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NEWS AND EVENTS FROM OUR VILLAGES

FEBRUARY 2016

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EDITORIAL SECRETARY Mrs Gail Genever, Uffington Tel: 01780 765005 gailgenever@btinternet.com

PREPARATION FOR PRINTING Pete Hickman Tel: 01780 754417 Please e-mail your copy (in MS Word please) to towersandspires@hotmail.co.uk

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL COPY MUST REACH GAIL & PETE BY THE 16TH OF THE MONTH TO BE INCLUDED IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE

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WILDLIFE & GARDENING IN FEBRUARY

This is a good time to carefully remove and rake off fallen leaves that have accumulated in the flower borders and blown into corners of the garden. Although the leaves have been a mulch for the borders, effectively reducing the amount of weed growth (which seems to continue apace in mild winter weather!), the cover of leaves also harbours slugs.

In a previous article, we have talked about making leaf mould - a valuable garden compost material, either by putting your leaves into large plastic bags pierced with holes, or into a leaf composter, constructed from chicken wire and wooden posts sunk into the ground.

Accepted practice has usually been not to include amounts of fallen leaves in a standard composter/compost heap, as unlike soft green vegetable matter, they take much longer to rot down.

However, a Belgian compost expert, Marc Verhofstede, has suggested that if the compost heap is constructed correctly then fallen leaves can be included. He advocates making a free standing dome shaped pile about 3 feet high, with alternate layers of carbon (such as leaves, straw, newspaper strips, shredded wood), and nitrogen (green garden and uncooked kitchen waste) with a layer of soil on top. This comes out at roughly 45% carbon, 45% nitrogen, plus 10% loam or clay soil.

The pile is then turned with a fork to aerate it. When this is done, and the pile has been reformed, it is watered until it is about 50% water content. It is then covered with a protective fleece, old carpet etc, to retain moisture, and reduce leaching from the rain.

The pile is watered during the second week, and turned 3-4 times. The third week it is watered if needed and turned 2-3 times. Week 4: water if needed and turned once or twice. Weeks 5-10: the heap is turned once a week or fortnight.

We have not tried this method yet, but it is claimed that good garden compost can be made in 10-12 weeks, which is a very short time period. Maybe no need for gym membership, with all that compost turning?!

Tim Barfield & Donna Radley

Dear All

The seasons seem to be rushing away this year. Not only does the weather not seem to be able to make up its mind whether it's winter or spring, the church seasons are running into one another with hardly any gaps this year. The Christmas and Epiphany season, with all the stories of Jesus' birth and infancy, comes to an end at Candlemas, when we remember how Mary and Joseph took their baby to the Temple to be dedicated to God – the rule for the first-born, and in some ways the equivalent of infant baptism. The actual date is the 2^{nd} February, though we celebrate Candlemas in church this year on Sunday 31^{st} January, and it's the second traditional date for removing your Christmas cards and decorations, if you didn't take them down at Epiphany (Twelfth Night). Not many people here leave their decorations up that long any more, but when I've visited our link diocese in Belgium I've noticed that they still have at least the Christmas cards on display in late January, because they stay till Candlemas, and some churches leave their cribs out until then, too – and, of course, if you've put Christmas wreaths in the churchyard at all, 2^{nd} February is the date by which they need to be tidied away.

So, we get to the official end of the Christmas season in the first week in February, as usual – but then we hardly have time even to draw breath, because Ash Wednesday falls the following week, on the 10^{th} February, and we're straight into Lent, getting ready for an early Easter, on March 27^{th} . We've not that long given up on the New Year resolutions (you might even still be sticking to yours) and now it's time to think about giving things up for Lent.

For the church, Lent is very much about reviewing our relationship with God, and making the time to improve it. Giving something up is about shifting our priorities, so that our own needs come lower down the list for a few weeks; it's about having a reminder to think more widely - every time that chocolate craving strikes, it's a chance to remember why we're doing this in the first place; and it's about making good use of the time or the money freed by our sacrifice. And even for those who aren't churchgoers, it's not a bad idea to spend a few weeks with that shift in priorities.

So, if you are going to give something up for Lent, what will you do with the spare time and money? Well, if you save some time, one traditional thing is to spend it in prayer and study – and if you're not sure about that, you could take time to reflect on your life, or to read a book that helps you think. Or if you'd rather be more active, why not use your time to get more involved in church? If you haven't been to a service for a little while, come along; if you go to church when there's a service in your village, try the village next door on a different Sunday. Or how about taking on a task in church? If you're longing to read the lesson, or get involved in Sunday Club, be on the PCC, lead the prayers, polish pews, tidy the churchyard, help with fundraising to keep the building standing, or you're a pianist who'd like to try the organ – just get in touch. There's always plenty to do.

If you're giving up something that costs money, what do you do with the cash? The usual thing is to give it away. The church (of course!), your favourite charity, the appeals for refugees - there's always plenty of choice. One way of giving is to put aside a jar as a moneybox - it's amazing how much you can save up over six weeks, even just putting in spare coins, and even more if you save up the cost of the chocolate you're not eating or the wine you're not drinking. Whatever you give up, take up or give, I wish you all the best, as we get ready for that very early but always joyful Easter.

Yours,

Carolyn Kennedy.

BRACEBOROUGH

GREATFORD

Church Flowers: none in Lent **Church Cleaning:** Lois Webb and Caroline Anderson

Church Services: The services, which everyone is most welcome to attend, are: 14th February: Holy Communion at 9:00am; 28th February: Family Service at 9:00am.

Bell Ringing: Greatford practice night Wednesday 17th February.

A quarter peal was rung before the Carol Service – the sound of the bells ringing across the village on Christmas Eve was much appreciated.

Carlby & District WI: There was no meeting in January. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 9th February in Carlby Village Hall at 7:30pm and the talk will be 'Life on the Royal Yacht Britannia' by Graham Creedy.

New Members and visitors are always welcome. For further information please telephone 01778 590348.

Mobile Library: The van will call at Greatford opposite the phone box on Mondays 22nd February and 21st March from 12:00noon to 12:30pm.

Flying the Flag: Mark any special event by having the Union Flag or St George's Flag flown at the Village Hall (for a contribution to Village Hall Funds) or outside the Church (in aid of Church Funds). Please contact Cyril Webb on 560437 in either case.

WELLAND MOTHERS' UNION

Monday 15th February. 2pm at Elizabeth's home West Deeping Please contact Elizabeth Noble 01778 344674 or Anne Batty 01780 740151 if you would like to join us. Holy Communion, Sunday 7th February at 9am, St.Margaret's Church. Please come along and join us. Everyone welcome.

Christmas Eve Carol Service. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to such a lovely Carol Service on Christmas Eve. Thank you to all the musicians; readers; Mark & Jo-Anne for leading the service; all the people who decorated the church; those who prepared drinks & food in the village hall; and for tidying away afterwards. A great village event.

Help design a new Altar Frontal for St Margaret's. Help and advice is still needed, please. Any designers, embroiderers, seamstresses and/or anyone interested or able to contribute in any way are invited to put forward suggestions for the design and preparation of a new church altar frontal. Perhaps you are on a design course at school, college or university? Please let us have your ideas and advice. Our current frontal is the only one we have & has been in service for rather a long time. Here is an opportunity to help make church even more welcoming & to make a personal contribution yourself. Contact Lyn on 561153.

Sunday 28 February 2016 – **'Locust Honey String Band' in concert at the Village Hall.** Hailing from the very heart of the USA's Blue Ridge Mountains these three young ladies kick up a storm playing bluegrass & Appalachian music. This is one of the band's very few visits to the UK, so we are privileged to have secured them. Tickets are going fast, so reserve <u>your</u> tickets <u>now</u>, with James on 01778 560417. £10 Adults, £7.50 Children, £30 Family (2A & 2Ch).

Dates for the diary (details to follow):

Saturday 23 April: St George's Day Murder Mystery. Your chance to deduce who's responsible for some shocking goings-on.

Saturday 21 May: Pot Luck Supper. There may be an added element to this if we can make the stars align.

Saturday 18 June: Braceborough Open Gardens. Offers of gardens or other help welcome – please contact James (560417) or Keith (560258).

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 on 560417. The flag was flown on 25 December by Jennifer Gralka in celebration of Christmas Day, and on 8 January by Barry and Anne Morris in celebration of their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations to Barry and Anne.

Defibrillator reminder. The Braceborough defibrillator is installed in a cabinet at the Village Hall; the Wilsthorpe defibrillator is installed in a cabinet at St Faiths Church. **If you have an incident which needs the defibrillator please call 999 immediately and the Ambulance service will call the people listed on the scheme** specific for either Braceborough or Wilsthorpe (one call links to all 10 numbers and the first one to answer is requested to respond). If thereafter you or they need any more help, **the specific number for Braceborough is 01778 252020 and the specific number for Wilsthorpe is 01778 252553** – please check these numbers are in your 'phone book. We are planning to arrange another awareness / training session in the Village Hall in the next few months – if you would like to attend, please let James know (01778 560417). We also have a DVD training video and Resuscitation Annie available for anyone who wishes to borrow for awareness / personal training. Please contact Jason for details on 01778 561256.



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UFFINGTON

Church Flowers 24th/31st Jan – Jane Naylor

Flying the Flag. Both the Union Jack and St George's Flag were flown as follows:

Date	Event	Sponsor(s)
25 th Dec	CHRISTMAS DAY	PCC
25 th Dec	Aaron McNeill's 12 th birthday	Nanny, Granddad, Dad, Simon & Ashley

Mark your special date by sponsoring either the Union Jack or St George's flag, and make a ± 5 donation to Church funds. Contact David & Gail Genever or Graham Creedy (481084)

Snowdrop Sunday. It's snowdrop time again and the churchyard will soon be a glorious sight carpeted with these lovely signs of spring. You are invited to come and admire the snowdrops, perhaps take some photos, then enjoy a cup of tea and cake in church, from 2 - 4pm on Sunday 7th February. There will be craft activities for children and a warm welcome for everyone!

Scarecrow Weekend 2016. The first meeting this year to arrange Scarecrow Weekend, $1^{st}/2^{nd}$ May, will take place on Tuesday 16^{th} February at 7.30pm, at the Homestead, Greatford Road. The theme this year is 'Around the World'. If you can help in any way please ring David and Gail Genever on 01780 765005.

BARHOLM WITH STOWE

St Martin's Church. The generous donations received on gift day and later, have allowed essential work to the tower and to the east end gable, to be completed. There are still major repairs to be undertaken. Priority has to be given to making the path safe. The clock was given by Elizabeth Staplee in memory of her son Cyril Charles Staplee who died in battle in 1917. The family lived in Barholm. The clock will repaired to full working order in commemoration of his death. If you are interested in learning more about your church, a grade 1 listed building, or about proposed repairs, 1 will be pleased to speak with you. **Elizabeth Noble, Churchwarden**

Geometry

Find and circle all of the Geometry words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell a secret message.

UFFINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Report from meeting held on 6th January in the Village Hall.

Play Area – Cllr. P. Genever asked if the name of the youngest member that assisted the opening of the Play Area could be obtained for future interest.

The amount raised at the opening was £460 on Pick a Picket and £93. From cake sales

The palings have now been cut out and Cllr. Mulvaney has collected some to start burning in the names of the "Buy a picket" people.

Bertie Lane Bungalows – An e mail had been received stating that the site is being looked at and the feasibility of using the rear of the bungalows to create more parking.

Memorial for Ena Troop – A brass plaque supplier has been found and the plaque ordered. **Bridge at Megs Well** – This has now been repaired.

Uffington River Bridge – A reminder be sent to Highways regarding the poor state of this bridge. **Uffington Conservation Area** – A brochure has been received giving the new Uffington

Conservation Area boundaries after much discussion a map was requested from SKDC to clarify the boundaries

Stamford Hospital Parking –Notification had been received that the parking charges that will come into force at Stamford Hospital the Trust is considering setting charges at the same level as Peterborough City Hospital.

Speed Camera – Mr. R. Irvine is monitoring the speed camera since it sensitivity has been changed.

An e mail had been received from Vanessa Kimberly, Village Hall Secretary, regarding the celebrations to commemorate the Queen's 90^{th} Birthday. More discussions on this nearer the time.

Planning - following application was approved:

S15/2617 – Installation of 2 non-illuminated free standing signs – Stamford Town Cricket Club, Uffington Road.

Parish Council Elections - The Parish Council had received a bill for Election Costs of £766.45. It was agreed by the Parish Council that before this is paid the Election and Democratic Team be asked as to why the Parishes have to pay this as Elections are funded by Central Government. **Precept** – It was agreed to precept for £4000. The same as last year

Newstead Corner – Mr. J. Horne's newly repaired fence on this corner has been run into again, this is the sixth accident on this corner in six months. It was agreed write to LCC Highways with a copy to Lincs. Road Safety Partnership and the Police stating that safety measures should be undertaken on this corner before there is a fatality. Two suggestion were extending the 30 mph speed limit and yellow lines painted on the approaches to this corner.

LCC to be informed of a faulty street light outside Hirst Farmhouse.

Delaines Buses be asked to put the new bus timetable in the bus shelter.

LCC Highways be contacted to see if repairs could be done to at least some of the pot holes. C. Cllr. M. Trollope-Bellew had sent his report which included the following:

Boundary Commission – All Divisions will be a single seat, there should be 70 not 71 Councillors. The name of the Division is proposed to be Baston & Barholm.

It was agreed to ask all Parish Councillors their opinion of this name and the Clerk to report back to the Boundary Commission and Cllr. Trollope-Bellew

LCC will have to find £170 to £180M savings over the next 4 years not the £130M as was expected.

Meeting closed at 9 p.m.

Date of next meeting – Wednesday, 17th February, 2016 at 8p.m.

Usually, the readings for communion services are the NT and Gospel, and for Morning or Evening Prayer the Psalm, OT and NT.

	Psalm	ОТ	NT	Gospel
7 th February	99	Exodus	2 Corinth.	Luke
Next before Lent		34:29-35	3:12-4:2	9:28-36
14 th February	91:1 -2 +	Deut.	Romans	Luke
Lent 1	9-16	26:1-11	10:8b-13	4:1-13
21 st February	27	Genesis	Philippians	Luke
Lent 2		15:1-12, 17-	3:17-4:1	13:31-35
		18		
28 th February	63:1-9	lsaiah	1 Corinth.	Luke
Lent 3		55:1-9	10:1-13	13:1-9
6 th March	32	Joshua	2 Corinth.	Luke 15:1-
Lent 4 or, for		5:9-12	5:16-21	3, 11b-32
Mothering	34:11-20	Exodus	Colossians	Luke
Sunday		2:1-10	3:12-17	2:33-35

The colour in church is green for the first Sunday in February, then purple (or blue) from Ash Wednesday (10^{th}) – and, of course, there are no flowers in church in Lent.

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TALLINGTON

Church Flowers 7th February – Mrs L Pollock 14th, 21st and 28th February - **Lent**

Church Services: As usual there are two services this month. Evensong on the 14^{th} at 6pm and Holy Communion on the 28^{th} at 10.30am. All are very welcome to either or both services.

Christmas Services: There were two special services at Christmas time. The Carol Service on the 18th December was attended by 43 people when Tim Grace played the organ for us. Nibbles, mince pies and mulled wine were also enjoyed by all. The second service was the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, which attracted a congregation of 49 people from across the Uffington Group, was taken by the Chaplain of Stamford School, Revd Mark Goodman, to whom our grateful thanks are due. Thanks also to all who helped to clean and decorate the Church, make the mulled wine and prepare the nibbles and mince pies. Special thanks to Andy Thurlby who, as usual, generously supplied the Christmas tree which was beautifully decorated. We look forward to seeing you in February.

Our thanks must also go to Elizabeth Noble for playing the organ at the last service of 2015 at Tallington on the 27^{th} December.

200 Club Winners in December: No 183 Lynne Waterhouse £50, No 120 Simon and Jan Chapman £25,, No 7 Deborah Rainert £10

Social Evenings: The Christmas Party held just before Christmas was very well attended and the delicious food on offer much enjoyed. An excellent raffle made a welcome profit to help towards the running costs of the Village Hall.

The February Social on Friday the 26th will be a Fish and Chip Supper with Quiz from 7.00 pm onwards. Please remember your choice for supper has to be placed by 7.30 pm as orders after that unfortunately cannot be accepted.

Mrs Amy Warren would like to thank everyone for their kindness to her before Christmas when she had her accident and to say how very much she appreciated the good wishes, cards and visits she received.

Mobile Library Service: The Mobile Library will be in Church Lane between 11.15 am and 11.45 am on Monday 22 February 2016.

Parish Council: The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall on Tuesday 8^{th} March 2016. All residents are welcome at these meetings.



Celebrate Shrove Tuesday with Pancake Night at Uffington Village Hall. Tuesday 9th February 6pm - 8pm. All ages welcome and for just £2.00 you can eat as many as you like!

Uffington Celebrates the Queen's 90th Birthday

Sunday 12 June 2016

Donations of all sizes are sought to cover the cost of the entertainment at this important village event.

If you would like to help fund the celebration please have a quiet word with Vanessa Kimberley or Gail Genever.

Thank you



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WEST DEEPING

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral

4 th January	Greatford	Rose Mary Parkinson (68)
21 st January	Braceborough	Thomas William Drury (90)

WILSTHORPE

The next Service at St Faith's is Holy Communion at 10.30am on Sunday 7th February 2016. The service will be taken by the Rev Mark Thomson. Please do come along and join us, where you will be made most welcome.

St Faith's now has a beautiful new alter cloth and accessories, thanks to the sewing skills of Anna Hawley. This will be a lovely addition to our Sunday morning services and special occasions.

A couple of ideas have been put forward for fund raising/social events but more would be appreciated. A meeting will be held in March to discuss these and other ideas – more details to follow in the March edition of T&S.

BRACEBOROUGH & WILSTHORPE

Please note that Braceborough & Wilsthorpe did not have a January meeting but their next meeting will take place on Monday 1st February at Braceborough Village Hall at 7.30pm.

St Andrew's Church. All Age Service Sunday 21st February at 10.30am. If you have any ideas or requests, or would like a special prayer please tell Allen 01778 344208, or Ian 01778 380014.

Lincolnshire Rural Arts. Friday 5th February 8pm. West Deeping Village Hall. Kimber's Men, *Still singing up a Storm* - sea songs and shanties. Tickets £9 Tel: 01778 380197 or email tickets@westdeeping.co.uk

West Deeping Walkers. Sundays. 31st January is led by Roger and Joy 01778 343263: 14th February – lain and Jean 01778 346779: 28th February – local walk. Meet outside the Village Hall at 1.45pm. Contact: Annie Newbigging 01778 346805, email: snewbigging@talktalk.net

Bible Studies. Tuesdays, 9th and 23rd February. 2.45 for 3.00pm at Cromwell House followed by tea with our hosts Susanna and Ian. Contact: Allen Calvert 01778 344208.

Heritage Group. Tuesday 14th February 7 p.m. for refreshments, 7.30 p.m. start. West Deeping Village Hall. **Michael Lee**, trustee of the historic **Stamford Broad Street Corn Exchange** talks about its history. Used primarily as a trading hall for the buying and selling of seed since 1859, it also had a card room and retiring rooms and was the venue for many public events, including a local celebration for the marriage of Queen Victoria's son, later to be Edward VII. Evidence of its long theatrical history is being collected as an archive for educational use and public viewing. £2.50 at the door. Everyone welcome. Contact: wdheritage@hotmail.co.uk or 01778 344768

Coffee Morning. Saturday 20th February. 10.30am-12noon. West Deeping Village Hall. Call in for a tea/coffee and a chat. Donations for St. Andrew's Church. Raffle, cake/produce stall; activities for children. All are welcome.

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

Rambling Readers. Friday 26th February 7.45pm WDVH. If you are interested in reading a new book each month supplied by Lincolnshire Libraries please touch base with Elizabeth at 01778 344674. Or just come along for a taster session.

Classes running in West Deeping Village Hall include:

Step Clog. Fortnightly on Mondays 8-9.30pm, for beginners of any age as well as more experienced people. Hard-soled shoes are required, not trainers, to hear the patterns of the steps. Call Laura 01733 267129, leave your name and contact number and she will get in touch with you or email lozwharton122@sky.com

Tiny Talk. Sign language for babies. Thursday mornings 11am-12noon. For more details ask Hannah Davies 07970 782790, hannahd@tinytalk.co.uk

Boxercise classes run on Sunday mornings. Contact. Frankie 07949612859. email: frankieboxercise@mail.com

Date for your Diary. Sunday 6th March 10.30am. Mothering Sunday family service St. Andrew's Church West Deeping. There will be refreshments and flowers for the parents.

CHURCH SERVICES AND DIARY DATES FOR FEBRUARY 2016 VOLUME 30 NUMBER 11

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
	1.45pm TallVH Whist 9.30am UFFVH Yoga 7.30pm BraceVH PCC Meeting		2pm WDVH Bowls 2pm TallVH Welcome Club 7.30pm UFFVH WI Talk by Stamford Lace & Needlework Group	10am UFFVH Parent & Toddler Group 8pm WDVH Bowls	8pm WDVH Rural Arts Kimber's Men	
7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th
Next before Lent 9am Braceborough HC 10.30am WDeeping MP 10.30am Wilsthorpe HC 10.30am Uffington HC 6pm Barholm ES	1.45pm TallVH Whist 9.15am UFFVH Yoga	2.45pm WD Bible Study Cromwell House 6pm UFFVH Pancake Night	Ash Wednesday 2pm WDVH Bowls 2pm TallVH Welcome Club 7pm UFFVH Stamford Lace & Needlework Group 7.30pm Uffington HC with Ashing	10am UFFVH Parent & Toddler Group 8pm WDVH Bowls		13
14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th
Lent 1 9am Greatford HC 10.30am Uffington MP 10.30am WDeeping HC 1.45pm WDVH Walkers 6pm Tallington EP	1.45pm TallVH Whist Welland MU	7pm WDVH Heritage Group	2pm WDVH Bowls 2pm TallVH Welcome Club 7pm UFFVH Stamford Lace & Needlework Group 8pm UFFVH Uffinton PC Meeting	10am UFFVH Parent & Toddler Group 8pm WDVH Bowls		10.30am WDVH Andrew's Churc Coffee Morninş
21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th	26 th	27 th
Lent 2 9am Barholm HC 10.30am Uffington HC & Sunday Club 10.30am WDeeping All Age Worship	1.45pm TallVH Whist 9.15am UFFVH Yoga	2.45pm WD Bible Study Cromwell House	2pm WDVH Bowls 2pm TallVH Welcome Club 7pm UFFVH Stamford Lace & Needlework Group	10am UFFVH Parent & Toddler Group 8pm WDVH Bowls	7pm TallVH Social 7.45pm WDVH RamblingReaders	
28 th						
Lent 3 9am Greatford All Age Worship 10.30am Tallington HC 10.30am Uffington All Age Worship 10.30am WDeeping MP 1.45pm WDVH Walkers	1.45pm TallVH Whist 9.15am UFFVH Yoga					