

# THE NEWSLETTER

## The Lyddington Benefice

### The Parishes of

Bisbrooke, Caldecott, Glaston, Harringworth,  
Lyddington, Stoke Dry, Seaton and Thorpe by Water

*The Lyddington Benefice is currently in vacancy.*

### Contacts

Bisbrooke: Katie Salmon	01572 820111
Caldecott: Mary Davidson	01536 770242
Glaston: David Lee	01572 823576
Harringworth: Jane McLean	01572 747755
Lyddington: Jeremy Rider	07526412167
Seaton: Bob Williams	01572 747044
Stoke Dry: Simon Blackman	01572 823833

## May 2026



**Pentecost: Duccio di Buoninsegna (1308).**

Dear friends,

Just a brief note this month.

Thank you all so much for the very generous retirement gifts I have received. Also for the many cards that have come through my letterbox. I haven't decided yet how to use my gifts, but my plan is to use each parish's gift for a specific purpose, so that I have lasting reminders of your generosity.

I hope to move to Barleythorpe, on the outskirts of Oakham, in the near future. For those who have been concerned on his behalf – Lionel the cat is definitely coming with me. As you can see, he's already started to pack!



With best wishes  
Jane

**Thursday Morning Prayer Group  
at 8 Windmill Way, Lyddington,**

Please contact 01572 821202 for details of meetings

**There is a coffee morning at 6 Colley Rise following the service on the first Thursday of each month.  
All are welcome.**

**Common Lectionary readings for May 2026**

**May 2026**

**3 May: The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**White**

Acts 7.55-60; Psalm 31.1-5,15-16\*; 1 Peter 2.2-10; John 14.1-14

**10 May: The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**White**

Acts 17.22-31 ; Psalm 66.7-18; 1 Peter 3.13-22; John 14.15-21

**17 May: The Seventh Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Ascension Day)** **White**

Acts 1. 6–14; Psalm 68. 1-10 [32-35]; 1 Peter 4.12-14; 5. 6–11;  
John 17. 1-11

**24 May: Pentecost**

**Red**

Acts 2. 1-21 † or Numbers 11. 24 – 30; Psalm 104. 26-36, 37b [or 26-end];  
1 Corinthians 12. 3b-13 or Acts 2. 1-21 †; John 20. 19-23 or John 7. 37-39

**31 May: Trinity Sunday**

**White**

Isaiah 40. 12-17, 27 – end; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13. 11 – end;  
Matthew 28. 16-20

**June 2026**

**7 June: First Sunday after Trinity (Proper 7)**

**Green**

Hosea 5.15 - 6.6; Psalm 50.7-15; Romans 4.13-end; Matthew 9.9-13, 18-26

## The Lyddington Benefice: Services during March 2026

	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday
	10 <sup>th</sup> May 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	17 <sup>th</sup> May 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	24 <sup>th</sup> May Pentecost	31 <sup>st</sup> May Trinity Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup> June 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity
<b>Bisbrooke</b>	6.00pm Evening Prayer (WL)	11.00am Holy Communion <b>TBC</b>	9.30am Gathered Church (WL)	Benefice Service at Stoke Dry	No service
<b>Caldecott</b>	11.00am Family Service (WL)	6.00pm Evening Prayer CW (WL)	No service	Benefice Service at Stoke Dry	9.30am Family Communion  Revd Jo Saunders
<b>Glaston</b>	11.00am Holy Communion CW Trad. Revd Jo Saunders	No service	11.00am Gathered Church (WL)	Benefice Service at Stoke Dry	11.00am Morning Prayer (WL)
<b>Harringworth</b>	10.00am Family Service (WL)	No service	9.30am Parish Communion CW Revd Jo Saunders	Benefice Service at Stoke Dry	No service
<b>Lyddington</b>	Service at Glaston	No service	11.00am Parish Communion CW Revd Jo Saunders	Benefice Service at Stoke Dry	6.00pm Compline (WL)
<b>Seaton</b>	9.30am Morning Prayer  (WL)	9.30am Holy Communion CW TBC	11.00am Family Service  (WL)	Benefice Service at Stoke Dry	No service
<b>Stoke Dry</b>	No service	No service	No service	<b>10.30am</b> <b>Benefice Service</b> <b>of Holy</b> <b>Communion</b> Revd Andrew Birks	11.00am Service of the Word  (JC)

### Funerals

After a service at Great Glen Crematorium, **John Cartwright's** life was celebrated in a full Church at Bisbrooke on Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup>. Local friends came in support of his family and there were groups from the legal profession, Stamford School and Luffenham golf course. The funeral was conducted by Mrs Jill Cannings and the organist was Mrs Carol Dry.

The funeral of **Annette Patricia Cutting** took place in a very full St John the Baptist, Bisbrooke, on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Annette was a much respected English teacher and an active member of the village community. The funeral was taken by Canon Jane Baxter, with a tribute from her husband, Tony, and contributions from friends. The organist was Mrs Carol Dry.

A service of Celebration & Thanksgiving for the life of **Christine Rogers** was held in St John the Baptist, Harringworth, on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Cremation took place earlier in the day. Mrs Rogers was a popular member of the village community and the church was full. The service was taken by The Revd Beverley Stark.

## What's in a name?

It will soon be Pentecost... or should that be Whitsunday?

Does it matter? No, it doesn't matter, it's the same, but the name helps us to think a little deeper.

Pentecost, from the Greek word for 50, is 50 days after Easter and a Jewish festival (much in common with our Harvest Festival). In Acts, the disciples (women and men) were preparing to celebrate Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended like 'tongues of fire', there was the sound of a great wind, Peter preached and thousands became Christians that day.

The small number of women and men, hiding away and afraid, became a large number of women and men, speaking about Jesus' death and resurrection.

So why did it used to be Whitsunday?

Maybe from the Old English 'White Sunday', people were often baptised then wearing white robes. Or maybe Whitsunday comes from 'Wisdom Sunday' – I love this explanation because it draws us back to the heart of the biblical account. Wisdom Sunday because the Holy Spirit is viewed as the wisdom of God who gives wisdom to Christians.

Whatever we call it, Pentecost is the birthday of the Church. We focus on God who gives wisdom and enables the church to serve their community.

My prayer this Pentecost is that we also continue that tradition of care for those who need it most and focus on becoming ever more a place of welcome for all.



The Venerable Alison Booker, Archdeacon of Oakham



## Gardener's Corner

MAY 2026

BY ALISTAIR PEAK

May has to be the month of full-on growing time for plants, so enjoy this as daily your garden will change. With the largest flower show on this month, enjoy a visit or watch Chelsea Flower show and pick up lots of ideas.

Forsythia and Ribes (Flowering Currant) would have finished by now, they are both plants that flower on previous years wood, now is the time to prune them. Try and remove approximately a third of the plant and take some of the growth down to the base of the plant to encourage new growth. Once you have done this feed the plant with Blood Fish and Bone along with some organic matter around it and finally water the plant too.

Many climbing plants are putting a lot of growth on at present such as Climbing Roses, Clematis and Honeysuckle, it's a good idea to keep a check on these and keep them tied in as they make new growth.

We are moving into prime bedding planting out season, ensure that you harden them off before planting them out. Ensure that you keep an ear on the weather as frosts can appear at this time of year and damage your tender plants.

If you have Hanging Baskets and you wish to plant them up and you have a Green House now is the perfect time to do so. Pop along to your Garden Centre/ Nursery and buy your plants, remember that you need Thrillers, Fillers and Spillars.

Thrillers, tend to be upright plants, eg Fuschia, Geranium and Salvia,

Fillers, Geranium, Begonia and Marigold

And Spillars, which tend to sprawl out of the container, so they are all trailing plants, e.g., Petunia, Fuschias, Lobelia, Ivy leafed Geraniuma and Bacopa.

Remember to grow them on a frost-free site until they are ready to go outside. Ensure that you keep them well watered and fed and deadhead regularly. They really do rely on us humans to keep growing, don't turn your back on them.

Growing potatoes is a rewarding job, as the leaves appear through the soil, ensure that you keep them earthed up to prevent light getting to the tubers as they are poisons if the tubers are green. Also, they must not get frost on their leaves otherwise it can kill them. If you are able to water them on a regular basis if we have dry spell, it will help swell the potatoes.

Many of us don't like using chemicals in our gardens, I know they will sort some problems, but with a good ecological system this often helps. With Slugs and snails, one option is to do nightly visits around your garden and pick them up by hand and dispose of them. I have been trying sheep wool pellets and it has been fairly successful. They also will feed the soil and are 100% chemical free, sometimes if we have a lot of rain, you may need to add more Sheep Wool Pellets.

Rhubarb has been available for while this spring to harvest, remember to pull the stems and not cut them off the main plant, The leaves are poisons to eat but the stems make amazing puddings and jams if you have a glut give away to your family and friends. If they throw up a flower spike remove this so the goodness can go back into producing more stems, why do they produce flower spikes, mainly due to stress, which is drought, not having enough food and water and the age of the clumps. Next winter, lift up and divide the clump, but remember not to harvest for a couple years. Finally, do not pick any later than late June/ early July, so the goodness can go back to clumps for next year.

Alistair Tip,

Think about "No Mow May", leaving some lawn to grow a little longer great for flora and fauna, not asking for the whole lawn!



In support of **Perennial**  
Helping people  
in horticulture

**ST JAMES CHURCH AND  
PERENNIAL**

**St James'**  
GRETTON

**PLANT SALE**

St James' Church, Gretton, NN17 3BU  
16th May from 10am to 1pm

Contact Alistair Peak for further details on:  
Email: [alistair.peak@gmail.com](mailto:alistair.peak@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 07847115048

# VILLAGE NEWS

## BISBROOKE

A couple of dates for later in the summer. We will be having a cake stall in Uppingham market place on Saturday June 13th. Also our annual fete and dog show will be on Sunday July 5th.

We continue to support the local food bank, collecting a box of items each month at 1 top Lane. A new summer wish list is out and can be found on the village WhatsApp or the notice board.

A new bench has been installed on the millennium green to replace the previous one which was no longer serviceable. Thanks to the trustees for arranging this.

Church Flowers for May are in care of Lisa Naylor and Olwen Dunbar, cleaning is Jane Wilson and Debbie Wallis.

## CALDECOTT

DATES:-

LADIES GROUP 7<sup>th</sup> May -7.30PM in Village Hall

FETE MEETING-May 12<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm.

100 CLUB DRAW WINNERS:-

MARCH-1<sup>ST</sup> Robert Sharman no 20; 2<sup>nd</sup> Colin Deadman no 82; 3<sup>rd</sup> John Bruce no 3.

APRIL-1<sup>st</sup> Michelle no 76; 2<sup>nd</sup> Maggie Garrett no 61; 3<sup>rd</sup> Judy Lea no 60 .

May draw on 27<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Plough .

Church News-'Operation Pigeon' -the saga is over ,we hope. 300 k of guano removed , apertures remeshed and the clock room floor repaired and treated. The ropes have been replaced and bells rung for the farewell gathering for the Retirement of the Revd Canon Jane Baxter. This was attended by about 30 people who enjoyed fizz and food followed by a presentation of the gift of the collection from the village. She will be much missed after her ministry of nearly 22 years but we hope she will enjoy a well earned retirement and 'treat herself on us.'

Bells- we plan to recommence Monday practices which will be about every 3-4 weeks. Occasional weddings and funerals may be rug for and from time to time visitors request a ring. Anyone interested in learning is welcome to come along and see what is happening.

We have received grants towards the work from the Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust and the Patston Trust so are extremely grateful to both.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting-this was held on April 8<sup>th</sup> and chaired for the last time by Revd J Baxter.The PCC remains the same with Mary Davidson as Churchwarden. We could do with some new members; we meet 4 times a year to deal with church matters and plan events.

It is hoped that during the vacancy between Rectors that the usual pattern of 3 services a month will take place with visiting clergy for the Communion Services, please check notice boards for dates and times.

Mowing-Gary and others have already been busy on the Hall Green and in the Churchyard; we are extremely grateful to all of them and ask all dogwalkers to be responsible and clear up after their dogs; the health risks and damage to machines could result in a walk out.

Fete-following the positive meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup> plans are in hand for July 4th when it will be opened by this year's High Sherriff; her hat is splendid-well worth a look.

The next meeting will be on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm when any offers of help and ideas will be welcome.

Food Bank-we still deliver monthly to the pick up point; please leave any donations in church or at 14 Main St.

## HARRINGWORTH

**HARRINGWORTH CAFE OPENS** The Café reopened for the summer at the end of April with a very good mix of villagers and passers by popping in to enjoy coffee and cake. Join us on a Saturday for delicious hot coffee, homemade cakes, sausage rolls and much more... please encourage neighbours, friends and family to visit.

**NEXT QUIZ NIGHT - FRIDAY 8TH MAY** - Our Quizzing experts are busy preparing for our next quiz night on Friday 8th May. Please email Gavin Gordon to book your place(s) ahead of the evening.

**GOLD SUMMER PARTY - SATURDAY 20 JUNE 5 - 11PM** Save the date for a fun Summer Party for all the village. With marquees in the paddock behind the Village Hall we are planning a special celebration to mark 50 years of the Village Hall. Lively music, BBQ, Bar, Pimm's, Games and more for all the family. Further details to follow soon....

**SAFARI SUPPER ON SATURDAY 8TH AUGUST:** The popular Haringworth Safari Supper is on Saturday 8th August. More details from Jackie and Sandy nearer the date.

**ARTISAN MARKET SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER:** After the success of the Christmas Artisan Market last year we are planning to repeat the event again this year on Saturday 14th November 2026.

## LYDDINGTON

Items for the Benefice Newsletter from Lyddington for May 2026

**Village Fete meeting and date of Fete** Collection of Bric a Brac and items for book stalls, nearly new, bottle tombola please before Sat 9<sup>th</sup> May. Please contact Keith Ormrod for details on 07904292719. Please do offer help for running stalls, helping prepare, setting up the fete and taking it down. **Fete day is 9<sup>th</sup> May 2026.** From 1.30pm. Always a very popular event.

**Three Inch Fools return to Village Green Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2026** Picnics and 6pm, show at 7pm. This year production: "King Arthur and the Holy Fail". Tickets available from the Old White Hart as well as on the [threeinchfools.com/upcomingperformances/2026](http://threeinchfools.com/upcomingperformances/2026)

**Monthly coffee morning meet up** Takes place at the Old White Hart last Thursday of the month from 10am to 12noon. All invited.

**The Woodland Trust** is offering "free trees" to communities - if you have land where trees could be planted please let our Lyddington parish clerk know and he can provide the application form for tree packs.

**Pilatone** Pilates and toning at Village Hall Mondays at 11am. Contact Amanda Biggs 07919542133 [biggsy05@icloud.com](mailto:biggsy05@icloud.com) £10 per session

**Pilates on Wednesday** 11am at Village Hall contact Sam at Be Body Fresh, cost £12 single class or 4 class pass £40, Please bring a mat and wear sports / loose clothing [www.bookwhen.com/bebodyfreshfitness](http://www.bookwhen.com/bebodyfreshfitness)

**Easyfundraising** <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> easyfundraising partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand. Brands pay Easyfundraising a commission because when you start your shop from the easyfundraising website or app, they can see we sent you to them. If you make a purchase, a commission is generated, and we turn that into a donation – magic! PLEASE consider using this scheme to help St Andrews Church.

**Lyddington Village Hall**, under the Community Hub Scheme, LVH has been granted an extension for another year supply of internet with high speed broadband. This is provided by GIGACLEAR under their Community Hub Scheme and is available to all hall users. The Trustees welcome any suggestions as to how this facility can be used to enhance village life, now has superfast Wifi available to **all those who hire** the Village Hall. So if your home Wifi is slow and you need a quiet space to work or are holding a meeting and need Wifi (for non-attendees) or want to run Fitness sessions and need to be able to allow some of your group to follow you at home, please book the village hall. **To keep this facility we need to show we are using it. Please book via the village hall website**

**Food bank donations** Please leave any food bank donations in the village bus shelter opposite the White Hart – there are boxes for these. Please see village Whats App group for details of items to donate and when the next collection will be. These are collected on a Wednesday morning once every 4 weeks.

**Old Foreign Coins & Notes.** If you have any old foreign coins and bank notes which you no longer need then please consider donating these to Lyddington Church. Steven King will happily accept these (preferably in a plastic bag posted through his letter box). Please leave at Fern Cottage 43 Main St Lyddington.

## **SEATON and THORPE**

Please come and help out at the **village hall garden tidy up** on Saturday 2 May between 10am-12pm. We also need help going to the tip afterwards. Contact [lizzieshields@btinternet.com](mailto:lizzieshields@btinternet.com) for more information.

The **Beetle Drive** will be held in the village hall on Friday 15 May at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. This was great fun last time, so don't miss out and it is suitable for all ages. Hilariously competitive, there will be a prize for the winner. Tickets cost £15 to include a quiche and salad supper and dessert. Bring your own drinks. To book tickets please contact Jo Everson at [Joanne\\_everson@outlook.com](mailto:Joanne_everson@outlook.com).

The next **village hall teas** will be on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May from 2-4pm, and donations will be in aid of Kidney Research UK.

Hilary Crowden will be giving a fascinating talk on the **Closure of the Railway** on 6 June at 2pm followed by tea and cake which will cost £10 per head. Free for children under 16. The proceeds will be split between the church and the village hall. To book tickets contact [chrisashby22@googlemail.com](mailto:chrisashby22@googlemail.com) stating your name, number of tickets required and preferred session (afternoon or evening.) Payment is required prior to the event.

And get your thinking caps on! The inaugural **Seaton Scarecrow competition** will take place over the weekend of 8/9<sup>th</sup> August with the theme of 'Famous People.' There will be a map to follow, tea and cake in the village hall, a chance to vote for your favourite scarecrow and a prize for the winner. More details to follow...

Our **lucky numbers** winners were: 40 – first prize; 29 – second prize. If you want to buy a number please contact [Sarah.e.brant@sky.com](mailto:Sarah.e.brant@sky.com)

### **Thank yous**

Reverend Jane would like to convey her thanks to everyone who contributed to her retirement gift. She is so thankful for your kindness and thoughtfulness and will very much appreciate the gifts as she prepares to move home in the next few months.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to a retirement collection for Peter as he retires as churchwarden after serving Seaton Church for nearly 25 years. It was a huge surprise and we will think of you all as we sit in our new garden chairs! It has been a privilege and a joy to service the church community here and help maintain our wonderful church building.  
Sue and Peter

### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

At our APCM on 24<sup>th</sup> March we welcomed Philip Head, who takes up his role of new Churchwarden alongside Bob Williams.