

THE CLAYPOLE GROUP OF VILLAGES

CLAYPOLE, DRY DODDINGTON, FENTON, STUBTON, WESTBOROUGH

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2025



LOCAL INFORMATION

CLAYPOLE

Priest in Charge: Jon Speirs-Davies email: jon.sd@lincoln.anglican.org

Mobile: 07766 486452

Churchwardens: John Padley, 9 The Cottage, School Lane, 01636 626510

Bridget Rosewell 2 Main Street Claypole 07836 215181

Parish Council Clerk: vacancy info needed

Parish Council website: <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/claypole>;

www.facebook.com/claypoleparishcouncil; www.facebook.com/claypoleleisurepark

Claypole C of E School: 01636 626268 www.claypoleprimary.org

Claypole Brownies- Please register at girlguiding.org.uk/joinus or contact Sarah on 07765 791882 for further details

School Hall- contact Claypole School 01636 626268

Claypole Village Hall bookings: www.claypolevillagehall.org/onlinebooking

DRY DODDINGTON Churchwarden: Dick Loynes 07899 787057

richardloynes@btinternet.com

Parish Council Clerk: <https://westborough-dry-doddington.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>

email: clerk.westdrydodd.pc@gmail.com

Village Hall bookings: Brian Beddows 07552 757242

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator: Mike Hine, Hazelwood, Manor House

Lane. 01400 282690 email- mikehine38@hotmail.com

STUBTON Churchwarden: Mike Libby tel - 01636 626028 mglibby14@gmail.com

Parish Council Clerk: stubtonclerk@gmail.com

Village Hall bookings: stubtonvh@gmail.com

WESTBOROUGH

Churchwardens: John Lawrence, Sandalwood. Town Street 01400 281850

Mavis Arnold, Holmes Farm, Long Bennington NG23 5EB 01400 281282

Village Hall Bookings: Jane Ford 01400 281206 jane.h.ford1@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator: vacancy

FENTON

Parish Meeting Website www.fentonvillage.com. chair.fentonvillage@gmail.com

Chairman Parish Meeting

Clerk: Graham Doney, clerk.fentonvillage@gmail.com

Churchwarden: Libby Mason, Corner Cottage, Main Street, Fenton

01636 627178

DOCTORS: LONG BENNINGTON SURGERY 01400 281220

CAYTHORPE -SURGERY 01400 272215

L.I.V.E.S. Coordinator Linda Kingston 01400 272740 lfkingston@hotmail.co.uk

Treasurer - David Harvey david.l.harvey@btinternet.com

LOCAL POLICE: PC Mark Barr 07973 845128.

If you ring 999 state "Lincolnshire Police" or your NG postcode will get the Nottingham force and delay any response!

Letter from your Editor



Hello!

We have never known such a long dry spell as we are having at the time of writing, although by the time you see this, it will probably be a monsoon! The Witham is slow and clear and you can see the brown trout and other things swimming lazily around. I can't identify fish like I can with birds and wild flowers, I'm afraid.

I have left the cow parsley again to grow over two foot high in the orchard and I hope the pheasants are again raising their chicks in there. Last year the most I counted were 12 in one brood. Some years ago I had a melanistic cock pheasant - he appeared jet black over his back and wings until the sun caught him and the iridescence shone out. That trait seems to have bred out of the current birds but two years ago I got one that had a back that was bone coloured as if he had no pigment at all.

In this edition you will see that Laurice is trying to identify and encourage us to spot and record swifts in our villages. They are such wonderful birds to watch in flight. I also am saddened that martins no longer nest at my house. They always used to, but so many birds have lost nesting sites and food supplies...

There are lots of fetes and parties going on, and plenty of opportunity to meet and natter at the various coffee mornings. It is good that the Co-op are supporting community efforts like these.

As always I would like to thank the tireless volunteers in all our villages who give up time and much effort to keep things going and raising money for good causes along the way. We have to be so self reliant in rural areas and I am very proud of all that we all achieve!

Best wishes, *Jane*

Info for JULY & AUGUST JOINT EDITION

By 16th JUNE please

The Ings, Town Street, Westborough NG23 5HJ
01400 281206 email jane.h.ford1@gmail.com

From the Vicarage

Being British is something I cherish deeply. It's more than cups of tea, champion queuing, or the art of the profuse apology. At its best, it's a rich tapestry of history, resilience, generosity, and quiet strength. Reflecting back on last month's 80th anniversary of VE Day, we remember a moment when that resilience helped bring about peace in Europe—hard won, deeply felt, and never to be taken for granted.



Being British is also, unavoidably, to be shaped by Christianity. Our language, our laws, our care for neighbour, our heritage, our songs and our hopes—all bear its imprint.

To varying degrees, this is something we share with other cultures and nations. You can't really understand Italy without Christianity—or Nigeria, or Brazil, or the USA or myriad others. Every continent bears the marks of this Way of faith that has travelled, rooted, and blossomed.


That's part of what makes the recent appointment of the new Pope so compelling. An American citizen, naturalised Peruvian, multilingual, and now a global Christian witness. Pope Leo reflects something of the Kingdom of God: beautifully diverse, joyfully shared, and united not by sameness but by Christ.

Victory sits at the heart of Christianity—on a hill outside Jerusalem, where Jesus died and rose again. The battle truly is already won—not just for one nation, but for all humanity and creation. We live in the hope of that truth: beating swords into ploughshares, welcoming strangers as friends, and seeking peace that lasts.

80 years after Victory in Europe started the break out of peace, let's give thanks—for the courage of those before us, the gift of our own nation to us and all creation, and the joy of a Gospel that belongs to every land, every language, and every people.

Revd. Jon Speirs-Davies

Ever thought about bellringing? Then let us
show you the ropes!



join us
every Thursday, 6 - 7:30pm
at **St. Swithun's,
Long Bennington**

all are welcome to come along and join in
one of the country's oldest hobbies.

Events Calendar 2025

- June** Tue 3 Stubton Hub Quiz night at Village Hall
Tue 10 WI outing to Civil War Museum
Tue 10 Open Mic Night at Stubton Village Hall
Sat 14th - Spring into Summer Event at Stubton Village Hall
Sun 15 Stubton Hall Summer Fair
Mon 16 10:30am-12:30: Co-op Community Cuppa Claypole
Thurs 19 Good Neighbours Westborough village hall
Fri 20 Claypole VH film "Monica"
Sat 21 Book Fair Claypole Church
Sat 21 Open House Claypole Village Hall
Thur 26 Dry Doddington Coffee Morning
Sat 28 Women in the Mediaeval English Forest fun talk Long Ben V Hall
- July** Fri 4 Claypole School Summer Fayre
Sat 5 Concert of Mediaeval Music Westborough church
Sat 5 Vinyl quiz Dry Doddington village hall
Mon 7-12th Scarecrow Festival & café Dry Doddington
Sat 12 Dry Doddington Coffee Morning
Sun 13 Westborough Village Fete
Fri 18 Claypole VH film "Untouchable"
Sat 19 Good Neighbours Stubton village hall
Mon 21 10:30am-12:30: Co-op Community Cuppa Claypole
Thur 31 Dry Doddington Coffee Morning
- August** Fri 15 Claypole VH film "Mufasa"
Mon 18 10:30am-12:30: Co-op Community Cuppa Claypole
Tue 19. Good Neighbours Westborough village hall
Thur 28 Dry Doddington Coffee Morning
Sun 31 Claypole village hall Summer Fun day
- September** Mon 15 10:30am-12:30: Co-op Community Cuppa Claypole
Fri 19 Good Neighbours Stubton village hall

Send your event dates as soon as available
Let's try to avoid clashes!

Yoga in Stubton Village Hall Wednesdays 9.15
4 June 11th, 18th, 25th, 2nd July 9th July etc

Stubton Village Hall Bar Open 6.30 6th June, 13th, 20th, 27th, 4th July

Book Fair

in St Peter's Church Claypole
Saturday 21st June
from 10.00am-1.00pm



Donations needed:



Books, CD's, DVD's, jigsaws/games and items for the tombola

If anyone has anything to donate, please contact me, Gillian Padley 01636 626510.

Or if anyone would like to help set up the fair or help on the day, again please contact me.



*Thanks to all who support these events.
The last book fair raised £689.34.*

Come along to your local

COMMUNITY CUPPA

It's a great way to meet new friends,
find out what's happening
locally and enjoy a cuppa.

21st April	15th September
19th May	20th October
16th June	17th November
21st July	15th December
18th August	19th January 2026

10:30am - 12:30pm

**Claypole Village Hall, Main Street,
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Coal, Logs etc.

EVRI Parcel Services

Any suggestions, come and see us. Tel. No. 01636 626962

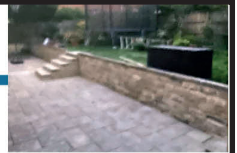
Mon-Sat 7am-7pm Sunday 8am-5pm

Opening hours Summer time Mon to Fri: 7am to 8pm Sat: 7:30am to 8pm
Sun: 8am to 5pm



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dansullivan14714@gmail.com

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Good Neighbours

All are welcome, please come and join us

Coffee mornings are open to all, so please do come along and see how enjoyable they are.

Thursday 19th June, this month we will be at Westborough Village Hall. The time will be 10.30-12.00 and there will be tea/coffee and cake. The cost will be just £2 per person and everyone is welcome.

Saturday 19th July, this month, we are at Stubton Village Hall. The time as usual would be 10.30 to 12.00 and there will be tea/coffee and cake. The cost will be just £2 per person, and everyone is welcome.

Tuesday 19th August, this month we will be at Westborough Village Hall. The time will be 10.30 to 12.00 and there will be tea/coffee and cake. The cost will be just £2 per person, and everyone is welcome.

Friday 19th September, this month, we are at Stubton Village Hall. The time as usual would be 10.30 to 12.00 and there will be tea/coffee and cake. The cost will be just £2 per person, and everyone is welcome.

If you need to contact me our email is lindaandderek1@sky.com or contact me by phone on 07456 475964, you can leave your name and number, and I will get back to you.

If you have any ideas as to what you would like to do at Good Neighbours please let me know.

Kind regards Linda and Derek Drury

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SAT 21ST JUNE
9-11AM



For hire rates, to check dates, or request a booking, visit:

www.claypolevillagehall.org

CLAYPOLE CINEMA CLUB

UPCOMING

FILMS

Cinema Club membership costs just £10 per year for an individual & £25 for a family of 4 and you can attend as many screenings as you like for that price.

Guest passes are also available.

Join here: bit.ly/ClaypoleCinema

MONICA

15-rated film

FRIDAY 20TH JUNE

doors open 7pm

film starts 7:30pm

UNTOUCHABLE

15-rated French film

food from Koala Kitchen

FRIDAY 18TH JULY

doors open 6:30pm

film starts 7:30pm

FUTURE DATES:

15 AUG: MUFASA

Claypole Cinema Club is a
'social cinema' - seated around tables,
with beer, wine, soft drinks and snacks
available to buy.



WESTBOROUGH VILLAGE FETE

SUNDAY 13TH JULY, 1:30PM-4PM

FREE ENTRY - £1 PARKING DONATION

Craft Stalls Raffle Bar BBQ Tombola
'Nearly New' Sale

Classic & Vintage Vehicle Display

Entertainment & Games
for all the family!



Donations for our raffle, tombola and nearly new sale are welcome!
Please bring to either Cheryl or Heather in the village before 30th June.
You can also pass things to Jane. Thank you.

The Richard III Society presents

Move over Maid Marian: Women in the Mediaeval English Forest



An illustrated talk by Professor Louise Wilkinson

(Professor of Mediaeval studies at the University of Lincoln,
previously professor of mediaeval history at Canterbury)



**Long Bennington
Village Hall**
Saturday 28th June
7.30pm

Tickets £4 for non-members
includes light refreshments





The Richard III Society presents
The Mugaseth Memorial lecture



Music from the time of Richard III

A concert of Mediaeval Music

By the City of Lincoln Waites

Wearing appropriate clothing and playing music of the period on replica instruments, the City of Lincoln Waites aim to reproduce the sights, sounds and atmosphere of a mayor's band of the period.

Tickets Members £10.00

Non-members £12.00 including refreshments



Saturday 5th July 7.30pm

All Saints Church Westborough NG23 5GS

CLAYPOLE SCHOOL

SUMMER FAYRE

FREE ENTRY

4PM - 7PM

FRIDAY 4TH JULY

MAYPOLE & COUNTRY DANCING
FAIRGROUND GAMES
TOMBOLA & RAFFLE
REFRESHMENTS
INFLATABLES
HOG ROAST

CLAYPOLE COMMUNITY PARK

ALL WELCOME!

CLAYPOLE SCHOOL PTFA



STUBTON HALL, NG23 5DD

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FACE PAINTING
PRINCESS & SUPERHERO
AND MUCH MORE!





The Green Page

A lot of people think that they can't do much to save our environment. A lot of people are convinced that the actions of one person can't make a difference. They most definitely can.

If you put everyone who doubts the difference they can make in a room together - there would be enough people to make a change. All it takes is to make those little changes in our daily lives.

When thinking of commuting to work, instead of hopping into your car and driving, consider your other options. Driving a vehicle actually has a huge environmental impact, contributing to air pollution which then leads to climate change. Think about how many times you drive your car! That's a lot of greenhouse gas emission!

Public transport - such as buses and trains - is a far more sustainable approach to travel. If everyone started using public transport, it wouldn't only lower the air pollution but also reduce the amount of vehicles on the road! Meaning you're getting to work quicker!

However, sometimes using public transport doesn't always work out. The timetable might not be what you need. Although, there are other ways to lower air pollution this June! How about you and your coworkers start carpooling? Taking it in turns to take groups of people to work! Remember, you can make a difference and help protect our environment - not only just this summer but all year round! Change starts with you! Be the first person in that room to subtly change your day to day routine, be the person that inspires others to do so too!

Elizabeth

Kathleen's Kitchen

Fresh Mango Salsa

(All measures are approximate)



Ingredients:

1 ripe **mango**, finely chopped

Half a **red pepper** finely chopped

Half of small sweet white onion (is the best) or 1-2 shallots or a small amount of red onion, whichever is used must be finely chopped

1-2 **limes**, juiced & zest (optional), lemon can be used, but will change the flavour

Pinch **salt**

1-2 tbs fresh rosemary finely chopped, or herb of your choice.

Method:

Mix all ingredients well. & chill until needed. Will keep for 2-3 days in the fridge.

Note: it goes well with a cheeseboard, which is what I made it for, but it can be put with BBQs, salads & many other dishes.



News from Claypole & District Women's Institute

Further info online from Kathleen or Jane

In May, Pat Stopford showed her "**Fused Glass** - a passion". A huge variety of shapes, types of glass and ideas were there - including exquisite jewellery and unusual curved vases for multiple individual flowers. Anyone interested in having a go at this - contact Jane.

On June 10th is our outing to the Civil war Museum and they are opening specially for us in the evening. Guests are welcome on this trip, Members will be subsidised the £20 per person, and guests will be charged £5.00. Further details at next meeting.

On July 8th, we have "Chocolate Uncovered" with Tracey Ackhurst. Some of us do hope there are samples as well as techniques!

Tues 12th August is Midsummer Madness at Jane's house and garden in Westborough. From 3.00pm till around 9.00 we have a bring and share buffet and a raffle (bring a prize up to £5 in value) and everyone gets a prize. Not an official meeting but a chance to have a natter and just socialise. Come and go as you wish.

We have agreed to support the Women's Refuge all year round, not just at Christmas. Having met one of the staff in person, at a craft get-together recently, we are now clearer about what is required all year round. Kathleen takes supplies usually around once a month. Please let Kathleen know of any donations you have.

Painting, Art & Craft mornings between the hours of 9.00-12.00 with Jane at Westborough Village Hall on the first Friday of every month:

Contact President Jane Ford on 01400 281206 Secretary Kathleen Thomas 01636 626860

Farmyard Tails

The lack of rain is very worrying for farmers and growers alike now with crops already showing signs of distress. We are running short of grass, partly due to an early turnout and partly due to the lack of rain which has halted the grass growth.

We have delayed turning out the 3yr olds with Ragnor as there are already quite a few on that field with him. We need to conserve the grass as the cows with calves at foot are on there and as I mentioned before it is paramount that they get the best grazing.

The young stock and Carol are over the other side of the farm (away from the bull) they were getting short of grass so we have put a large ring feeder in the field with them in which we place a large bale of last years hay every few days. This is sufficient to keep them well. They also have a feed block with them which is packed full of vitamins and minerals. The feeder will be removed along with any remaining hay when the grass starts to grow again.

The dry spring will inevitably have a knock on effect with how much hay we will get at harvest. The cutting crop is usually twice as high as it is at the moment. If hay runs short then the price will shoot up for anyone needing to buy any for their stock. We need to make sure the hay barn is full to the rafters in preparation for winter when they are all in barns and dependent upon it.

A few of the older cows needed a hoof trim before being turned out with Ragnor and Carol was pregnancy scanned to check everything was progressing how it should be. She is due to calve around July 22nd.

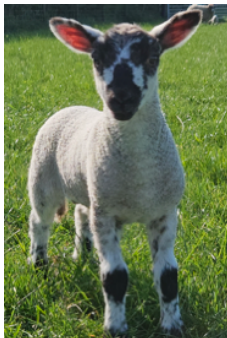
With the high temperatures of mid May came the need to offer the cows and calves some shade. We do this by bringing them into a large and airy barn during the day. When it cools down they all wander back onto their grazing field. Unlike many other mammals cows have very few sweat glands in their skin as such it makes it difficult for them to cool down. Cows primarily use their noses to expel heat and this regulates their body temperature.

The wetness on a cows nose, particularly in hot weather is often a sign of this nasal exhalation and cooling process. Seeking shade, drinking lots of water and reducing activity also helps.

At the time of writing this there are only 9 ewes left to lamb. Most have had twins which is ideal with them only having 2 teats.

The sheep are still very woolly and as such they too needed to have use of a barn for shade during the day. The ewes and lambs have a paddock with shade so they were able to stay out. The ewes have been sprayed with an anti-fly solution to protect them from blowfly strike. This is where the adult fly lays eggs in the fleece of the sheep. The eggs hatch out and the maggots cause great distress and potential death if not addressed. Our sheep shearer has got us booked in for mid June after which we will not need to worry as the blowfly favours long fleeces and hot and humid conditions.

See you soon,
(fingers crossed for a some rain)
Tracey





Collecting used stamps

I know we get comparatively few nowadays but Bransby Horses Rescue & Welfare can make thousands of pounds from them!



Please pass stamps to Mavis Arnold or Jane Ford or any WI member

Many thanks to all the folks who have passed little collections of stamps to me, Jane. They make up quite a heap together.

Mavis took me on a visit to see the site and it was an excellent day!

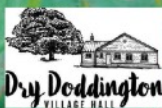
See bransbyhorses.co.uk and go for a visit!

Good café and shop

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

Coffee Morning

Cakes



Dry Doddington Village Hall

Tea & Coffee



All money raised will be donated
to Macmillian cancer research

**Saturday 13th
Sept**

10:00 - 12:30

Ice cream



**WE ARE
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

Coffee morning
Saturday 13th September
10 - 12:30
Dry Doddington Village
Hall



If you or anyone you know would like to have a stall
of any description at our coffee morning, could you
please contact Lorraine on 07855340895.

A £5 donation for a stall would be appreciated. All
proceeds to go to Macmillian cancer research.

Thank you so much for your support

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

Saturday 13th September

7 p m - 11 p m

Free entry
donations
greatly
appreciated

Evening of music

All money raised will
be donated to
Macmillian cancer
research



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BYO drinks and nibbles



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KIDS



UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 8TH

PENTECOST CELEBRATION
ST. PETER'S CLAYPOLE
2:30-4PM
PARTY VIBES FOR THE
CHURCH'S BIRTHDAY



JUNE 15TH

FATHER'S DAY GAMES AND SNACKS
LONG BENNINGTON VILLAGE HALL
10-11:30 AM

JULY 12TH & 13TH

SUMMER EVENT
ST. SWITHUN'S LONG BENNINGTON



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Full page b/w £38

Half page colour £31

Half page b/w £21

Quarter page colour £16

Quarter page b/w £12.50

Eighth page colour £11

S O S – Save our swifts!

Can you help?

According to local knowledge, generations of swifts have been coming to Claypole to rear their young for over 60 years. Unfortunately, their numbers are diminishing as they struggle to find suitable places to nest.

They nest in the roof eaves of buildings, just under the tiles. Some of these sites have already inadvertently been lost during repair or replacement of roofs.

To help support and maintain future generations of swifts visiting our village **it would be helpful for us to know how many existing pairs of swifts are left and whereabouts they are.** With this information and by creating awareness, we can help support maintaining a future for the swifts migrating to our village.

Fascinating information and facts about these remarkable birds:

In flight they look like a curved black boomerang shape and fly very fast. – up to 69 mph on the level

They are migrant birds – travelling roughly a 14,000-mile round trip from Africa to nest in the UK, arriving around May and leaving by the end of August.

Swifts feed on insects, mate, and sleep on the wing. They have short legs and the only time they land is when they return to the UK to nest.

Lifespan – 4 to 9 years (approximately) but they don't reach full maturity until 3 years, so preserving a breeding colony is vitally important for their future.

They make excellent house guests: they are quiet when nesting; don't make or leave a mess and give hours of entertainment when watching their acrobatic flights!

Please help us by letting us know the following:

Do you already have swifts nesting – if so how many?

Do you already have swift bricks or swift boxes in place?

Would you be prepared to put up swift boxes in the future?

To help save our swifts for future generations to come
call or text:

Laurice – 07801 399155

or Paddy and Diane on 07765 203003



St Peter's Claypole ? Club

Secure the Heritage
of our Village



Photography by Helen Donger

The Parochial Church Council of St Peter, Claypole have received a licence to run a fund raising club for the church fabric. We want to secure the care of the lovely church which is such a part of the heritage of our village.

The club will hold a monthly draw whereby a percentage of the contributions from members will be issued as prizes.

The exact details have yet to be firmed up so watch this space for further information. Of course the latest information can be gathered from Bridget and John our Church Wardens.

Huge thanks are due to the team who repaired the wall.

Church Service Schedule for June

Sunday 1st (Easter 7)

10am	Communion	Allington
10.30am	Communion	Claypole
10.30am	Morning Worship	Long Bennington

Monday 2nd

7pm	Bishop visit service*	Allington
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Sunday 8th (Pentecost)

10.30am	Communion	Long Bennington
6pm	Communion	Stubton

Sunday 15th (Trinity)

10.30am	Communion	Claypole
10.30am	Morning Worship	Long Bennington
3pm	Communion	Foston

Sunday 22nd (Trinity 1)

10.30am	Communion	Long Bennington
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Sunday 29th (Trinity 2)

10.30am	Communion	Long Bennington
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*** The Bishop of Grantham will join us to dedicate the newly renovated church and celebrate communion—refreshments and celebrations will follow.**

[Join a Local Church Service on Zoom](#)

Log in using, Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 810 6571 1379 Passcode: 744328

Compline each Thursday at 7.15pm. Evening Prayer on the last Sunday of the month at 5pm