

Service Rota for December 2024

Key: HC-Holy Communion, MW - Morning Worship, MP-Morning Prayers. EP-Evening Prayer, LC- Lively Church, FS-Family Service

NB/ Helen's book Stall will be at LB 2nd Sundays

Date	Time	Day	Church	Service	Notes
1st	10:00	Advent 1	Allington	HC	At Sedgebrook if still closed.
1st	10:30	Advent 1	Long Benn.	MW	
1st	10:30	Advent 1	Claypole	нс	
1st	15:00	Advent 1	Foston	НС	
8th	10:30	Advent 2	Long Benn.	HC	
8th	10:30	Advent 2	Sedgebrook	MP	
8th	18:00	Advent 2	Stubton	HC	
8th	15:00	Advent 2	Foston	Carols	
13th	19:00	Advent	Allington	Carols	
15th	10:30	Advent 3	Long Benn.	MW	
15th	10:30	Advent 3	Claypole	HC	
15th	10:00	Advent 3	Allington	MW	At Sedgebrook if still closed.
15th	16:00	Advent 3	Dry Dodd.	Christingle	
19th	19:00	Advent	Claypole	Carols	Carol Service - Newark Band
22nd	10:30	Advent 4	Long Benn.	Carols	
22nd	18:00	Advent 4	Fenton	Carols	Carol Service. Team Led. Wine & Nibbles.
23rd	18:00	Advent	Stubton	Carols	Carol Service. Team Led.
24th	19:00	Christmas Eve	Sedgebrook	Carols	Carol Service. Team Led.
24th	16:00	Christmas Eve	Foston	Christingle	Christingle Service w/ Debbie Starr
24th	23:30	Christmas Eve	Long Benn.	Midnight	
25th	10:00	Christmas Day	Allington	HC	w/ Sedgebrook. At Sedgebrook if still closed.
29th	10:30	Christmas 1	Westboro'	НС	

Contacts for the Magazine

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Sgpnmag23@gmail.com

Copy Deadline for the Feb '25 issue is 12 Jan 2025 at 5pm

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?
pwd=djBjbHZuc2UwSjRmUEZEMEx1dlhQUT09

Donations to Magazine

The magazine is produced mainly by volunteers and is paid for from adverts and donations. If you would like to donate, you can use any of the methods below:

Bank Transfer to SGPN, sort code 60-09-09 account 72118695 Cheque to SGPN posted to SGPN Treasurer, 36 The Pastures, Long Bennington, NG23 5EG

Hand to any church or PCC member

From the Vicarage

As December settles upon us, we enter Advent—the season of waiting, hope, and preparation for the arrival of Christ among us. The word "Advent" means "coming" or "arrival," reminding us of the sacred expectancy that we hold during these weeks, imagining what it must have been like for those people and generations who were waiting and hoping for Christ's coming. We enact the same waiting as we wait in anticipation for Christmas and the birth of hope and joy just at the moment that the days have become darkest.



Amid winter's deepening chill, nature offers us a powerful reflection of Advent. Trees stand bare, resting quietly in the cold, awaiting the first stirrings of new life that will eventually come in spring. In a similar way, Advent invites us to pause, reflect, and prepare for the arrival of light and warmth into the dark and cold places of our lives and the world.

This December, the world around us may seem heavy with uncertainty, and many of us face unique challenges. Yet the message of Advent and Christmas remains as ever: there is hope. Christ's birth is God's promise of peace, even in the midst of hardship. Through Jesus, we receive the assurance that warmth and light will always triumph over cold and darkness.

As we come together to celebrate Christmas across West Loveden, let us cherish this time with gratitude. May our gatherings be a reminder of the warmth we find in one another and in our shared faith. And as we carry Christ's light and warmth into the new year, let's remember that our community can be a beacon of comfort for all who are weary or seeking hope.

May you and your loved ones find joy, peace, and renewal this Advent and Christmas season. Revd. Jon Speirs-Davies

LOVEDEN WEST GROUP

CHRISTMAS

Join us this Christmas as we celebrate the true reason for the season. We will have something for every age, including Christingle, Carol Services, Midnight Service and Holy

Communion.



Dec. 15th at 4pm

St James, Dry Doddington, Christingle

Dec. 19th at 7pm

St Peter's, Claypole, Carol Service

Dec. 22nd at 10.30am

St Swithun's, Long Bennington, Carol Service

Dec. 22nd at 6pm

All Saints, Fenton, Carol Service

Dec. 23rd at 6pm

St Martin's, Stubton, Carol Service

Dec. 24th at 4pm

St Peter's Foston, Christingle

Dec. 24th at 7pm

St Lawrence, Sedgebrook, Carol Service

Dec. 24th at 3pm

St Peter's, Claypole, Christingle

Dec. 24th at 11.30pm

St Swithun's, Long Bennington, Midnight Mass

December 25th at 10am, Holy Trinity Allington,
Holy Communion



Invite You to

Celebrate & Sing
Carols -

Saturday 14 December
St Swithun's Church
at 3pm
A Family Carol Concert

* * *

Wednesday 18 December
ChristChurch, Finkin Street
at 7.30 pm

Come & Sing Carols

Seasonal refreshments served after both concerts

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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 1.30-4.00pm (Winter timings)

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

welcome.

Allington Morris: Thursday 8.00-10.00pm (September – April)

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 a 7.45pm start.

Visitors always welcome - £5.

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.

DECEMBER

Village Christmas Party — Saturday 7th December, 7.00pm-11.00pm. Join us in the festivities at our final event of 2024. Hot food served with a choice of mains and puddings, followed by music and dancing to Gordon's Disco and Accent Trio. Bring your own drink. Lucky person will win a hamper from the number drawn on their admission ticket. Tickets £12.00 from Jackie Willis on eventsatallingtonvillagehall@gmail.com or David Smedley on above email.

JANUARY 2025

Big Brunch – Saturday 25th January, 9.30-12 noon, last order 11.15am. Drinks and Cake only will be served after 11.00am.

After the successful launch of our breakfast menu in October and the positive feedback, we will be continuing with the Big Brunch. On offer will be a full English breakfast, with bacon, sausage, hash brown, fried egg, grilled tomato and beans, along with bread or toast and marmalade. Tea/coffee and orange will also be served.

A £3 deposit will be required for special dietary orders so please message Jackie in advance if you require a special diet, on eventsatallingtonvillagehall@gmail.com.



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and cards for all occasions.

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Plus

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VIEW FROM THE PEW – HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ALLINGTON

PROGRESS ON OUR PROJECT

The project inside the church is going well. The picture shows the new floor in the area where the toilet will be situated and also the new location for the font. The next job is to build the ramp and level off the door sill to make flat access to the Church. We will keep you updated with progress reports as we go along.

COFFEE AND CAKE

The next Coffee and Cake morning will be held Monday 2nd December from 10-12 in the village hall. We look forward to seeing you all there for coffee, cake and a chat. We continue to 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.

We have received the draft rota for December and hope to have the following services:-Sunday 1st December – Communion 10.00 joint Sedgebrook and Allington at Sedgebrook if Allington unavailable

Sunday 15th December 10.00 – Morning Worship at Sedgebrook if Allington still closed. Friday December 13th 7.00 -Family Carol Service 7.00pm at Sedgebrook if Allington still closed.

Christmas Day - Communion Service 10.00, at Sedgebrook if Allington still closed.

FUTURE EVENTS

We need to see how long the building works will take but we are planning a grand opening event sometime after Christmas where everyone can come along and see what improvements have been made.

GREEN and TIDY

Garden and outdoor maintenance Long Bennington and surrounding areas

Lawn cutting/maintenance, Hedge cutting,
Lopping/pruning, Tidy up/clearance
Patio and drive cleaning, Gutter cleaning,
Indoor & Outdoor painting, Odd jobs
Andrew Green 07903 305723
adtgreen78@gmail.com



ALLINGTON WI

Members who could either knit or crochet, spent hours of hard work making poppies, which were added to some made by members of Allington Craft Group and put on netting and displayed around the Village Cross – they looked stunning.



Next year we hope to add to our display.

The monthly meeting was Members' Night, and non-committee members organised a fun games night. The Feely Bag game was first, with teams trying to recognise items in small cloth bags, and then after refreshments, individuals competed against each other in a Beetle Drive, something most of us hadn't played before or remembered from years ago.



Future Meetings:-

4th December 2024 – Speaker: Janice Moulds – '17th Century Christmas' – Open Meeting – 7.30 for a 7.45 pm start, at Allington Village Hall. Visitors are most welcome to attend, at a visitor's fee of £5.00.

January 2025 - No meeting.

5th February 2025 – Speaker: Colin Deeley – History of Southwell Workhouse – Open Meeting – 7.30 for a 7.45 pm start, at Allington Village Hall. Visitors are most welcome to attend, at a visitor's fee of £5.00.

2024/25 Programme below

All meetings take place in Allington Village Hall – 7.30 for a 7.45 pm start. All visitors are most welcome to attend £5.00 fee.

January - No Meeting.

5th February Colin Deeley – 'History of Southwell Workhouse.'

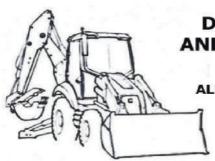
5th March Annual Meeting.

2nd April Dorothy Gaughan – 'Food Bank/How it works.'

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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

Local Lunch at Foston Village Hall, from 11.30am on the second Friday of the month, and Breakfast Club at Foston Village Hall from 9.30am on the fourth Saturday of every month. For more information, please call Foston Neighbours: 07422 881448 fostonneighbours@gmail.com

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: 8th December - 3pm
Carol Service 24th December - 4pm
Christingle Service 12th January - 3pm
Evensong 16th February - 3pm

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.

Look back

About 130 people joined us for our Remembrance Service to pay our respects to all those who have lost their lives whilst protecting ours. It was a joy for the Uniformed Youth Groups, Explorer Scouts, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers to join us and contribute so much to the service.

Thank you so much to all the Leaders who volunteer their time and skills to continue the Scouting Groups in the village – the young people gain som uch from this. Thank you to those there for the collection taken during the service - £65 has been sent to the British Royal Legion.

The Church looked stunning before it filled up and was even more beautiful full of people! Apologies for the dreadful photos – I must get better!



Christmas is Coming! Watch out for everything happening in Foston as Christmas approaches!



From 1st December – Advent Windows around the village. Look out for posters and maps on the noticeboards – a new window every day in December until Christmas Eve.



Saturday, 7th December – Christmas Tree Festival at the church. Open 10am-4pm with many stalls, activities, refreshments and chocolate tombola available.



Saturday, 7th December – Santa's Sleigh is visiting! He will visit all streets in the village from 4pm. Listen out for the music and come out and meet him. All donations go to the Long Bennington Rotary Club and St Peter's Church.



Sunday 8th December – Carol Service, 3pm at St Peter's Church (and visit the Christmas Trees beforehand!)

Tuesday, 24th December – Come and join our magical feeling at the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve (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! (And thank you to you all!) Just £2.50 for all this... At the Village Hall from 10-11.30am on the following dates:

Next dates: 4th December 5th February 5th March

Note: no Coffee Morning in January due to the Bank Holiday.

Churchyard Clean Up!

Saturday 1st March: 9.30am-2pm

Please come and give a couple of hours to help spruce up the Churchyard. We all enjoy its beauty in the centre of the village, and many hands help to keep it tidy. Do bring a pair of gloves and other gardening tools you might like to use.

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:

Sadly, 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).



ADVERTISING - IN THE PARISH MAG

Full page colour £50 Full page b/w £40 Half page colour £32 Half page b/w £22

Quarter page colour £16

Quarter page b/w £13

Eighth page colour £12

FOSTON WI

It was with sadness that we received the news that Monica Winters had passed away on 14th October, at the age of 80. Monica had been a member of Foston WI since the sixties, during this time she was President 3 times, as well as numerous other committee positions.



Several members joined her family, on 13th November. To celebrate her life.

On 12th November our Open Meeting included a guest Speaker Tim Coltman, great grandson of William Coltman VC, who gave us a memorable talk on the most decorated other rank of the First World War. William volunteered to help his country in the WW1 conflict and would go on to become a hero whose great deeds are still honoured in his hometown of Burton. William, just 5ft 4ins tall, joined the Sixth North Staffordshire Regiment. Due to his Christian beliefs he refused to pick up a rifle but volunteered for military training as a stretcher bearer.

His subsequent heroics on the battlefront, saving many injured men, both British and German, and bringing back documentation from the dead for their family's sake, won him many awards. His actions on October 3rd and 4th, 1918, during operations at Mannequin Hill, in Northern France, earned William the coveted Victoria Cross, Military medal and bar and Distinguished Conduct medal and bar. He is now described as the highest decorated non-commissioned officer of the British Army in WW1.

December 10th – Members Christmas meal January 14th - Talk on Scandinavia If you'd like further information or wish to join us any time - please contact: Carole Chandler-Barratt on 07767 657745. Maggi Challis, Publicity - November 2024





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LONG BENNINGTON MEDICAL CENTRE

RSV Vaccine

Watch out for your invite to book your vaccination. This is a new vaccine, for more information on the vaccine please visit: https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/rsv-vaccine/



Pneumococcal Vaccine

Patients that are not up to date with their Pneumococcal Vaccinations will receive an invite to make an appointment. Appointments are available for booking every day of the week. Please watch out for your link and remember to book in.



Covid Winter Vaccination

We are now administering Covid vaccinations here at the Medical Centre. We will notify patients who are eligible via a message. Please watch out for your message and for your link to book in.

Well-Being Walks

If you have not joined us before and are free every 3rd Wednesday of the month, then feel free to join us on one of our well-being walks. Please ensure you wear the appropriate footwear. Walks will commence again on the 15th January 2025 at a new time of 10:45am.





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

Last Friday of every month. Please note there is no tea-n-chat in December.

Long Bennington Coffee Morning

The Reindeer every Thursday at 10.30am. Coffee/tea and biscuits £2.50. 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

All are welcome. We meet alternate Mondays at 2.30pm at 76 Main Road. For more details please contact Joy Jordan on 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 warm 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 9.00am - 3.15pm during term time. Funding is available for all 3- & 4-year-olds including the FREE 30 hours offered to those who are eligible. 15 hours funding also available for eligible 2-year-olds, alternatively it is £4.5 per hour for fee paying parents. For more information or to arrange a visit call Julie on 07816 537242 or email longbenningtonpreschool@googlemail.com

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 – Village Hall

When	Class/Meeting	Time	Hall	Contact
Mon weekly to 16 th December. Jan TBC	Beginner to interm Pilates	11:45 – 12:45	Main	Linda Brady 07850 618516
1 st Mon Mthly	Parish Council	19:00 - 21:00	Small	Jane Evans 01400 282716
2 nd & 4 th Mon Mthly	Rotary Club	19:00 – 20:00	Bar	secretaryLBR@oulook.com
Tues weekly	Bennington Art Group	10:00 - 12:00	Foyer	Margaret Butcher 01400 281935
1 st Tues monthly	WI	19:30 - 21:00	Main	M Butcher 01400 281935
4 th Tue monthly (January 28 th)	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 to 19 th Dec. Restart 2 nd Jan	Adult Pilates Suitable all levels	17:15 - 18:15 & 18:30 - 19:30	Main	Amanda 07967387969 https://www.corestrengthpilatesuk.com
Fri weekly to 20 th Dec. Restart 3 rd Jan	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
Sun 1st December & Sunday 5 th January	Electric Jive Tea Dance	15:00 – 19:00	Main	Sally 07730269969 theTramp@iustAbeginner.com
Tuesday 10 th & 17 th December	Wine Club	19.00-21.00	Bar	Raj Solanki raj@libradrinks.co.uk
TBC	Eclectic Soul Sundays	17.00-21.00	Main, Bar	Avril Breheny avrilenergy@gmail.com/ 07831 113121
31 st December	New Year's Event		Main, Bar	Rotary run event for the Village
25 th January	Fancy Flower Workshop	9.30- 15.30	Main, Kitchen	Lindy Lodge lincs@quiltersguild.org.uk 07738659874



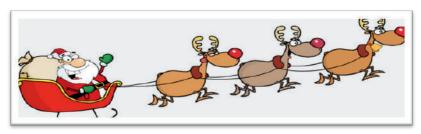
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Santa's Sleigh

Santa is on his way to tour Long Bennington, but there will be no knock-on-door collection again this year; however, please come out and meet Santa on his rounds!

Approximate timings:

Saturday 141h December Sunday 15th December Whitakers 4.30pm Fish and Chip Shop 4.30pm Riverview 5.00pm Reindeer 5.00pm Motor Care 6.00pm Drury Park 6.15pm Manor Drive 6.45pm The Pastures 7.00pm

Santa will also visit: Foston: Saturday 7th December, from 4.30pm. Sharricks Fish Bar: Thursday 19th December, from 5.00pm.

A donation can be made using the buckets held by the helpers or using the Saxonwell Churches Just Giving QR code. Donations to be divided between St Swithun's Church, Long Bennington Pre-School, and Long Bennington Rotary Club.

Thank you.



LONG BENNINGTON CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON

SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

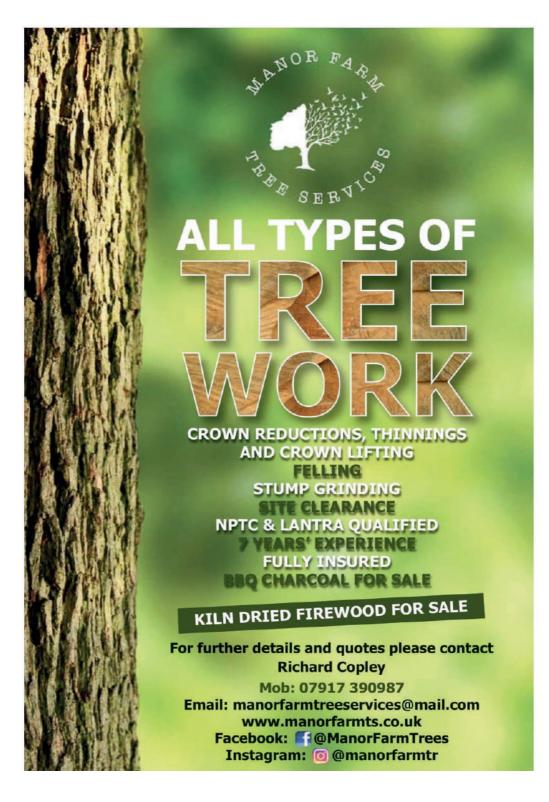
DOORS OPEN FROM 13.30 TO 17.30

LIGHTS SWITCHED ON AT 16.45

25 STALLS - so your chance to do some Christmas Shopping and

support your local businesses and Groups

Refreshments and a bar available



LONG BENNINGTON NEWS FROM THE PEWS



We would like to thank all who attended the village Harvest Supper on Saturday 14th September and everyone who contributed in any way. The event was very well supported and raised over £700 for much needed church repairs.

A Piece of Local History Restored

A Roll of Honour of local men who returned after serving their country in the WW2 has been framed and restored to its rightful place in St Swithun's Church. The project, initiated by relatives, and financed by the Rotary Club, has been completed in time for the annual Remembrance Day.



With many thanks to the Rotary Club members who are very active in improving community well-being, both locally and internationally. They also have fun and welcome anyone to join them.

If anyone wishes to view the Roll of Honour, do contact Joy Jordan about access. With Summer well behind us, in mid-October we were treated to another concert by the Cranwell Military Wives Choir, which proved to be a resounding success and attracted an audience of almost 200 people; the concert raised money for the Choir's charities and funds to help with the repair of the Church's East Chancel Wall. Hopefully the PCC will be able to continue these concerts as an annual event.





This was followed by a Fundraising Sunday Lunch in Whittaker's Wine Bar, at which 50 people enjoyed a delicious meal whilst helping to raise more funds for the repair of the Church's East Wall.





Looking to the future, two ways to get yourself in the festive mood:

First, Santa will be touring the village on his sleigh on the evenings of Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th December, whilst on a yet to agreed evening in December you will be able find him outside the Fish and Chip Shop, when he stops for his evening meal. Please see the shop's window for further details on this visit.

Second, on the afternoon of Saturday 14th December there will be a Christmas Concert in the church, by the Grantham Choral Society, at 3.00pm; refreshments will be available. Tickets £6 (children free) see separate notice.

On a more traditional note, on Sunday 22nd December there will be a joint St Swithun's Church/Methodist Chapel Carol Service in the church at 10.30am. Finally, although it is a few weeks away the PCC would like to wish all readers a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

ROTARY CLUB



Rotary Remembers

Rotary remembered those who gave their lives at Remembrance time. Rotary has also restored the Role of Honour that hangs in St Swithuns to give it back the dignity that it deserves.

Looking ahead

Rotary invite you to see in the New Year Eve Party see poster for families & friends to celebrate new beginnings together. Balloon drop at 10.00pm for the children.

In the meantime, look out for Santa's NEW SLEIGH!!! and the Xmas Post Box in the Coop after the light switch on Saturday 30 November







LONG BENNINGTON WI

LONG BENNINGTON WI Tuesday 5th November 2024 – Birthday Night

41 Members met to enjoy our 106th Birthday Night where the WI committee provide an evening's entertainment along with a delicious buffet. Unfortunately, our advertised speaker, Linda Hewett, who was going to give a cookery demonstration on "The Joy of Tarts" was ill, but luckily, she sent along her friend and colleague, Sunita, along with some home-made tarts to share.

Sunita and Linda work together giving cookery demonstrations to schools and charities teaching their speciality dishes in Italian and Indian cuisine. Sunita turned out to be one of the most eloquent and popular speakers we have ever had and although the evening was not as advertised it was hugely successful. She brought saris for us to try on, explaining how to pleat and fold them. They are made from one piece of material, 5 ½ metres long and just wrapped around the body.

Joy and Audrey looked amazing in them. She also explained the meaning of Diwali (literally "a row of light") which celebrates good over bad. We were encouraged to ask any questions we had about Hinduism and festivals, such as weddings and funerals. Unlike us, white is commonly worn at funerals, not black.

The home-made tarts she brought were delicious and the buffet went down well, especially Jenny Flint's delicious Pavlova filled with cream and fruit.

Each member received a home-made iced cupcake to take home, courtesy of Pearl Scott, who unfortunately could not be with us for the evening. It was a lovely way to celebrate our 106th birthday and one that will be remembered.

If you would like to know more about our friendly WI, please contact Margaret Butcher on 01400 281935. Elaine Walton - Publicity







BEAT THE SCAMMERS

Let's look this month at the requests from banks to provide a second level of security. When we make online payments, we are often being asked to confirm the payment by obtaining a code which is emailed/texted to us, or by going in the relevant bank app and confirm the payment.

If a scammer gets hold of our phone and payment cards, they can take, the generally unsecured SIM card, out of our phone and put it in theirs. The text message with the confirmation code is now send to their phone and the scammer can have fun spending our money.

- Tip 1: Please do not keep your mobile phone and credit/debit cards in the same place when out and about.
- Tip 2: Why we all are guilty of using the same password for many accounts, please make sure you use a unique and complex one for your payment cards and financial accounts.

LONG BENNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council had its last meeting on 4th November at St James's Hall.

GENERAL UPKEEP —it was reported that the tree on the entrance to the Memorial Garden has been pruned to remove some branches that were hanging over the path. Some general maintenance has been done in the Memorial Garden and the hedge has been cut. Following further discussion, Councillors unanimously agreed to maintain the hedges to a higher standard with two cuts per year and removal is not supported. The Parish Council has had a report of branches from a copper beech, in the corner of the Memorial Garden, hanging over Church Street. Plans are now in place to rectify this.

The Village Hall gardens have been tidied and will be looked at again just before the Christmas tree lights switch on event.

WITHAM MEADOW – a grant application has been submitted for the installation of some bug hotels and some magposts (posts with built in magnifying glass at the top). If successful, help with installation would be appreciated and if anyone would like to support the Parish Council in enhancing this lovely open space and help support biodiversity locally, please contact me.

Following Parish Council meeting dates Monday 2nd December 2024 and Monday 6th January 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

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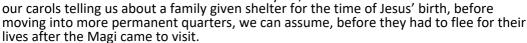
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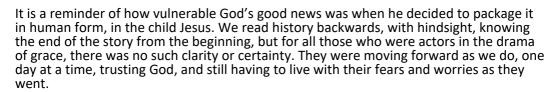
LONG BENNINGTON METHODIST CHAPEL

Dear Friends,

You will probably be reading these words as Advent begins on December 1, and it will soon be time for the Christmas tree to make its way from the garage to the house. Loved and familiar things will come out of their boxes to be put in a place of honour for a few weeks, and, in the process, no doubt, there will be many discussions about how things should be arranged.

In some ways the journey from garage, shed or loft to house is not an unfamiliar one at this time of year, with



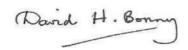


Our own lives a just as fragile, as are those of our neighbours, both near and far. We live in a materially rich society, and we may feel insulated from many of the pressures other people face in more exposed parts of the world, where famine or conflict or natural disaster or disease are an ever-present reality. But the fact is that we do not know our own futures, and we all need faith and hope, love and respect, care and trust.

These are the gifts God offers us through the man born in Bethlehem. He invites us to trust him, to build a community of care and generosity, to be people who reach out to others rather than closing ourselves in against the world. At Christmas, we will all probably do things that are moved by the spirit of the good news that is Jesus. But unlike the Christmas tree and its decorations, God is not asking us to make an effort for twelve days or so. He is asking us to make this our lifestyle, the expression of our values and our contribution to his kingdom coming on earth. Jesus, and all that he teaches and invites us to discover, in for life, not just for Christmas.

So may the season of Advent give us time to reflect on the hope that Jesus brings, and may the celebration of Christmas inspire us to act hopefully all year round for the good of the world.

Merry Christmas,



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.

Carol Service

This year's Christmas Carol Service will be on Sunday 15 th December starting at 3:00pm, everyone is welcome to attend. Tea / Coffee & Mince Pies will be served after the service.

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 2 nd and 4 th 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 14 th December (2 nd Saturday not the usual 3 rd), 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 also for December some great Christmas gift opportunities. Entry costs £2.50 for bottomless tea or coffee and plenty of biscuits.

Advance notice: The first coffee morning for 2025 will be start at 10am as usual on Saturday 19 th January.

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

Rainbows/Brownies Mondays 5.00pm/6.30pm Finish 16th Dec until Jan 2025'

Grantham Canine Assoc Mondays 8pm-9pm

Knit and Natter Tuesdays 2.00pm-4.00pm Finish 3rd Dec until Jan 2025

RuffDiamonds Dog Training Tuesdays 6.00pm

RuffDiamonds Dog Training Wednesdays 6.00pm Pilates with Alice Thursdays 7.30pm

Parish Council Meeting 9th Jan 2025 7.00pm

Club Bar Open Fridays 6.00pm til close

RuffDiamonds Dog Training Saturdays 10.30am

Club Bar Open Sundays 1.00pm-4.00pm

Heritage Group Meetings Sundays Monthly at 3.00pm on the 4th Sunday in the Church. Next meeting 26th Jan 2025 3.00pm in the Social Club.

Membership Fee for 2025 is £15 per person. (Under 18s free)

We are always looking for new committee members, if you are able to help, please let us know.

The club is available for hire for private parties, social gatherings and regular events. Please contact Alan Cook Mob.07963553835 email sedgebrooksocialclub@hotmail.co.uk

CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHT 21ST DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE OPEN FROM 6PM 2024/2025 NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

ST LAWRENCE SEDGEBROOK – NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Church and Museum open daily 10am-4pm

Heritage Group meets monthly 4th Sunday in the Church 4pm

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

Monthly Lively Church, Monthly Morning Prayer

Grantham Food Bank collecting point

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

PET SERVICE

We were delighted to welcome all creatures great and small to the Pet Service. Everyone behaved impeccably!

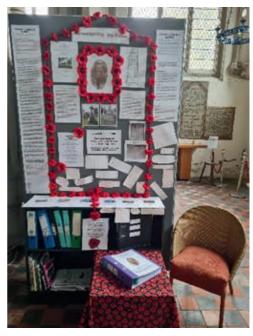


REMEMBRANCE SERVICE AND HERITAGE GROUP – based on Vin Brown's letters from the front, including his letter written the day before he died in action.

Our thanks to the Brownies and Rainbows who took part in the service and to the School and Nursery for the wonderful artwork and poppies. The church looked stunning. The museum display will remain in church until Christmas with thanks to Elisabeth Carnell. We were joined by Allington, a doubly thankful village that lost no members in either world war. Revd. Stella gave the blessing.















200 CLUB DRAW - OCTOBER 2024

1st 75 Tracy Ackroyd, 2nd 195 Heather Maitland, 3rd 26 Teresa Haggart

HOLY COMMUNION – We have enjoyed hosting Holy Communion while works are completed at Holy Trinity, Allington, especially the children assisting!

CAROLS ON THE GREEN – Saturday 7th December 6pm Illuminated church, mulled wine and mince pies. Alan will be there with his bucket for a collection towards the cost of the Christmas Tree on the Green.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF READINGS AND CAROLS – 7pm

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to read a lesson.



Services in December and January

Please note there will not be a service at Sedgebrook on 22nd December.

St Lawrence, Sedgebrook:

Sunday 1st December 10.30am Joint Holy Communion with Allington Sunday 8th December 10.30am Morning Prayer Tuesday 24th December 7.00pm Carol Service with Readings Sunday 5th January 10.30am Morning Prayer Sunday 19th January 10.30am Lively Church

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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THE SAXONWELL GROUP MINISTRY TEAM

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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 <u>lovedenwest@gmail.com</u>

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 01400 281932

St Peter's Foston Church Warden/Treasurer Andrew Blanchard 01476 979515 Safeguarding Officer Eileen Ross 01400 281932

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 Jane Morton (Allington) parish.clerk@allingtonpc.org.uk Jane Bratton (Sedgebrook) clerksedgebrook@gmail.com 01476 577175 Ted Bates (Chair) Long Bennington Charities 01400 281853

Village Halls: Booking Secretaries

Allington— Heather Nuthall Secretary - secretary.allingtonvillagehall@gmail.com 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—Longbenningtonvillagehall.org.uk—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 - 1stfostonbrowines20@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

fost on. be a vers @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 657745Long Bennington—1st Tuesday 7:30pm—Margaret Butcher- 01400 281935 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

Junior Football Club—Steve Rowley—07909 857441

Twinning Association—Margaret Butcher – 01400 281935

Village Produce Association—Bev Gledhill—01400 282239hello@lbrotary.co.uk Writing Group—Shirley Lynn—07726 334280

LB Rotary Club- hello@lbrotary.co.ukFoston Neighbours - 07422 881448 fostonneighbours@gmail.com





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