. St.Margaret's benefits by a contribution of 50% of all that Clare raised. Congratulations and a huge 'thank you' to Clare.

Village & local Christmas Cards. Sue King and Clare Fry are again collecting charitable donations from anyone in the village wishing to donate who, this year, choose not to send Christmas cards within the village. This initiative raised a substantial total last year, so please get in touch with these ladies if you decide to support them.

Saturday 2 December – Sarah's GIN Night! Hall is booked. Gins are brewing. Sarah has already been in touch with most of the village regarding timings and recommended hangover cures!

Sunday 3 December – Sunday Lunch in the Village Hall – 12.30pm for 1pm.

Saturday 9 December – Concert with Ninebarrow – in the Village Hall. This is a Rural Touring Scheme Concert. Jon Whitley and Jay Le Bouchardiere are a multi-award winning folk duo, and are exceptional singers & musicians. Performing both traditional and original songs they combine melodies with storytelling, history and folklore. Licensed Bar. Adults £10, Children £7.50, Family (2+2) £30. Tickets from James (560417) and Keith (560258). Secure your tickets now. They are selling fast & this will be an evening of pure entertainment.

Fly The Flag. It costs just £5 to fly the flag to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or any other memorable or special event. Please contact James or Hazel (560417).

Booking the Village Hall

We have a very well equipped village hall – available for hire from just £8 per hour. Please call James or Hazel (560417) to find out if the date you are interested in is free.

READINGS FOR DECEMBER

	Psalm	OT	NT	Gospel
3 rd December 1 st in Advent	Psalm 80: 1-8,18-20	Isaiah 64.1-9	1 Corinthians 1.3-9	Mark 13.24-37
10 th December 2 nd in Advent	Psalm 85: 1-2,8-end	Isaiah 40:1-11	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Mark 1:1-8
17 th December 3 rd in Advent	Psalm 126	Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-end	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8, 19-28
24 th December (am) 4 th in Advent	Psalm 89: 1-4,19-26	2 Samuel 7: 1-11,16	Romans 16:25- end	Luke 1:26-38
CHRISTMAS NIGHT & CHRISTMAS DAY			Hebrew 1:1-4	John 1:1-14
31 st December 1 st Sunday of Christmas	Psalm 148	Isaiah 61:10- 62:3	Galatians 4:4-7	Luke 2:15-21
7 th January EPIPHANY SUNDAY	Psalm 72:10-15	Isaiah 60:1-6	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12

The readings at Holy Communion are normally the NT and Gospel, and at Morning and Evening Prayer are usually Psalm, OT and NT (but do check with the preacher). The liturgical colour at the beginning of December is purple or blue for the Advent Season, changing to white (or white & gold, if available, on Christmas Day and Epiphany Sunday) after the morning services on 24th December.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

16 Nov Greatford Kathleen Joan Sumner (aged 97), (service at Marholm).
17 Nov West Deeping Herbert Henry Wilson (aged 90).

CHURCH SERVICES AND DIARY DATES FOR DECEMBER 2017 VOLUME 32 NUMBER 9

Abbreviations: Holy Communion (HC); Morning Prayer (MP); Evening Prayer (EP); All Age Worship (AAW)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
3rd	4th	5th
1st Sunday of Advent 9am Braceborough HC 10.30am WDeeping MP 10.30am Wilsthorpe HC 10.30am Uffington HC 1.45pm WDVH Walkers 6pm Barholm Advent Carols	9.45am UffVH Yoga	10am UffVH Movement to Music exercise class 2pm Uff Church Christingle with Uffington School 2.45pm Cromwell House WD Bible Study 5pm UffVH Childrens Dance Classes
10th	11th	12th
2nd Sunday of Advent 9am Greatford HC 10.30am WDeeping HC 10.30am Uffington MP 3pm Greatford Christingle 4pm WDVH Carols around the Christmas Tree 6pm Tallington Carol Service 1.45pm WDeeping Walkers	9.45am UffVH Yoga 10am-6pm Bertie Arms Craft Fair in aid of MIND 7.30pm Braceborough Church: Group Prayer Meeting	10am UffVH Movement to Music exercise class 1pm Cophthill School – Over 60's Christmas Lunch 2pm Uff Church Nativity – All welcome. Suitable for families with pre-school children 5pm UffVH Childrens Dance Classes
17th	18th	19th
3rd Sunday of Advent 9am Barholm HC 10.30am Uffington HC 10.30am WDeeping Crib Service 1.45pm WDVH Walkers 6pm Uffington Group Carol Service 7.30pm Uff Bertie Arms Uffington Cricket Club Quiz	9.45am UffVH Yoga 6.30pm Uff Church Carol Concert – not suitable for pre-school children	10am UffVH Movement to Music exercise class 5pm UffVH Childrens Dance Classes
24th	25th	26th
4th Sunday of Advent CHRISTMAS EVE 9am Greatford HC (Said) 10.30am Uffington Crib Service 3pm Wilsthorpe Carol Service 6pm Braceborough Carol Service 6pm Greatford Carol Service 11.30pm Tallington HC 11.30pm West Deeping HC	CHRISTMAS DAY 9am Barholm HC 9am Braceborough HC 9am Greatford HC 10.30am Uffington HC 10.30am Wolsthorpe HC	
31st		
1st Sunday of Christmas 10.30am Barholm – Group Service 1.45pm WDeeping Walkers		

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6th	7th	8th	9th
9.30am UffVH Pilates 7.30pm Cophthill School – Rehearsal for Group Carol Service 7.30pm UffVH WI Christmas Meeting	5pm UffVH Childrens Dance Classes 7.30pm WDVH Bowls		10am St Andrew's Church – Tree Decoration 1.30pm UffVH Gingerbread Workshop 6.30pm for 7pm UffVH Christmas Dinner 7pm UffVH A Talk of Christmas Customs & Seasonal Folk Songs. Tickets £7 Adult £3 Children
13th	14th	15th	16th
9.30am UffVH Pilates 2pm Uff Church Nativity – All welcome. No pre-school children at this event 7.30pm Uffington Church Rehearsal for Group Carol Service	5pm UffVH Childrens Dance Classes 7.30pm WDVH Bowls	7pm TallVH Christmas Party	10am – 4pm St Andrew's Church – Christmas Tree Display with drinks, mince pies & raffle 2-4pm UffVH Christmas Party for Children 12 and under who live in Uffington
20th	21st	22nd	23rd
9.30am UffVH Pilates 2.30pm WDVH Childrens Party & Magic Show 8pm Bertie Arms Pub Quiz	5pm UffVH Childrens Dance Classes		
27th	28th	29th	30th
		7.45pm WDVH Rambling Readers	
		1st Dec	2nd Dec
		7.30pm WDVH Lincs Rural Arts	