

Saxonwell Group Parish News

October 25



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saxonwellchurches

www.saxonwellchurches.org.uk

The Saxonwell Group Parish News (SGPN) magazine is distributed to every household in Allington (Red), Foston (Green), Long Bennington (Blue) and Sedgebrook (Yellow).

West Loveden Monthly Services Pattern

1st Sunday

Allington	10am
Claypole	10.30am
Long Bennington	10.30am

2nd Sunday

Long Bennington	10.30am
Stubton	6pm

3rd Sunday

Claypole	10.30am
Long Bennington*	10.30am
Foston	3pm

4th Sunday

Long Bennington	10.30am
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All are Holy Communion except 1st and 3rd Sundays at Long Bennington which is Morning Worship.

Where there is a 5th Sunday, there will be a service for the whole group, the venue will be advertised on local notice boards.

***3rd Sunday in October at St Swithun's will be a Thanksgiving Celebration for the Harvest and the completion of the repairs.**

Join a Local Church Service on Zoom

Compline each Wednesday at 7.15pm.

Evening Prayer on the last Sunday of the month at 5pm

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

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81065711379?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81065711379?pwd=djBjbHZuc2UwSjRmUEZEMEx1dlhQUT09)

[pwd=djBjbHZuc2UwSjRmUEZEMEx1dlhQUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81065711379?pwd=djBjbHZuc2UwSjRmUEZEMEx1dlhQUT09)



The services listed are for **EVERYONE** living in our parish of West Loveden. This now includes Dry Doddington, Stubton, Fenton, Westborough, Sedgebrook, Foston, Allington, Claypole and Long Bennington.

Everybody is **WELCOME** to any of the services and we encourage you to attend services in other villages if there isn't a service in your church.

Please join us for worship & fellowship (tea, coffee & biscuits included!!) you and your family will be warmly welcomed. If you know of neighbours who are without transport, kindly offer a lift too!

Contacts for the Magazine

Advertising , Counting and Distribution Manager Joy Jordan-
joy.g.jordan@icloud.com / 01400 281355
Treasurer - Jill Froggatt jill.froggatt40@btinternet.com

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ARTICLES:

Sgpnmag23@gmail.com

Copy Deadline for the Nov'25 issue is 12 Oct 2025 at 5pm

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From the vicarage...

Harvest always reminds me why I "go to church". I think I've mentioned before, a life rhythm that includes gathering with others to give thanks is a weekly privilege that fills my soul with the song of gratitude. Harvest is a reminder of thankfulness for – food on our tables, neighbours around us, and the millions of ways God is generous to us.



This year you and I have something a bit less colourful than pumpkins and apples to be thankful for: the repairs to the wall in one of our church buildings in Long Bennington! Not glamorous, but vital. It means this useful and vital community building will still be here, safe and welcoming, for generations to come.

In 2 Timothy, Paul says: "Guard the good treasure entrusted to you." That's our task too. The "treasure" is the gospel we share, but it's also this building – a place that has held prayer, song and community life for centuries.

And, again, a reminder: this church is yours. It doesn't belong to the vicar, or a few on the PCC – it belongs to everyone. So please, treat it like your own. My mission is for everyone to feel completely relaxed in the church building, like it's a home from home.

This Harvest, let's give thanks not only for food, but also for a church that still stands strong – a shared space, open to all, where we can belong together.

Rev'd Jon Speirs-Davies

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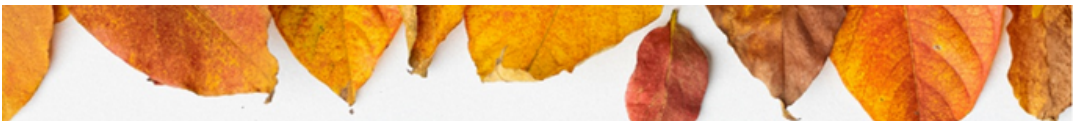
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Come and join us

Thanksgiving Celebration

Sunday October 26th

10:30am - 12

St Swithun's Church, Long Bennington

A celebration to mark the finishing of the wall and window repairs as well as our harvest this year.

With children's activities, food and drink and an informal short service. Everyone is welcome to come, make noise and share in the celebration.

Please bring a food donation for Grantham poverty concern (Grantham passage).



West Loveden



Summer Adventures with 1st Foston Scouts and Explorers

This summer, 20 Scouts and Explorers from 1st Foston embarked on an unforgettable journey to Lochgoilhead in Scotland. Travelling by trains and buses, the group spent a week immersed in outdoor adventure and personal challenges. Activities included canoeing across scenic waters, rock climbing power boat driving, and ghyll walking. One of the most memorable experiences was the seven-hour mountain hike to the crash site of a B-29 bomber, where the group paid tribute to the air crew who tragically lost their lives in this remote spot high in the hills.

On the way home, the Scouts and Explorers made a special stop at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, where they didn't just watch a science-based comedy act—they became part of it!

Now with the new term now underway, young people from all our sections are meeting each week for a wide range of activities. Our Cubs are preparing for an action-packed county camp, joining others from across the county for a weekend. Scouts and Explorers are looking forward to a thrilling trip to Gilwell Park, London to take part in "Scarefest." with scouts from around the country.

Two Explorer teams have planned their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh qualifying expeditions around Whitby and the North Yorkshire Moors.

This is all made possible by a fabulous group of volunteers who work both with young people and behind the scenes to make these and more adventures happen.

This year one of our ambitions is to grow the number of girl scouts we have in the group and to aid this we are looking for a female volunteer helper to help the scout team with this ambition.

If your interested in this role or helping out in any other way, we would love to hear from you, please contact me for a informal chat.

Les Romans, Group Lead Volunteer
1st Foston Scouts
Les Romans63229@gmail.com or 0793 9025853



ALLINGTON VILLAGE HALL REGULAR DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Craft Afternoon: Monday 1.30-4.00pm. Includes quilting, model-making, cross-stitching, knitting, sewing, card making etc.

Pilates: Monday 7.00-8.00pm (Term time and requires pre-booking)

Tai Chi: Tuesday 10.00-11.00am. To reserve a place email: rebtpeacock@gmail.com

New Age Kurling: Tuesday 2.00-4.30pm

Viking Squares: Tuesday 7.00-10.00pm. Come and try Social Square Dancing – beginners welcome.

Zumba: Thursday 6.00-6.45pm (Cancelled until the 18th September)

Yoga: Friday 10.00-11.00am

Social Afternoon: Friday 2.00-4.30pm. Open to all for conversation and games.

Church Coffee & Cake: Monday 10.00am-12 noon (Monthly)

Allington WI: First Wednesday of the month – 7.30 for 7.45pm start. Visitors always welcome – £5.

Sound Bath: 3rd Saturday 10.30-11.30am (See www.bookwhen.com/shola or just turn up.)

Grantham Danserye: 3rd Saturday 2.00-5.00pm

Carpet Bowls: Alternate Sundays 2.00-5.00pm (September – April)

For further details on the above contact David Smedley on chair.allingtonvhmc@gmail.com.

For Viking Squares contact Judy Grummitt on 01400 281497.

SATURDAY 11TH OCTOBER

A Night at the Races, 6.30 pm for first race at 7.00pm.

Following on from the success of previous race nights we will be holding another one, so come along and join in the fun of placing a bet then cheering your horse on. Entrance £8.00 by ticket purchased in advance. Light buffet with self-service tea and coffee. Bring your own bottle. For tickets contact Jackie on eventsatallingtonvillagehall@gmail.com.

SATURDAY 25TH OCTOBER

ALLINGTON VILLAGE HALL CHARITY MORNING: 10.00am-12 noon. A share of the proceeds from the morning being donated to St Barnabas Hospice in Grantham. Instead of a Big Brunch the menu will consist of a choice of sausage or bacon sandwiches, various cakes and tea or coffee. Raffle tickets will be on sale along with a competition to tax the grey cells, costing £1 to enter. The raffle will be drawn at 11.45am. Donations of cakes and offers of help on the day will be gratefully received.



Recycling of Empty Blister Packs



As Superdrug has now closed in Grantham, we are, no longer, able to take our empty blister packs there. So, until we are able to find a good alternative we have decided to put on hold the recycling of empty blister packs. We will let everyone know when we will resume collecting them again. For further information please email allingtonwi@gmail.com

VIEW FROM THE PEW - HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ALLINGTON

COFFEE AND CAKE

Our Coffee and Cake mornings will be held on Monday 6th October and Monday 3rd November from 10-12 in the village hall. We look forward to seeing you all there for coffee, cake and a chat. The proceeds from the October coffee mornings are always donated to charity and the donations this year will be for Cancer/Leukaemia research. Our aim now is to continue to raise funds for the maintenance of our Church. We are responsible to the Diocese for keeping our Church up to standard but we receive no funding from the Church of England. It is all down to us – a never ending task. Thank you for all your support – we appreciate all your donations.

We thank all our loyal supporters who enjoy our coffee and cake mornings and always look forward to welcoming new visitors and friends. A warm welcome awaits you all.

SERVICE PLANNING.

Sunday 5th October 10.00am Communion

Friday 17th October 7.00pm Harvest Service – Rev Jon

Service followed by buffet supper – all donations of food gratefully received. Please contact Marian Hubbard marian.hubbard@btinternet.com or Mary McKinlay bobmckinlay1@aol.com if you are able to help.

ADVANCE NOTICE - Thursday 25th December – We are hosting the Loveden West Group Christmas Morning Service -10.00am – Rev Jon

WINTER SINGERS CONCERT – We are again joining with the Village Hall over the Christmas period to host another concert by the Winter Singers.

The date of the concert is Saturday 13th December in the Village Hall – tickets will be available soon. This will be part of our Christmas Tree Festival weekend and the Winter Singers will provide excellent Christmas entertainment.

VJ DAY COMMEMORATIONS - CREAM TEAS - The cream teas were held on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th August, at Chris and Sally's house in Trinity Close on Saturday and at the Church on Sunday. A huge thank you to all those who helped in any way and for the wonderful donations of scones.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL IN CHURCH

13/14 December with set up days 10/11 December.

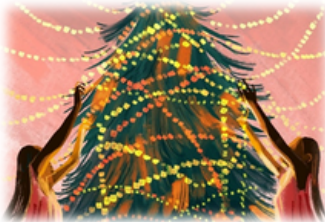
BOOKINGS ARE STARTING TO COME IN – WE HAVE 10 OF THE AVAILABLE 19 SPACES FILLED CURRENTLY.

PLEASE LET MARY KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART ASAP.

On event days tea/coffee/biscuits will be available from 10-4. There will be a prize for the best dressed tree judged by those visiting the event. The theme is 'What Christmas means to you'.

The weekend will finish with our annual family Carol Service on Sunday 14th December at 4pm with mulled wine/non alcoholic drinks and mince pies

Entries are invited both from individuals and organisations. Please contact Mary McKinlay if you would like to reserve a place in the Church bobmckinlay1@aol.com or 07968 819636.



ADVANCE NOTICE

SANTA IS VISITING ALLINGTON WITH HIS SLEIGH ON MONDAY 8th DECEMBER – MORE DETAIL TO FOLLOW AS SOON AS SANTA GIVES US HIS TIMINGS!!



CHURCHYARD

we are having a Churchyard cleanup session on Saturday 25th October 10-12 just before Bonfire Night so that the branches etc can go on the bonfire. Please come and help us to clean up our beautiful Churchyard ready for winter. We would very much appreciate any help you are able to give – coffee and biscuits will be provided.

CALLING OUR LADY RESIDENTS OF ALLINGTON, SEDGEBROOK AND SURROUNDING AREA!

Did you know that Allington has a friendly Women's Institute? If you aren't a member, then come and join those of us who really enjoy going (from aged 18) – a very warm welcome awaits you!

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall, at 7.30 for a 7.45 pm start.

Most months we have a speaker, but the months that we don't, we have an activity evening and in August we enjoy a meal out and on another day in August we enjoy tea and cake(s) – tea at 2.00 pm, at one of our member's garden (weather permitting).

At Christmas we enjoy a Christmas meal together at a local restaurant.

If you think it's all Jam & Jerusalem and baking, come to a meeting as a guest and see for yourself that it's just not the case.

Our next Meeting is on Friday, 10th October 2025, 7.30 for a 7.45 pm start, at Allington Village Hall.

Speaker: Frances Carlow – Jewellery – Queen's Pearls.

Visitors are most welcome to attend, at a visitor's fee of £5.00.

For further information please email: allingtonwi@gmail.com

Recycling Stamps And Used Printer Cartridges

Used postage stamps are collected for the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB).

Used printer cartridges, of all types, are recycled to raise money for the David School in Sierra Leone, with the motto 'Education Changes Lives', which was founded over 15 years ago, to provide education for children where there was no school. For further information please email allingtonwi@gmail.com

On Wednesday, 30th July we held our annual summer meal at The Welby Arms, in Allington. Everyone enjoyed their choice of food and had a good catch-up!



Then on Wednesday, 6th August, we enjoyed afternoon tea in one of our member's gardens. As usual it was a very relaxed afternoon where we chatted and filled ourselves with a variety of scrumptious cakes!

On Wednesday, 3rd September, we were joined by local writer, Helen Golden, who answered questions about how she became an author.

She used to work in financial management, but after her recent job came to a natural end, she had the opportunity to follow her dreams and start writing. Since starting to write full time just a few years ago, she has completed and published 14 books in her 'A Right Royal Cozy Investigation' series following Lady Beatrice and her friends, including one clever dog, as they uncover secrets hidden in country houses and royal palaces. She is now on her third book in her new historical The Duchess of Stortford Mysteries series. These are set in Victorian England and feature an ancestor of Lady Beatrice, who solves murders over cups of tea, from whispered gossip, and overheard conversations in drawing rooms.

E-books are her biggest sellers, but she has got her first 3 books in audio and her books are also available in large print. If you love clever puzzles, charming settings, and sleuths with spark, then her books are worth investigating. They are available from Amazon and our local library.

Members and visitors asked Helen many questions and it was a very interesting and enjoyable evening.

NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY, 10th October 2025, 7.30 for a 7.45 pm start, at Allington Village Hall – Speaker: Frances Carlow – Jewellery – Queen's Pearls.
This may be the last opportunity to hear Frances talk in this area.
Visitors are most welcome to attend, at a fee of £5.00.

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FOSTON - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Foston Parish Council Meet in the Village Hall on alternate months. A 15-minute period is set aside at the beginning of each meeting from 7.30 – 7.45pm, please note the meeting will commence at 7.30pm if no residents are present. Confirm with Christina Lees on 01400 281309.

Uniform Groups Meet at the Village Hall

1st Foston Brownies Thursdays 6.30pm - term time only.

Register interest via www.girlguiding.org.uk

Rainbows Thursday 5.00-6.00pm

Church Coffee Mornings. 10am-11.30am on the first Wednesday of the month

Foston Coffee Morning 10am-12noon on the third Wednesday of the month

Foston Neighbours

Foston Neighbours are here to lend a hand – if you need any assistance with lifts to appointments, shopping or other domestic issues, we will do what we can to help, or signpost you to other services that may be right for you. It's easy to get in touch – just call or email, details above

ST PETER'S FOSTON – NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Services at St Peter's

Here are our Services over the next couple of months for your diary:

19th October – 3pm - Holy Communion

9th November – 4pm - Remembrance Service

16th November – 3pm - Harvest Service

Holy Communion is also available at Long Bennington on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, so we hope congregations will visit other churches.

The Church remains open to all, twice a week for private prayer on Wednesday (1-4 pm) and Sunday (9.30 am - 1pm). Please feel free to use the church for quiet contemplation and prayer.

Village Yard Sale - At the time of writing, we are all looking forward to our first Village Yard Sale when over 15 residences will be selling items no longer needed, with donations being made to St Peter's. We would like to voice our immense thanks to Christine, a resident of Foston, who has made this happen. Christine noted that St Peter's needs to raise in excess of £10,00 per annum in order to keep to the doors open. This is a consequence of the low level of regular giving from churchgoers and Friends of the Church, meaning the small PCC spend the majority of their time coordinating and providing fund raising events. So a huge THANK YOU to Christine for recognising the need and organising an event (which happens to coincide with annual Heritage Weekend), and of course thanks to all those who participated, bought and donated! If you would like to make a contribution to St Peter's on a regular basis, please look at the details below with the associated link / QR code.

Upcoming Events

- 9th November – Remembrance service (4pm) including the Uniformed Youth Groups
- November – Wine Tasting – 21st November; tickets available from Lucy on 07740 980689
- December – Carol Service– 21st December, 3pm
- 24th December – Christingle Service (4pm)

Coffee Morning: Come and join us for chat and homemade cake on the first Wednesday of the month. So many have been attending recently so it is clearly the place to be! Just £2.50 for all this... At the Village Hall from 10-11.30am on the following dates: 1st October 5th November 3rd December

Book Swap: Lots of books currently available so feel free to browse the books in the church porch, with more inside! Please take as many as you like as there are so many there! Peruse the inside shelves when the Church is open either Sunday mornings (9.30am-1pm) or Wednesday afternoons (1-4pm).

Regular Giving: Money makes the world go round And it certainly helps to keep the Church well maintained. Only a small proportion of our finances go to the Diocese to cover the cost of our Parish Vicar. The remainder is used to keep the Church standing, safe and open for all. If you would like to support St Peter's Church, you can set up either regular giving or one-off donations through the following website: www.parishgiving.org.uk and search for Foston St Peter. Alternatively use this QR code. Money is needed to keep the Church running – any help is greatly appreciated!



For more details for anything listed here, please contact either Eileen Ross (tel 07710 534732) or Lucy Bliss (mobile 07740 980689, email lucyjanebliss@gmail.com).



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FOSTON WI

On the 12th August, we held a Caribbean themed afternoon tea, on the village green, everyone was given lea garlands, kindly made Necia. Tables, placed under a marquee, were decorated with garden flowers and sea shells. Strawberries and cream were served, with bubbly Non-Zeko or cold refreshing fruit punch, followed by freshly baked scones, clotted cream and jam, with pots of tea or coffee. Cake stands were placed on the tables, with a variety of home baked cakes to choose from, all made by our members.

A raffle was held, with prizes kindly donated by our members, and almost everyone going home with a gift. It was a lovely afternoon with family and friends.

9th September – Our Speaker was Janice Rose, who talked about Lingerie & Charity. She explained that she has a passion to professionally measure and fit a bra, making a huge difference to how women look and feel.

Having had experience in fitting women and girls, from first bra, post-surgery, to later life she makes sure her team, based Sutton on Trent, have these skills and are happy to assist everyone in finding the best fit, no matter what issues they have.





They visit local organisations, charities and schools to talk about the importance of good breast health. Sending thousands of used bras out to Gambia.

In January, Janice launched a petition asking the Government to consider a voucher scheme for bras and prosthetics for breast cancer survivors, just as there is for wigs. Believing that women deserve choice and dignity in their recovery.

They didn't reach the signature numbers for it to be considered, even with a great deal of local help. But that doesn't mean this was a failure. An excellent speaker!

14th October – Keeping Fit & Supple As We Mature with Jo Grace - Physiotherapist
11th November – WW11 Lost in Action with Shelagh Coates. An open meeting, guests welcome, £5 each including refreshments

For further information please contact Eileen Ross 07710 534732
Maggi Challis Publicity

Light it up!

I love driving along and seeing our local churches (Foston and Sedgebrook) lit up, as a visible reminder of God's presence in our community.

For just £7 you can have the church floodlit for an evening (8-11pm) of your choice. This might be to celebrate a birthday, celebration, or to remember someone.

**Foston please contact: Lucy Bliss 01400 282661
For Sedgebrook please contact: Jenny Stuart 01949 842231**

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Save the Date

We are planning our annual Flu Clinic date for Saturday 18th October 2025. You will be sent a message if you are eligible, please watch out for your message.

Well-Being Walks

Our Wellbeing walks take place every 3rd Wednesday of the month. All welcome to attend. There is also an away walk scheduled for Wednesday 8th October 2025, please meet on Main Street Claypole by the bus stop for 10:45am departure.

Long Bennington – REGULAR DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(Please also see Village Hall Schedule)

Mobile Library Service

Outside Long Bennington Village Hall Friday - 1330 - 1430.

Enquiries to Customer Service Centre on 01522 782010 or www.lincolnshire.gov.uk

Tea-n-Chat

Started by St Swithun's church to provide a place for people to meet in warm, friendly surroundings. It is held in Long Bennington Village Hall on the last Friday of every month from 2.15 - 3.30pm. (except holiday breaks in August and December). Everyone is welcome, and tea, coffee and cakes are provided. Please feel free to join us.

Long Bennington Coffee Morning

The Reindeer every Thursday at 10.30am. Coffee/tea and biscuits £3.00. All welcome.

Methodist Coffee Morning

Please join us every 3rd Saturday in the month, in the Methodist Chapel for coffee, cake and a chat.

The Chatty Café

Meeting every Thursday afternoon 2pm- 3pm in Baker's at Sixty-Two – Main Road, Long Bennington. The Scheme is a national initiative aiming to reduce loneliness by getting people chatting. The group is hosted by two Chatty Cafe Scheme volunteers each week. Contact Mary Barlow marybarlowhello@gmail.com or tel: 07885 639091

Long Bennington Afternoon House Group

Do you enjoy meeting other Christians to chat. discuss and pray?

We meet every other Monday at 2.15pm 76 Main Rd Long Bennington

For further details contact: Joy Jordan Email: joy.g.jordan@icloud.com: Tel: 01400 281355.

Book and Card/Gift Stall

Second Sunday each month there will be a stall in St Swithun's church, selling books, cards and small gifts, run by Helen Baker from Claypole. Come and have a look for that special card or an uplifting spiritual book and have a chat and coffee/biscuits around 11.30am to 12 noon (following the 10.30 service).

Long Bennington Pre-School

A registered charity offering a safe, secure and nurturing environment to educate your child. Qualified, experienced staff will support your child to reach their full potential. Based in the small hall at Long Bennington Village Hall, we are open Monday to Friday 8.30am- 3.15pm during term time. 15 hours of funding is available for all 2-, 3- & 4-year-olds including an additional 15 hours Working Parents Entitlement to those that are eligible. Our payable rate is £5.50 an hour for any additional hours taken. For more information or to arrange a visit please call the Pre-school on 07816 537242 or email longbenningtonpreschool@googlemail.com

'DEAD ON CUE' PRODUCTION

For fans of thrillers and ghost stories Long Bennington Village Hall are delighted to present an exciting live drama production of 'Dead on Cue' on Friday 17 October.

This performance is suitable for ages 14 and above. Ticket prices are £13.50 for adults and £10.00 for children (14-18) and are available online from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/long-bennington-village-hall> and at Long Bennington Post Office on Wednesdays (9-12) and Thursdays (1-3). Doors open at 7.15 with the performance commencing at 8.00 pm. Refreshments will be available and a bar by Rotary

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Long Bennington – Village Hall

When	Class/Meeting	Time	Hall	Contact
Mon weekly	Beginner to intermediate Pilates	11:45 – 12:45	Main	Linda Brady 07850 618516
Mon Weekly	Advanced Pilates	10.30-11.30	Main	Linda Brady 07850 618516
1 st Mon monthly	Parish Council	19:00 – 21:00	Small	Jane Evans 01400 282716
2 nd & 4 th Monday Monthly	Rotary Club	19:00 – 20:00	Bar	hello@lbrotdary.co.uk
Tues weekly	Bennington Art Group	10:00 – 12:00	Foyer	Margaret Butcher 07484 140914 margaretbutcher98@gmail.com
1 st Tues monthly	WI	19:30 – 21:00	Main	Margaret Butcher 07484 140914 margaretbutcher98@gmail.com
4 th Tue monthly	Gardening Club	19:30 – 21:00	Main	Amy Hodson amyhodson4@gmail.com
Weds weekly	Post Office	09:00 – 12:00	Foyer	
Thurs weekly	Post Office	13:00 – 15:00	Foyer	
Thurs weekly	Adult Pilates Suitable for all levels	17:15 – 18:15 & 18:30 – 19:30	Main	Amanda 07967387969 https://www.corestrengthpilatesuk.com
Fri weekly	Adult Pilates -all levels	09:30 - 10:30	Main	Amanda, As Above
1 st & 3 rd Fri monthly	WI craft group	1030 - 12:30	Bar	Sue Clarke 01400 282986
Last Fri monthly	Tea and Chat	14:00 – 16:00	Main	Hilda Owen 01400 282471 ejanecowley@aol.com
Saturday 11 th October	Sandy Beach and The Deckchairs Music from 60's, 70's 80's	19.00-22.45	All	Long Bennington Twinning Association Tickets £10 Margaret Butcher 01400 281935 Gill Askew 01400 282712 David Barnett 07752 365773
Tuesday 14 th October	Wine Club	19.00-21.30	Bar	Raj Solanki raj@libradrinks.co.uk
Friday 17 th October	Dead on Cue -Thriller in association with Live & Local	19.15-22.30	ALL	Tickets £13.50 or £10 -ages 12-18 On sale at Post Office times or online https://www.longbenningtonvillagehall.org/events/
Sunday 5 th October, Sunday 2 nd November	Love to Dance - Frozen	15.00-19.00	Main	sally.picker@hotmail.co.uk
Friday 31 st October	Village Hallowe'en Disco By Rotary	19.30-23.00	All	Jackie Angus jackieangus2002@yahoo.co.uk 07966 468663
View all events and bookings online				https://www.longbenningtonvillagehall.org/bookings@longbenningtonvillagehall.org
Friday 14 th November	The Grape Wine Challenge with Raj Solanski	18.30	Main Bar	Tickets £15 -limited to 55, so book early ! https://www.longbenningtonvillagehall.org/events/ Doors open at 6.30 for pre-event cocktails.

View all events and bookings online at <https://www.longbenningtonvillagehall.org>

Long Bennington Village Hall News

You may have noticed the scaffolding round the Village Hall in September. This was for the installation of some additional solar panels and increased battery storage. The aim is to reduce our very high energy bills with the additional environmental benefit of using green energy. Thanks to the sterling efforts of Jim Gould (One of our valued volunteers) helped by Jane Evans - Parish Council Clerk - we secured some grant funding from the National Lottery and BNA, which has enabled us to carry out these important improvements. Thanks to our regular users for their understanding as the work was carried out.

Help Needed

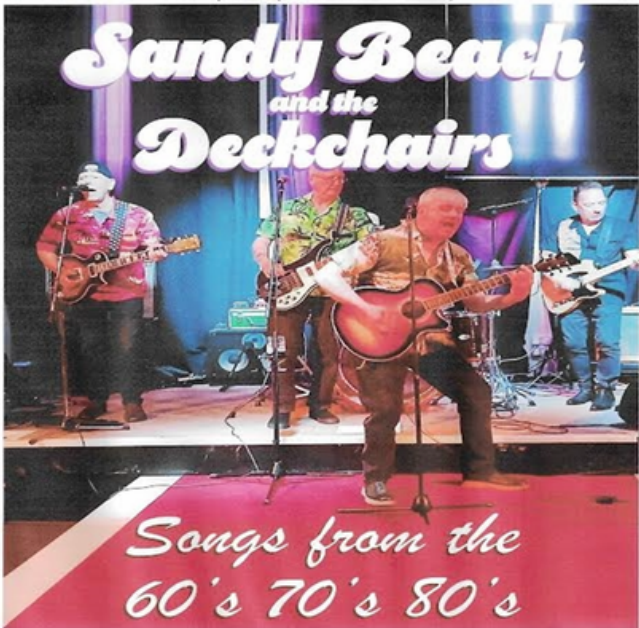
If you are a resident of Long Bennington and would like to ensure the future stability and indeed, the existence of the hall, you would be warmly welcomed to join us. Without more active volunteers, we will be severely limited in the number of events for the village and surrounding areas we can support.

We meet once per month for a couple of hours. Call us on 07816 267 927 or email us at bookings@longbenningtonvillagehall.org if you are interested.

For more information on the Hall visit our website:-

www.longbenningtonvillagehall.org and/or join our Facebook page:- Long Bennington Village Hall (aka St James Hall) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/820082729967125>

**Long Bennington Twinning Association**
presents (in aid of Association funds)



***Sandy Beach
and the
Deckchairs***

*Songs from the
60's 70's 80's*

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11TH 2025
LONG BENNINGTON VILLAGE HALL
Doors and licensed bar open 7pm – bar closes 10.30pm
Tickets £10 per person – book a table and bring your friends
Tickets from; Gill Askew (01400 282712),
Margaret Butcher (01400 281935) or David Barnett (07752 365773)



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LONG BENNINGTON NEWS FROM THE PEWS

As we write this, we are looking forward to hosting the Harvest Supper in the Village Hall and welcoming the Rock Choir, who will be performing during the evening. With a home-cooked supper, raffle and convivial company this is always a lovely event.

Also, by the time that you read this, the repair works to the church's North Aisle and Chancel areas should be complete, and the building cleaned and back fully operational.

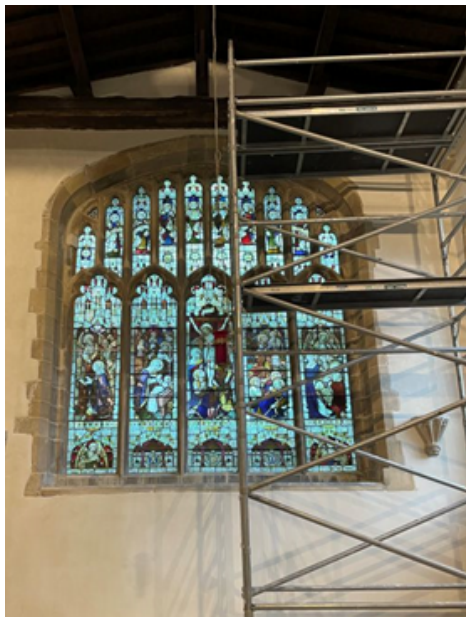
A big 'thank you' to all who have donated towards the cost of the repair project or helped with associated fundraising; we have almost reached the financial finishing-line, with £46k of the required £50k raised to date.

Also, thank you to those who have helped clean the church during the works - which has meant that most services have been able to go ahead.

An enhancement to the churchyard has also been completed over the summer. We are pleased that the memorial area posts now have been placed and now provide a delineation around this special area.

Major events planned for October and early November are: a Military Wives Choir Concert on Saturday 11th October (7.30pm), a special Thanksgiving Celebration on Sunday 26th October (10.30am), and the All Souls' Service on Sunday 2nd November (3.00pm).

The October 26th Thanksgiving Celebration at St Swithun's Church will celebrate the completion of the wall and window repairs as well as harvest (see poster). We intend to include fun building-themed activities for children, a short all age family worship, collection of harvest gifts for Grantham Poverty Concern (Grantham Passage) and a sharing of tea, coffee and yummy cakes/snacks afterwards. This isn't going to be a formal service – so please come along and join in the celebrations in your village church. Everyone is welcome!



Churchyard Clean-up for Winter

The autumn churchyard clean-up is scheduled for Sunday 5th October, meeting in the churchyard at 1pm. The clean-up will be a joint venture with the Long Bennington Rotary Club and the Scouts working alongside regular church members. Anyone who would like to come and join us between 1pm – 3pm, will be very welcome. If possible, bring gardening tools and gloves, but there will be spares available. Refreshments will be provided. We will have a list of jobs that we would like to get done, to prepare the churchyard for the winter season. Thank-you.

If you would like to make a donation to St Swithun's church, please use the QR code here or by online bank transfer to: Long Bennington Parochial Church Council Account Number: 501103570 Sort Code: 05-04-42

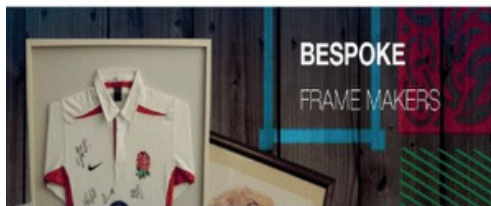


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Events listed will be held in the Church, unless otherwise stated.

DATE	EVENT
Last Friday of each month	Tea-n-Chat, 2.15pm to 3.30pm Village Hall All Welcome
October 11th	Cranwell Military Wives Concert-'Last Night of the Proms', 7.30pm.
November 9th	Remembrance Service, 10.15am Methodist Chapel. Remembrance Ceremony, 10.50am Memorial Gardens. Remembrance Lunch, 1.00pm Whittakers Restaurant.
November 16th	West Loveden Kids Activity, 2.30pm
December 4th	Tea-n-Chat Christmas Lunch, 12.30pm Whittakers Restaurant.
December 13th	Orston Village Choir at St Swithun's. Refreshments available. 3pm
December 13th & 14th	Santa's Sleigh, 4.00pm to 8.00pm each day around Village.
December 21st	Carol Service, 10.30am.

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Opening Times
Wednesday – Saturday 09:30 – 4.00
Sunday 11:00 – 4:00



Tuesday, 2nd September

Instead of holding a meeting in August our WI traditionally have a day trip and this year we visited Bletchley Park in Buckinghamshire, home to the Enigma machine and the most secret intelligence organisation of the second World War.

Bletchley is a regal looking house set in 58 acres alongside a beautiful lake. We saw it on a very hot day, but it could be a cold, bleak place to work in winter, with only coal fires to heat it and the surrounding huts. The codebreakers and personnel were recruited from all walks of life including top universities, and their work was so secret they were unable to even tell their families. Many only admitted their part decades after the end of the war.

Bletchley is a wonderful taste of recent history with the interiors kept as they were during the war and a reminder of how much we owe to those young men and women who helped shorten the war but never asked for or expected any recognition.

Also, in August members attended a lunch at The Duck in Woolthorpe which was held instead of our usual garden parties. It was a good chance for a catch-up over a delicious meal.



Our September meeting had us competing to dress the “Mother of the Bride”, with remnants of material, tissue paper, scraps of ribbon and not a few safety pins and staples. Five models were chosen to dress up and the creative side of everyone came out. We even had instructions on how to make tissue paper flowers to add to the design. Our models all looked wonderful, but the winning team was “The Odies”, who won hands down with a great outfit that included an amazing tissue paper hat that would have graced Ascot.

During the evening a Certificate was presented to Jean Higgs for 40 years membership of the WI and it was fitting that she was one of the winners of team The Oldies.

Our next WI meeting will be on 7th October and will be a demonstration of the art of Macrame, with a chance to make our own keychains.

For more information, please contact Margaret Butcher on 07484 140914 or margaretbutcher98@gmail.com

Elaine Walton – Publicity

Long Bennington Gardening Club (Village Produce Association)

We had an excellent Summer Show at the beginning of September with the Village Hall looking amazing with so many flowers, vegetables and produce. Thank you to everyone who contributed and congratulations to the winners.

Our next meeting is at 7.30pm on 28 October at the Village Hall when we will have a talk on “A Beginner’s Guide to Gardening with Alpines, Bulbs & Woodland Plants” by Rob Potterton from Potterton’s Nursery in Nettleton. All welcome.

Lots of other information about the Club is available on our website at longbenningtongardeningclub.com

Bev Gledhill – Secretary - 01400 282239/07753 709513

Last Night of the Proms

Saturday 11 October 7.30pm

**Entrance free, but retiring cash collection
will be taken in aid of
Church East Chancel Wall Repairs**

**Tickets required in advance via 01400
282471**



LONG BENNINGTON - PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council had its last Parish Council meeting on 1st September at St James's Hall.

Planning: Councillors discussed application S25/1395 Morris, for the erection of 1.5 storey dwelling at Vicarage Lane. Following lengthy debate around the satisfaction of previous objections and reasons for decline, Cllrs agreed, by majority, not to object but comment about retention of trees that provide noise mitigation for Lodge Close and request the provision of a footpath to join the existing one from Lodge Close. Cllrs were also referred to the condition of sanction for the Lodge Close development, to provide a footpath to join the existing footpath on Vicarage Lane. This hasn't been done so it was agreed to refer this to the Planning Dept/Enforcement Team.

Pavilion Upgrade Project: The work is progressing as expected with plumbing, new showers and new LED lighting being installed. The completion has slipped slightly with expected completion now 20th September. The second invoice for £13,342 has been presented and paid.

Witham Meadow



The above are before and after photos of Witham Meadow. The area had become too overgrown. Brambles had completely overtaken most of the central area and the grass was about three to four foot high in parts, choking many of the newly planted trees. Thanks to Geoff Fearn, who arranged the cutting of the area at no cost for the Parish Council, the area is now in a much better and safer condition for our visitors.

LOCAL GRANT APPLICATION SUCCESSES.

So far this year, Long Bennington groups/facilities have received grants totalling in excess of £68k (with a further £25k application pending from the SKDC Prosperity Fund), thanks to the hard work and persistence of some committed volunteers in our community. These funds really are vital to the continued availability of our fantastic local amenities.

The list of grants are as follows:

£24073 from the Football Foundation towards the Pavilion Upgrade Project.

£20000 from the National Lottery Community Fund towards the installation of solar panels at St James's Hall.

£5000 from BNA Charity towards the installation of solar panels at St James's Hall.

£4500 from Bowls England for safety electrical work highlighted in the 5 year inspection at Long Bennington Bowls Club.

£5000 from Duchy of Lancaster (Church Patron) towards Long Bennington church structural repairs.

£5000 from Marshall Trust towards Long Bennington church structural repairs.

£4000 from Lincolnshire Churches Trust towards Long Bennington church structural repairs.

c£1000 from Diocese of Lincoln towards Long Bennington church stained-glass window repairs.

Following Parish Council meeting dates Monday 6th October 2025 and Monday 3rd November 2025.

As always, if you have any issues or concerns you wish to raise with the Parish Council, please contact me on 01400 282716 or email

parishclerk@longbenningtonparishcouncil.org

Jane Evans Parish Clerk

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE METHODIST CHAPEL?

Sunday Services - All services can be viewed on the notice board outside the Chapel. All our services start at 10.30am unless otherwise notified. Everyone is welcome.

Knitting / Craft Group - Anyone interested in knitting, sewing, embroidery etc. would be very welcome to come along on a Monday morning from 10.30am to mid-day. There is a nominal entry fee of £2.50 to cover the heating costs and refreshments.

Games Afternoon - Are you looking for a little fun, come and join us on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month when we get together to play board games and have tea (or coffee) and chat. We are always looking to welcome new participants so if you have a competitive streak we look forward to seeing you. There is a nominal entry fee of £2.50 to cover the heating costs and refreshments. Activities start at 2.00pm

Coffee Mornings - Our next Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 18th October, starting at 10am so come along and join us when there will be homemade cakes for sale, a raffle and wonderful Nearly New Stall which is always full of exciting items and great gift opportunities. Entry costs £2.50 for bottomless tea or coffee and plenty of biscuits.

Food Bank - Newark - Here at Long Bennington Methodist Chapel and in conjunction with other chapels in the local circuit, we support the work of The Trussell Trust and their Food Bank initiative to 'Stop UK Hunger'.

If you would like to make a donation of non-perishable, in-date food, please bring it along to any of our monthly coffee mornings and we will be pleased to make sure it gets to those in need in the Newark area through the local Food Bank branch

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SEDGEBROOK SOCIAL CLUB REGULAR DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Church and Museum open daily 10am-4pm

Free Church Guide

Heritage Group meets bi-monthly 4th Sunday in the Social Club 3pm

Community Library and Jigsaws, Recycling for aluminium cans and ink cartridges

Grantham Food Bank collecting point

Children's Corner

Teddy Bear's Picnic Children's Book set in St Lawrence Church available for £5 per copy

The church is open every day to give the community the opportunity to enjoy the museum, children's corner, books and jigsaws, the recycling of cans and ink cartridges, the food bank collecting point, and the opportunity for a peaceful space and private prayer.

HARVEST FESTIVAL 10.30am Sunday, 12th October, followed by refreshments.

The traditional harvest thanksgiving will also be a celebration of all the people who have given so much to the village over the past year.

The church will be open every day for decorating 10am-4pm and we would be grateful for donations of flowers, fresh produce to decorate the church and then sell for the Foodbank. The foodbank would also be grateful for tinned goods, dry goods and toiletries etc.



We were delighted to welcome back the Rigney family for their third Baptism at St Lawrence. Ethan-William was baptised in August by Rev. Jon and it was a very happy occasion.

Grateful thanks to Christopher Hubbard for a gift to the church of a sound system that we have been needing and praying for over the past two or three years. God knows our need! It is a generous and superb gift and we are so thankful.



Our thanks to Alan Cook for going the extra mile and removing a huge nest from the stairs of the tower of the church to enable the alarm company to access the roof.

Also thanks for the dedication of Paul and Billy in keeping the churchyard mown and tidy and for our cleaning team who have also gone the extra mile while the bats have been active. Hopefully now things will be a bit easier as the bats go into hibernation.

The revamped afternoon teas in the social club have been a great success. We are grateful to all those who have baked and served and provided the labour needed for us all to enjoy the monthly get-together.



Planned Services at St Lawrence, Sedgebrook

Sunday, 13th October 10.30am Harvest Thanksgiving
Sunday, 9th November 10.30am Service of Remembrance



Here is the QR code for the Parish Giving Scheme. It can be used for one off payments or setting up regular donations. Once scanned it will take you through the 3 steps to enable a donation to be made.



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Cheque to SGPN posted to SGPN Treasurer, 36 The Pastures, Long Bennington, NG23 5EG

Hand to any church or PCC member



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Lay Reader Jenny Stuart jenny.stuart@outlook.com 01949 842231
Retired Priest Rev. Stella Langdon-Davies
Authorised Lay Ministers Sylvia Andrews, Joy Jordan and Colin Sedgewick
Administrator Davina Tyler lovedenwest@gmail.com

CHURCH CONTACTS

St Swithun's, Long Bennington
Church Warden Bridget Rosewell 07836 215181
Treasurer Jane Cowley 01400 282691
Church Flowers Beryl Holmes 01400 281437
Safeguarding Officer Eileen Ross 07710 534732

St Peter's Foston
Church Warden/Treasurer Andrew Blanchard 01476 978664/ 07590652657
Safeguarding Officer Eileen Ross 07710 534732

Holy Trinity Allington
Church Warden Chris Dicken 01400 281524
Treasurer Bob McKinlay 01400 281671
Safeguarding Officer Marian Hubbard 01400 281496
Flowers Jill Storer/Linda Rycroft 283542/281516

St Lawrence Sedgebrook
Church Warden Alan Cook 07963553835
Safeguarding Officer Wendy Fowler wendyfowler@btinternet.com
mob. 07747022272.

Treasurer Ian McKay 01949 843691
Flowers Geraldine Statham glendogs@aol.com

Long Bennington Methodist Chapel
Steward Eileen Eggleston 07531 160197
Treasurer Kathryn Wood 01400 281489

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Parish Council Clerks
Jane Evans (Long Bennington) parishclerk@longbenningtonparishcouncil.org
Mon 10:30-12:30 at Village Hall Tel:01400 282716
James Stanley (Foston) clerk@fostonpc-lincs.org 01522 889737
Kate Griffin (Allington) 6 Sedgebrook Road, Allington
Jane Bratton (Sedgebrook) clerksedgebrook@gmail.com 01476 577175
Ted Bates (Chair) Long Bennington Charities 01400 281853

Village Halls: Booking Secretaries

Allington— — Janet Jackson Bookings- bookings.allingtonvillagehall@gmail.com
Foston— Pam Fellows -07740 894605 email fostonvillagehall2023@gmail.com
or Richard Wynn 07579 779087 email fostonvillagehall2023@gmail.com
Long Bennington—bookings@longbenningtonvillagehall.org—07816 267927
Sedgebrook—Alan Cook— 07963553835

Other Useful Contacts

Long Bennington Medical Centre- 01400 281220
Foston book group Lucy Bliss - lucy.painter@opalhr.co.uk—01400 282661
Long Bennington book group—Moire Barnabas - 01400 283313
Long Bennington & Local Villages Rotary Group SecretaryLBR@outlook.com
Long Bennington Girl Guides—Mon 7pm-8.30pm—www.girlguiding.org.uk
1st Foston Brownies Thursdays - 6.30pm - 1stfostonbrownies20@gmail.com
Village Hall
Rainbows Thursdays - 5-6pm 1stfostonrainbows20@gmail.com—Village Hall
Scout Group Gorrie Hall, Chapel Lane, Foston
Beaver Scouts Mondays- 6:30-7:30pm Adam Lashbrook
foston.beavers@gmail.com
Club Scouts Wednesdays—6:30-8pm—Claire Collier 01636 626097
Scouts Thursdays—7-9pm—Les Romans 01400 281217
Explorer Scouts -Mondays—7:45-9:30pm—Jenny Wyn 01400 282301

Women's Institute: (each meet monthly in their local village hall)

Allington—1st Wed 7:45pm—Margaret Dicken— 01400 281524
Foston—2nd Tuesday 7:30pm—Carole Chandler-Barratt- 07767 657745
Long Bennington—1st Tuesday 7:30pm—Margaret Butcher - 07484140914 Email:
margaret23butcher@btinternet.com

LB Playing Fields: Booking Manager—Gemma Walker—07946 176034
Management Committee—Mike Manley—01400 282731
Long Bennington Toddler Group—Becca Thirtle—07545 491267
Long Bennington Pre-School—longbenningtonpreschool@googlemail.com 07816 537242
Bowls Club—Peter Fordham—07701059943 email nettyfordham@gmail.com
Friendship Group—Nicola Thorpe—07904 182752
Tea n Chat -Jane Taylor - 01400 282480
Junior Football Club—Steve Rowley—07909 857441
Twinning Association—Margaret Butcher – 07484140914
Village Produce Association—Bev Gledhill— 07753 709513
Writing Group—Shirley Lynn—07726 334280
LB Rotary Club- hello@lbrotary.co.uk
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