

December 2021



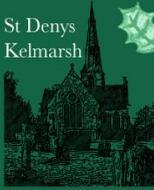
All Saints, Naseby



All Saints, Clipston



St Michael's Haselbeck



St Denys
Kelmarsh

Be filled with wonder ...

The Magazine

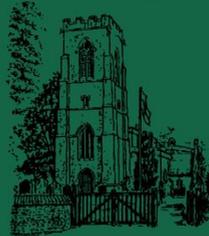
... Be touched by peace



Welford
Congregational Chapel



St Helen's Sibbertoft



St Mary The Virgin, Welford



St Nicholas' Marston Trussell



News & Views

Haselbeck, Kelmarsh,
Marston Trussell, Naseby,
Welford, Sibbertoft & Clipston

DIOCESE OF PETERBOROUGH

United Benefice of Clipston, Haselbech, Kelmarsh, Marston Trussell, Naseby, Sibberton and Welford

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St. Mary the Virgin, Welford

Churchwardens	Julian Howell-Jones 83 West Street, Welford Gordon Ball, 11 Salford Close, Welford	575757 575331
Treasurer	Julie Newman, 30 Wakefield Drive, Welford	575335
Secretary	Judith Chadwick, 10 Browns Meadow, Welford	575992
Organist	Alan Barraclough, 38 West End, Welford	575269
Tower Captain	Kelvin Broad, 3 Newlands Road, Welford	575683
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St. Helen, Sibberton

Churchwarden	Toby Jackson, Wry Furlong, Welford Rd, Sibberton	881091
Treasurer	Lesley Hartshorne, Roserie Cottage Westhorpe, Sibberton	880112
Secretary	Viv Arrowsmith, 5 Beeches Close, Sibberton	880988

St. Nicholas, Marston Trussell

Churchwarden		
Treasurer	Chris Otway, 9 Main Street, Marston Trussell LE16 9TY	289516
Secretary	Diane Parton 26 Welland Rise, Sibberton	880972 <u>All Saints, Clipston</u>
Churchwarden	Steve Carpenter, The Covers, Harborough Rd	525120
Treasurer/Organist	Julie Connell, The Wooden Owl, 10a The Green	525336

St Michael's, Haselbech

Churchwardens	Tess Le Sueur Tim Hadaway	01604686266
Treasurer	Michael Hopkins Orton House, Welford Road, Naseby	01604740309

St. Deny's Kelmarsh

Churchwarden	Bob Swinfen Lyndale Rectory Farm, Kelmarsh	01604686676
Treasurer	Gina Hankins Scotland Wood Farm, Kelmarsh	01604686216

All Saints, Naseby

Churchwarden	Margaret Diack 11 Hall Close, Naseby	01604743820
Treasurer	Maurice Cave 84 Church Street, Naseby	01604740388

Welford Congregational Chapel

Pastor	Barrie Woodward The Bakehouse, 17 West Street, Welford	575586
Treasurer /Secretary	Denise Bottom Copper Bottom, Northampton Road, Welford	575746

Dear Friends

No doubt most of you will be very busy over the coming weeks ó our lives often become more complicated as Christmas draws ever closer, its approach seeming to accelerate day by day!

A few of us may look back to the early days of the first lockdown almost with a sense of nostalgia as we recall that we had time to look around and appreciate our surroundings. For many others, of course, the memories will be quite the reverse, with tension building, risks growing, and isolation deepening. Whatever our memories, though, most of us will be able to point to an unexpected act of kindness or compassion that helped us to cope in difficult times. As I have observed before, our communities came together in all sorts of wonderful ways but, of course, they could not come together in a physical, face to face sense. Groups, if they met, met virtually, or kept in touch by phone or other means ó contact of a kind continued, but how we missed the reality of one another!

This year, it is my hope that we will be able to celebrate the reality of loved ones at Christmas ó but it is also my hope that we will be able to celebrate the reality of God. For God has met us face to face in Jesus. There was nothing virtual about the baby born in Bethlehem, he was as real as we are. And that baby grew up to tell us that we are his brothers and sisters, each of us a child of God, and that we belong together ó and, more than that, we are one in Christ.

Continued overleaf

During 2020 and 2021, our lives have been diminished by the lack of contact we have had with friends and family, yet how much more are our lives diminished by our lack of contact with God. We belong together and, without him as part of our lives, we lack a richness, a depth of meaning, direction and purpose.

To know that undergirding everything is unfailing, creative love is life changing. It is transformational to recognise that at the heart of all that is known and unknown is God's love. All creation springs from it, and remains wholly within its embrace, yet how easy it is to obscure it with fear or cynicism, denial or derision. Nevertheless, if we are prepared to open our eyes to it, it is love that we see in the world around us, and love that we meet face to face in one another. Our purpose in life is to live out and share God's love ó it is as simple as that.

So, this Christmas, I hope you will truly know God's presence, that you will open your hearts and accept the greatest of all gifts, the gift of love.

That gift will be celebrated at many services across the Benefice, and we would love to make you welcome, and share God's peace and joy.

With every blessing,

Miranda





COME AND SING CAROLS IN THE PARK

Last year many of you turned up in the park (now the playing field) to sing carols on Christmas Eve, a change from the 60-year-old tradition of gathering in St Maryø. Then we were confident that, in December 2021, the pandemic that had affected our lives so adversely throughout 2020 would be a distant memory. Alas this is not so. Although we are not banned from gathering in church, for a variety of reasons, some pandemic-related, some personal, this year we are again planning to -Come and Singø in the Park, with the Community Centre providing cover for the keyboard. In this way we are combining carol singing around the village and Come and Sing carols whilst avoiding singing in close proximity in an enclosed space, something still considered a risky activity because of possible transmission of Covid through airborne droplets (at rehearsals and concerts choirs are still required to maintain social distancing when singing). So pray for good weather, wrap up warm, bring torches and spare change so you can donate generously to our Christmas charities (The Childrenø Society and The Cynthia Spencer Hospice) and join us outside the Community Centre at 7.30pm on Christmas Eve. (N.B. and if you have no spare change/are unable to join us on Christmas Eve, but would still like to make a donation, please contact us for further details on 575269 or email annbarraclough@hotmail.com).
Ann and Alan Barraclough



Sibbertoft Sunday Teas 2021

After several false starts we finally re-opened for Sunday teas at the beginning of September for our shortened 28th season.

The Reading room refurbishments finally completed and what a difference our loyal returning visitors experienced. A modern, bright fun environment to sit and eat delicious home made cakes, drink tea and meet up with friends and neighbours.

Sibbertoft community came good and we easily filled our 9 week volunteer rota several new faces were welcomed. The weather was kind and we managed to set up additional tables outside most weeks.

We hope people felt safe and comfortable. Thanks to all those who supported in all the usual ways. Volunteering, Baking, helping to set up and pack away. Buying our home made jams, cut flowers and plants. Or simply eating cake and drinking tea!

We raised £3000 a great sum to assist in re building our much depleted funds. See you in April 2022.

Saint Helens PCC wish you and your family a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

SIBBERTOFT ANTENATAL YOGA and ACTIVE CHILD BIRTH Mondays 6.15 - 7.15pm Sibbertoft Reading Room

Pregnancy yoga exercises improve a pregnant woman's core strength and help to avoid some common problems that can occur both during and after pregnancy.

- Reduce stress and anxiety
- Develop stronger muscles in the stomach, back and pelvic floor
- Improve sleep
- Improve circulation
- Maintain a positive and healthy body and mind
- Empowerment for a more natural childbirth
- Reduced risk of medical intervention at the birth
- Bond with other mothers

Antenatal yoga will be modified to meet the needs of each mother to be. Classes focus on breathing and relaxation and gentle and safe yoga exercises, with preparation for active childbirth : all guided by a qualified antenatal yoga teacher.

Antenatal Yoga classes can be a great way to meet other pregnant women in a positive, supportive environment. Practicing with other pregnant women can help the motivation to keep active right up to childbirth

Contact me for more information : Jose Kirby
07801 880908 . josekirby292@gmail.com



SIBBERTOFT CAROL SERVICE

19th December at 4.00pm

Join us for a family carol service with all the old favourites followed by mulled wine and mince pies

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

9.30am



Sibbertoft fundraising calendar

This summer, a group of Sibbertoft ladies decided to Bare All and produce the Sibbertoft "Tastefully Nude" calendar for 2022. Photographed in a number of locations in and around the village, the ladies can be seen enjoying a number of activities, from sampling Sunday teas to cooking up a Halloween potion.

The original aim was to raise £3,000 to be split equally between the British Heart Foundation and Breast Cancer UK, with calendar sales of 200 but they have already surpassed that target! With calendar sales now at over 250 sold, and with donations and raffles to help augment the fund-raising, the sum raised stands at over £5,100. Carol Dickinson and Sue Roughley say the support has been overwhelming and heartfelt thanks are due to all involved, in whatever capacity. If you haven't got yours yet, just contact Sue on 07720 876358 OR pop in 15 Church Street and pick one up.

Good Neighbours – Tuesday December 7th



Our Christmas coffee morning will feature Greens Country Kitchen, selling mince pies, shortbread, mincemeat, chutneys and preserves etc. We will also be drawing Betty's Christmas Hamper in aid of PSP. If you can't make the coffee morning and would like tickets, call Jane Cottrell on 575549 or drop by 38 High Street.

Our usual books (£1) and jigsaws (£2) will also be on sale. We will be serving tea, coffee, biscuits and mince pies - £1. Table service again and bring your own mug if you prefer. We look forward to seeing you. All are welcome.

Thank you so much for the generous donations to the Poppy Appeal last month. Good Neighbours collected £101.85.

Jane, Sue & the Team

St Thomas's Charity

This charity has been in existence for many years and has evolved to the current charity that uses the rent from the St Thomas's land to provide a small donation to those villagers who are aged 65 or over and who have lived in Welford for more than three years as of 21st December 2021. If your name has not been given to us but you are eligible please contact the Secretary, Sue Nicholas, before the 1st of December and we can add you to our list to receive the small donation on St Thomas's Day, 21 December.

Sue Nicholas 575422 or s.e.nicholas@bopenworld.com



The Queen's Green Canopy

A unique tree planting initiative across the UK to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

"Plant a Tree for the Jubilee"

This exciting and timely initiative is being led, in Welford, by Saint Mary's Church, which plans to plant eight trees on the boundary of the graveyard extension. The choice of site is intended to compliment the somewhat bleak nature of the area with the magnificent countryside beyond.

We hope that a number of organisations may like to be involved, perhaps by sponsoring one of the trees.

We will be writing to many of the village organisations in the near future, but if you would like further information,

please contact Gordon Ball at gordonball1953@gmail.com

or visit <https://queensgreencanopy.org>



Sponsors of St. Mary's Christmas Trees

Award winning home grown Christmas Trees

***Christmas Trees *Wreaths * Christmas Shop**

***Café *Farm animals * Reindeer**

***Santa's Grotto * Live Music**

A5199 / A14 Junction

MARSTON TRUSSELL NEWS DECEMBER 2021

Here at St Nicholas Church, we are moving towards the next phase of restoration work. The work to repair and replace the tower ladder and hatch and the new tower door has been completed and we hope to progress the work to the old boiler room, stonework and gutters next year. An application for a faculty has been made and fund raising is underway. Jenny Bradshaw would like to thank all those who have donated at her farm gate stall for various items of produce. £110 has been raised for our Church funds and donations for Market Harborough Parkinsons society are mounting still.

We are hoping for a more 'normal' Christmas this year. There will be a Christmas Fair in the Village Hall run by the village hall committee, on December 4th from 2-5pm, and we are planning a service of 9 Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve at 6pm in Church followed by refreshments. We are still looking for volunteers to read lessons so please let us know if you are willing and able to help.

We are also looking for help to decorate our church for Christmas on Saturday 18th December from 10-12am. If you can help with either of these activities, please contact either Jenny on 07989169783 or Chris on 01858289516. Even if you don't often come to church or have never been before, Christmas is a good place to start, and you will find a warm welcome here at St Nicholas.

Christmas and New Year Tables

Christmas is coming, and this year (hopefully!) the family will be allowed to come round and visit, but where are you going to sit them all for that special Christmas or New Year meal?

Well, this year we think we may have the answer - hire one of the Village Hall's large tables (1830mm x 610mm) for a small fee of £10 over the Christmas or New Year period.

You can book a table by emailing Chris Brown the Treasurer at chrisbrownv55@hotmail.co.uk or call him on 575494.

Payments will need to be received by no later than Wednesday 23rd December, and the Tables will be ready for collection from the Village Hall on Christmas Eve between 10:00am and 11:00am, They should be returned, in the same condition as they left, between 10:00am and 11:00am on Wednesday 29th December.

New Year tables will also have to be paid for by Wednesday 23rd December and will be ready for collection between 10:00am and 11:00am on New Year's Eve. They should be returned between 10:00am and 11:00am on Tuesday 4th January 2022.

Wishing a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all the Village Hall's regular and not so regular users.

Royal British Legion

A very poignant short service took place in Sibbertoft church on Sunday 24 October ó Laying Up of the Clipston and District Standard of the Royal British Legion. This means that the Clipston branch has now closed but the annual Poppy house to house collection will still continue, looked after by Paul Jervis of Naseby. Daryl Robinson, branch chairman, carried the standard to the chancel, Andy Blake sounded the Last Post as the standard was dipped and the 2 minutes silence observed.

Reveille sounded and Rupert Ellenborough committed the standard into the safe keeping of the vicar, Rev Canon Miranda Hayes, ón this holy place for evermore. Sibbertoft church was chosen as the final resting place of the standard in honour of 2 ex service men who lived in the village and represented the RBL ó Basil Eckhard and Tony Elliott.

Basil was a captain in the Royal East Kent Regiment, óThe Buffs and volunteered for special service with 2 SBS. He was mentioned in despatches for his work on Operation Torch and also given a King's Commendation.

Lt. Col G A Elliott was awarded the Military Cross whilst on active duty in Borneo with the SAS in the early 60s and after leaving the Army served in his regiment's territorial unit. Both very brave men.

Unfortunately we will not be marching down from the Bull's Head anymore but I would like to thank Steve and Helen for providing us with very welcome coffee over the years, and all village Poppy collectors ó you will still be needed!

Rose Anderson(ex Poppy Appeal co-ordinator)

Welford WI November 2021

The November meeting, attended by 27 members (one on zoom) and one guest, was presided over by Denise Cattell. She reminded members to bring their (filled) Advent jars to the next meeting. They would be swapped with others to provide a new calendar for 2021. She also reminded members to keep the forthcoming issue of WI Life as it will contain the 2022 Resolutions voting form. Christine O'Reilly circulated the list and menu for the lunch 17 November at The Bull's Head, Clipston and, as the new outings secretary, also circulated a list of County events occurring over the coming weeks. Denise C read out the list of committee members and their posts.

The speaker, Jane Isaac, is an author of a number of crime thrillers . all published in paper, audible and electronic format. She told us something of her personal history and gave a background into the time-consuming process of actually getting a book published. Her talk was well delivered, very entertaining and informative.

The competition, organised by Sue Brotherton, for the title of a Thriller set in Welford was won by Julie Newman, 2nd Jane Cottrell and 3rd Sue Brotherton. The raffle was won by Julie Cromack, Nicky White and Jenny Rogers.

The December meeting will be a Carol Service (members only, please) and be held in the Chapel.

AT November 2021

QUIZ FOR



1. Who, in December 1955, was arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama?
2. Which country's monarch gives a New Year's message from the Amalienborg Palace at 6pm, every December 31st?
3. Which famous event in American history happened on 16 December, 1773?
4. Which saint has a feast day on 6 December?
5. "Now is the winter of our discontent" is the opening line from which William Shakespeare play?
6. Born in December 1964, what did Michael Edwards become known as after the 1988 Winter Olympics?
7. In 1988 who became the first Islamist woman to head the government of Pakistan?
8. Who became Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England in December 1653?
9. Which Archbishop of Canterbury was slain in his own cathedral in December 1170?
10. Which undersea tunnel was completed in December 1990 before being opened to traffic in 1994?
11. In December 1939 LaGuardia airport opened to service which city?
12. NASA launched the Space Shuttle Endeavour on a mission to repair which telescope in December 1993?
13. In December 1927 which comedy duo released their first film -Putting Pants on Philip?
14. Which famous novelist who died in December 1894 wrote the -Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde?
15. What happened for the first time at Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa in December 1967?



CHAPEL COMMENT

Christmas is the candle-glow
That lights the darkest gloom,
Christmas is the fireside
That warms the coldest room.
Christmas is the silver star
That guides all those who roam,
Christmas is the shining path
That beckons us back home.
Christmas is the peal of bells
That spills through frosty air,
Christmas is the greetings card
That shows old friends still care.
Christmas is the fragrant dish
Of joy and hope combined.
Christmas is the gift of love
That's meant for all mankind.

Margaret Ingall



PSALMS AN READINGS - DECEMBER 2021

Sunday 5th Second Sunday of Advent

Psalm Benedictus

First Malachi 3, v 1 to 4

Second Philippians 1, v 3 to 11

Gospel Luke 3, v 1 to 6

Sunday 12th Third Sunday of Advent

Psalm 121

First Zephaniah 3, v 14 to end

Second Philippians 4, v 4 to 7

Gospel Luke 3, v 17 to 18

Sunday 19th Fourth Sunday of Advent

Carols and Readings

Mothers Union Communion

Will take place on Wednesday December 1st

At 10.00am

**Any items for the January edition should be sent on or before
15th. December**

thechurchmagazine@aol.com

83 West Street, 01858 575757

SIBBERTOFT

Dates for the Diary

19th December—Carol Service at 4.00pm

Christmas Day— Service at 9.30am

	Lesson Reader	Intercessions	Music System
25/12	OT Peter Kra <i>̄</i> i	Rev Miranda	Peter Kra <i>̄</i> i
	NT Lesley Hartshorne		

WELFORD

	Lesson Reader	Intercessions	Sidesmen
5/12	OT M Morson	S Bevin	C Horner
	NT J Horner		
12/12	OT J H Jones	Rev Miranda	J H Jones
	NT A Barraclough		
19/12	Lessons and Carols	J Nicholas	J H Jones

WELFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL

Services at 10.45am

	Preacher	Flowers
Sunday 5th	Rev Tony Avery	Mrs M Curtis
Sunday 12th	Bobbie Wakeleigh-Jones	Mrs D Avery
Sunday 19th	Pastor Barrie Woodward	Mrs S Finney
Friday 24th	Candlelight Service at 3pm Rev Tony Avery	
Sunday 26th	No Service	
Sunday 2nd	Rev Tony Avery	Mrs L Stanley

Benefice Services December 2021

- 1st 10.00am Holy Communion (MU) Welford
- 5th 10.00am Benefice Holy Communion Clipston (also on Zoom)
6.00pm Evensong Marston Trussell
6.00pm Evensong Welford
- 12th 9.30am Holy Communion Sibbertoft
11.00am Holy Communion Naseby
5.30pm Celebration of Christmas Clipston
6.00pm Holy Communion Welford
- 19th 9.30am Holy Communion Kelmarsh
11.00am Holy Communion Marston Trussell
4.00pm Lessons & Carols Sibbertoft
4.30pm Lessons & Carols Haselbech
6.00pm Lessons & Carols Welford (also on Zoom)
- 24th **Christmas Eve**
4.00pm Crib Service Welford
4.30pm Crib Service Clipston
6.00pm Lessons & Carols Marston Trussell
6.00pm Lessons & Carols Naseby
11.30pm Midnight Mass Haselbech
11.30pm Midnight Mass Welford
- 25th **Christmas Day**
9.30am Festival Communion Naseby
9.30am Festival Communion Sibbertoft
11.00am Festival Communion Clipston
11.00am Festival Family Service Welford (also on Zoom)
- 26th 10.00am Benefice Holy Communion (said) Marston Trussell