

February 2026



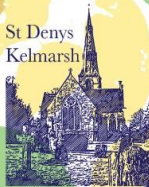
All Saints, Naseby



All Saints, Clipston



St Michael's Haselbeck



St Denys  
Kelmarsh

*No act of kindness, however small*

# The Magazine

*...Is ever wasted,  
-Gosop*



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**

<b>Rector</b>	Rev. Tom Grant, The Rectory, Church Lane Clipston LE16 9RW Tom@nasebygroup.org	07869 345780
<b>Assistant Priest</b>	Rev. Lesley Tomalin Lesley@nasebygroup.org	07943 702865
<b>Readers</b>	Kairen Ball, 11 Salford Close, Welford Gordon Temple 14 The Leys, Welford Valerie Carpenter, The Covers, Harborough Road Bob Tomalin, Bob@nasebygroup.org	<b>575331</b> 07990887635 525120 07341 301754

<b>Magazine</b>	Julian Howell-Jones, 83 West Street, Welford	575757
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#### **St. Mary the Virgin, Welford**

Churchwarden	Gordon Ball, 11 Salford Close	575331
Treasurer	Julie Newman, 30 Wakefield Drive, Welford	<b>575335</b>
Secretary	Judith Chadwick, Mayfield House, Guilsborough	07790 906417
Organist	Alan Barraclough, 38 West End, Welford	<b>575269</b>
Tower Captain	Kelvin Broad, 3 Newlands Road, Welford	<b>575683</b>
Mothers' Union	Anne Wing, 8 Millers Road, Welford	571063

#### **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 Oatway, 9 Main Street, Marston Trussell	289516

#### **All Saints Clipston**

Churchwarden	Steve Carpenter, The Covers, Harborough Rd	<b>525120</b>
Treasurer/Organist	Julie Connell, The Wooden Owl, 10a The Green	525336

#### **St Michael's, Haselbech**

Churchwardens	Tess Le Sueur, Haselbech	01604686266
	Michelle Jeffrey	07785 575169
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**

<b>Minister</b>	Rev. Tony Avery	07850 052541
<b>Treasurer /Secretary</b>	Denise Bolton, Copper Bottom, Northampton Road,	<b>575746</b>

## Conquering the Wilderness and Finding Meaning

Dear Friends.

Recently, I listened to a podcast featuring Bear Grylls speaking about his new book, *The Greatest Story Ever Told*. Bear is best known as an adventurer, survival expert, and television presenter.

The book retells the Gospels through the eyes of Jesus's companions, in a way that feels real, raw, and accessible. What struck me most was his honesty: although he has lived a life full of achievements—conquering wilderness, climbing Everest, and enjoying a glittering television career—he said that writing this book was the most significant and important thing he had ever done. In fact, he admitted he would give up all those other achievements for this one.

**Why?** Because for Bear Grylls, the story of Jesus, is one that helps him to understand his own life—and he believes it can help us understand ours as well.

As we reflect on this, the significance of the baby born at Christmas cannot be taken for granted. The impact Jesus had on our world cannot be ignored—and the impact Jesus can have on our lives today is something worth exploring. In a world that often feels uncertain, the story of Jesus offers hope, purpose, and a sense of belonging. It reminds us that we are not alone and that our lives have meaning beyond what we achieve or possess.

### Looking Ahead: Lent Opportunities

On the theme of conquering the world and finding meaning in life, there are a couple of opportunities during Lent to meet and explore what the desert can teach us through the lives of the Desert Mothers and Fathers. This will be part of a new course produced by 24/7 Prayer. We will be hosting these sessions on **Wednesday mornings in Welford** and **Thursday afternoons in Clipston** during Lent—please see the flyer enclosed for details.

### Ash Wednesday Service

As we begin Lent, we will gather for a **Naseby Group Ash Wednesday Service** at **Haselbech Church** at **11:00 am on Wednesday 18th February**. All are welcome to join us for this start to the season.

### New Family-Friendly Service

February will also see the launch of a new **4:00 pm service in Naseby, 15<sup>th</sup> Feb**—a relaxed and informal gathering ideal for families (Meeting in the **Methodist Chapel** every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month). Come along for **food, fun, craft, Bible stories, songs, and much more**. We'd love to see you there!

Blessings

Rev'd Tom

## **Sibbertoft Wreath Festival December 2025**

A joint fund raiser in support of Saint Helens church and The Reading room was held over the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> December. Several months in the planning a small team worked closely with Welford and Naseby schools. Village residents were also encouraged to get creative and get involved.

Result . the church was decorated with 34 adult wreaths and the Reading room with over 100 wreaths produced by children of primary age. Mulled wine, hot drinks, delicious home made cakes were enjoyed by our many visitors. A luxury raffle, Chocolate tombola & generous donations helped to raise £1000 net of expenses. This allowed us to make a donation to the

Peace Park project.

The atmosphere through out the weekend was of fun and praise for the clever and sometimes quirky ideas executed by those who entered a wreath.

Sticking to the brief of using natural or recycled materials only. Wreaths were cleverly created from Guinness cans, used Bingo slips, gin bottles, bottle tops, sheep wool, dog food tins and much more.

Thanks to everyone for getting into the spirit of the event. A successful and memorable community weekend which closed with a well attended annual carol service. Collections taken at Christmas services have been donated to Northampton Hope Food bank and The Bridge Homelessness to Hope charity in Leicester. LMH

## **Sibbertoft Sunday Teas signing 2026**

Following on from a very successful 2025 season we hope to open for our 33<sup>rd</sup> year at the beginning of April. We can only do this with the support of our loyal and valued volunteers. This is a unique and wonderful community project which raises vital funds for the maintenance and upkeep of our beautiful Saint Helens Church. Beyond fund raising, Sunday Teas has become a beacon of friendship, continuity and a place of calm safety for many of our visitors. Please help us to continue this work by volunteering to help throughout the 26 week season. Can you spare a couple of Sunday afternoons? Serving drinks/cakes, washing up, setting out and putting away tables and or making cakes. For more information or to pledge your help come along to the Reading room on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February anytime between 6.30 - 7.30pm**

A huge thank you in anticipation of your support from the Teas Team.

**Lesley, Caroline, Jenny, Jose & Moyra or contact us on the teas what's app.**



The Naseby Group of  
churches invites you to

# Cafe Church

with friends, food,  
stories, songs, craft,  
conversation & more..!

**11th Jan, 8th Feb,  
8th March @ 4pm**

Welford School Hall (WSSES)  
Cost: FREE

Children please bring an adult with you

# Step into the Wilderness this Lent with the Desert Mothers and Fathers



Most people avoid the wilderness. They call it empty, harsh, lonely.  
But those who choose to dwell there often discover something deeper:

In its simplicity and silence, there is space for God to speak.

This Lent, you are invited to journey into that same wilderness - Inspired by the Desert Fathers and Mothers, early pioneers who left behind compromise to seek holiness in the Egyptian desert, and by Jesus' own time in the wilderness.

Our **five-week Lent course** will draw on their experiences to help us reflect on our own lives and explore the metaphorical deserts we all face - those seasons of challenge, waiting, and transformation.

**Travel into the wilderness this Lent and rediscover what really matters.**

**Welford: Starting Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February, 10:30 – 12noon @ Quarry House, 2 West End, Welford, NN6 6HJ.**

**Contact: Sarah McSharry – [scmcsharry@gmail.com](mailto:scmcsharry@gmail.com) / 07767303082**  
**Clipston: Starting Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb, 1:30-3pm @ Orbell Room, All Saints Church**

**Contact: Rev'd Lesley Tomalin – [lesley@nasebygroup.org](mailto:lesley@nasebygroup.org)**



WADS  
present

## **The Whitby Rebels**

a play by Bea Roberts.



This story was inspired by a real life madcap voyage in the 1990's.

Let yourself be transported to Whitby Harbour, a caravan park, a pub bar, a magistrates court and the ocean.....mostly the ocean.

3 sailings are planned for 25th, 26th & 27th March.

We look forward to welcoming you on board on the spring tide!

Tickets available from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February from Chris Brown

[Chrisbrownny55@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Chrisbrownny55@hotmail.co.uk)

01858575494

**WELFORD MOVIE NIGHT**  
**Saturday 7th February @ 7.00pm**  
Doors Open 6.30pm  
£7 cash or card



## **LENTEN LUNCH 2026**

Please join us in the Community Centre on Ash Wednesday, February 18th, from 12.30pm onwards for a lunch of delicious soups, bread and fruit, plus tea or coffee.

Tickets are £5 and there will be the usual raffle with all proceeds being donated to a worthy charity.

If possible please let Ann Barraclough or Julie Newman know in advance if you are coming so we know how many to cater for: by

email [annbarraclough@hotmail.com](mailto:annbarraclough@hotmail.com) or phone Ann Barraclough on 01858 575269.

## **Welford WI meetings December and January**

At our December meeting 32 members enjoyed a Christmas party night. A variety of refreshments were provided by members. Pass the parcel, a team quiz and picture quiz were enjoyed by all. Thanks to Catherine Digby, Jane Cottrell and Sue Brotherton for organising them. The raffles were won by Jane Cottrell, Ann Thorington, Jean Baker and Denise Bott.

Our January meeting on Thursday 8th January was definitely an unexpected evening. The snow began just before the meeting and amazingly 17 hardy ladies and 2 guests were welcomed by President Denise Bott. We had 19 apologies.

Our speaker Fay Tennet, who had driven from Towcester, gave her talk on Women in Blue - A women's view from the Police Front Line. It was a fabulous talk covering her 15 year career in Northants Police. She had worked on various task forces and finished her career running the control room at headquarters. It was both revealing, informative and funny. Fay then had a long trip home in the snow.

We had combined business and refreshments, which were provided by Christine O'Reilly, Sue Walton and Debbie Green.

There will be a craft afternoon on Monday February 23rd, at 2.00pm, in the Billiard Room. All welcome.

Other events will be the coffee meet up and a spring lunch in April.

The competition for something blue was won by Sandra Wright, Michelle Wilson and Ann Thorington.

The raffle was won by Jane Cottrell, Debbie Green and Anna Hughes.

We all then had to make our way home which was most eventful for some. Many thanks to those who came.



# CHAPEL COMMENT



## **God is Love**

Love is in our hearts  
Love is in our mind.  
Love breaks down all barriers,  
Love is always blind.

Love can sooth  
Or break your heart.  
Love can heal,  
Or tear you apart.  
Love can warm,  
Or leave you cold  
Love never ages,  
Love is in your soul.

Love can make you happy,  
Love can make you cry.  
Love will never compromise,  
Love will never die.

Love has no price,  
Love is free.  
Love is all around you,  
Take a look, you'll see.  
Love is made for everyone,  
Love from up above,  
Love's a gift from God,  
And God's a gift of love.

**John Reed**

DIARY DATE

## **Friday 6th March 2026 – World Day of Prayer**

**We welcome you to join us in this service which encircles the globe in a wave of prayer, being held in Welford Congregational Chapel at 2pm. This years' service has been prepared by Christian women from Nigeria,**

**who share their stories and is entitled “I will give you rest, come.”**

**For more details or to take part, please contact Rachael Heard on 07808 656831 email [rheard@live.co.uk](mailto:rheard@live.co.uk) or more information on the World Day of Prayer can be found on the website [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)**

## Good Neighbours

Our February Good Neighbours Coffee Morning will be on Tuesday February 3rd from 10.00-12.00 in the Village Hall. Cost £1.50 for coffee/tea and biscuits. Unlimited refills!

Come along for a chat and buy a book or jigsaw. We will shortly be announcing our new charity for this year.

All are welcome.



## Come and Sing Carols 2025

Many thanks to those who flocked to the church on Christmas Eve to support this annual fundraising event in aid of Cynthia Spencer Hospice and The Children's Society.

The church was full, the singing as enthusiastic as ever (especially the 12 Days of Christmas!) and the choir of 24 was, as always, a privilege to work with.

Thank you to all those who donated to the magnificent collection of over £750 collected on the night. Further donations have meant that cheques for £400 have been sent to each of the charities. What a generous village we live in!

Alan and Ann Barraclough

## PSALMS AND READINGS – February

### **Sunday 1st Candlemas**

Psalm 24

First Malachi 3, 1 to 5

Second Hebrews 2, 14 to end

Gospel Luke 2, 22 to 40

### **Sunday 8th 2nd before Lent**

Psalm 8

First Genesis 1, 1 to 2,3

Second Romans 8, 18 to 25

Gospel Matthew 6, 25 to end

### **Sunday 15th Sunday before Lent**

Psalm 121

First Exodus 24, 12 to end

Second 2.Peter 1, 16 to end

Gospel Matthew 17, 1 to 9

### **Sunday 22nd 1st of Lent**

Psalm 61

First Genesis 12, 1 to 4

Second Romans 5, 12 to 19

Gospel Matthew 4, 1 to 11

## **SIBBERTOFT**

	<b>Lesson Reader</b>	<b>Intercessions</b>	<b>Sidesman</b>
15/	OT Jo Elliot	Viv Arrowsmith	Viv Arrowsmith
	NT Sue Clarke		
	Eucharistic Assistant Caroline Jackson		

## **WELFORD**

	<b>Lesson Reader</b>	<b>Intercessions</b>	<b>Sidesman</b>
1/2	OT C Horner	S Lees	C Horner
	NT J Horner		
15/2	OT G Newman	S Bevin	G Newman
	NT J Horner		
22/2	OT A Barraclough	J Newman	M Broad
	NT P Lane		
	Eucharistic Assistant 22/2 Kelvin Broad		

## **WELFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL**

### **Services at 10.45am**

	<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Flowers</b>
1/2	Rev Tony Avery	Mrs J Pilmore
8/2	Trevor Boys	Mrs D Bott
15/2	Rev Tony Avery	Mrs P Teear
22/2	David & Pat Biddle	Mrs M Bott
1/3	Rev Tony Avery	Miss R Heard

**The Magazine.**

**If you would like an entry in the March edition of the magazine please**

**Send copy by 15th February to [jules1044@gmail.com](mailto:jules1044@gmail.com)**

**83 West Street, Welford. 01858 575757**

## **February Services in the Naseby Group**

### **Morning Stream (10:00am)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Location</b>
1 Feb	Morning Worship (with HC)	Naseby Methodist Chapel
8 Feb	Morning Worship (with HC)	Clipston Church
15 Feb	Morning Worship (with HC)	Sibbertoft Church
22 Feb	Morning Worship (with HC)	Marston Trussell Church

### **Fun@4 Stream (4:00pm)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Location</b>
8 Feb	Café Church	Welford School Hall
15 Feb	Messy Church	Naseby Methodist Chapel
22 Feb	Pizza & Praise	Clipston Village Hall

### **Evening Stream (6:15pm)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Location</b>
1 Feb	Evening Worship (Evensong)	Welford Village Hall
15 Feb	Evening Worship (Evensong)	Welford Village Hall
22 Feb	Evening Worship (with HC)	Welford Village Hall

### **Midweek & Special Services (11:00am)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Location</b>
18 Feb (Wed)	Benefice Ash Wednesday Service (with HC)	Haselbech Church

(HC = Holy Communion)

*For the most up to date list of services please see: [nasebygroup.org](http://nasebygroup.org)*