

RUTLAND WATER BENEFICE
MAGAZINE COVER PAGE

Welcome

Rutland Water Benefice

Sharing the love of Christ with all

Comprising the parishes of Edith Weston, Empingham, Lyndon, Manton,
North Luffenham, Pilton, Preston, Ridlington, Whitwell and Wing

Rector: Post vacant

Rev'd Jo Saunders is assisting in the Benefice during the Vacancy and can be contacted by emailing revjosaunders@live.co.uk or 07946 237223

Please refer to the service rota at the back of this magazine and do make yourselves known to the churchwardens when you arrive. You will be very welcome.

For all enquiries about a baptisms or weddings, please use the website enquiry forms in the first instance or speak to your churchwarden - contact details on the back page.

All funeral enquiries should be directed to the Rural Dean -
Rev'd Jane Baxter 01572 822717

Home communions can be arranged by appointment.

This magazine is distributed free of charge to every home in the benefice, made possible by the generous support of the advertisers and our team of volunteer distributors.

More information about the benefice can be found on the website
www.rutlandwaterbenefice.info
or www.achurchnearyou.com



Copy for next month's magazine by 12th December 2024
please, to Alice Hill
rutlandbeneficeparishmag@gmail.com

To place an advertisement, contact Penny - penny@spiegel.co.uk

'Welcome Mary and Joseph to your home this Christmas'

Dear Friends

When I was in parish ministry, I was delighted to learn about the tradition of the Posada which one village had been running for a number of years. Posada means 'inn' in Spanish and, in Mexico and parts of the United States, an activity has developed when small versions of Mary and Joseph travel around different households in the community and stay there for one night. On Christmas Day, they are brought into church and placed in the crib where they are joined by the baby Jesus. In the small village where I ministered, this had become a beloved tradition and many people joined in.



'Welcome Mary and Joseph to your home this Christmas' is the invitation that is offered to the community and in doing this, people are encouraged to make room for Jesus in a new and creative way.

I wonder what it would be like for you to make room in your home for Jesus this Advent and Christmas – maybe it would be slowing down and taking time to speak to him; perhaps it is thinking about those in need in your neighbourhood and finding ways to serve them; you might want to find time to read afresh the words of the prophets in the Old Testament who look ahead to the day that the Messiah will come and live among God's people. Whatever it might look like to you, can I encourage you to invite Jesus into your home, into your heart and into your lives.

'The word became flesh and dwelt among us'

With Christmas blessings

+Debbie

+Debbie

Diocese of Peterborough - Magazine Resource - December 2024

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Tel: 01733 887000 Email: communications@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Carol Services around the Benefice and services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Everyone is welcome to attend

	Carol Service	Christmas Eve 24th December	Christmas Day 25th December
Edith Weston	15th December 6.00pm Carol Service		9.30am Holy Communion
Empingham	18th December 6.00pm Carol Service	6.00pm Living Crib Service	11.00am Holy Communion
Lyndon		6pm Candlelit Carol Service	
Manton		4.00pm Crib Service	9.30am Holy Communion by extension
North Luffenham	19th December 7pm Candlelit Carols		9.30am All Age Worship
Pilton	8th December 6.00pm St Nicholas Service		
Preston	15th December 3pm Carol Service		
Ridlington	22nd December 4pm Carol Service		9.30am Holy Communion by extension
Whitwell		6pm Carol Service	
Wing	22nd December 3pm Carol Service	11pm Holy Communion by extension	

EDITH WESTON

Items for Edith Weston section of Benefice magazine

Please email miranda.cheneywood@gmail.com with any news or items of interest for residents of the Parish. Please email by 12th of the month for inclusion of items in the following month's magazine.

December Services

Carol Service **Sunday 15th** December 6pm

Led by Canon Vyv Wainwright.

All welcome and children come in Nativity costumes should they so wish.

Christmas Day 9.30am

Led by Rev'd Jo Saunders. All welcome

Holy Communion



NEWS FROM THE BELL CHAMBER

The Edith Weston Bellringers will say farewell to 2024 in style this New Year's Eve.

The plan is to ring muffled bells in the run up to midnight, followed by a joyful peal to welcome in 2025. If you are in the village please join us for a celebratory tippie - bring a glass, we'll provide the fizz!

More news from the Bell Chamber:

The Edith Weston ringers are organising a wine-tasting evening at the Village Hall on Saturday 7th December at 7pm.

Our expert guide on the night will introduce six wonderful wines, showcasing the best of old and new world producers. Tickets also include a welcome drink, delicious canapés and great company.

Don't delay! Get your ticket from the village shop until 3rd December. More information from Nicky (0747 226425) or Sarah (07502 437700).

TOMMY'S TALK 'INSIDE THE COLD WAR'

Last month's talk by Ed Jarron was very well attended and gave a fascinating insight into cold war experience from an insider's point of view. Thanks to Ed and also to the fundraising team, headed up so ably by Kath, for a most interesting and enjoyable evening.

Christmas Card Fundraising Appeal 2024

Reminder...

The appeal will have started on December 1st. This a great way to raise very much needed funds for our village church.

If you would like to be involved please write a Christmas card to the village, sign it and include your monetary donation to the church. (cheques made payable to Edith Weston PCC)

Your card will then be displayed in the church porch from December 14th. Please drop your card off in the designated Christmas Box in the village shop during opening hours.

Many thanks

Edith Weston PCC

Edith Weston Village Shop & PO Christmas Opening Hours

Mon 23rd Dec	NORMAL
Tue 24th Dec	8.30am - 12.30pm
Christmas Day	CLOSED
Thur 26th Dec (BH)	CLOSED
Fri 27th Dec	8.30am - 12.30pm
Sat 28th Dec	8.30am - 12.30pm
Sun 29th Dec	8.30am - 12.30pm
Mon 30th Dec	8.30am - 12.30pm
Tue 31st Dec	8.30am - 12.30pm
Wed 1st Jan (BH)	9am - 11am
Thur 2nd Jan	8.30am - 12.30pm
Fri 3rd Jan	NORMAL

We would like to thank all our customers for their support and wish you all a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Last Christmas posting dates

2nd class **18th December.** 1st class **20th December**

Edith Weston Village Hall 100 Club

Congratulations to the winners in December:

£30. G Young. £20. J Tinsley £10. Mr Sinclair

£10 gift voucher for the village shop kindly donated by Helen & Andy – Mr Green

Mrs Hagen is the lucky winner of the snowball prize of £50

EMPINGHAM

News from St Peter's Church

The Autumn Quiz on 9th November was a great success. Firstly it was a grand social occasion with lots of laughter and entertainment. Secondly as a fund raising event - £1426.50 was raised for the maintenance of the church. This just about covers the annual servicing costs of the roof alarm, fire extinguishers, clock, organ and the heaters.

Thanks to all who took part and especially to the organisers. Especially to Sara Buck who was a grand Quizmaster with a marvellous range of questions and such good organisation. Thanks to Keith and Stephen on the bar and Susan, Helene & Tarn for dishing up a very tasty lasagne, followed by excellent apple & berry crumble.

Concert of Carols, Songs and Singalong organised by Sophie Hurst, a soprano now professional. This is at 7.00pm on Saturday 7th December. Tickets are £12 from sophiesvoicesoprano@gmail.com or phone 07725 036344. Wine and soft drinks will be available in the interval.

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

Wednesday 11th Dec from 10.00 at St Peter's Church.

£10, to include wreath base & coffee & cake.

If possible, please bring your own greenery, decorations to share, pliers and secateurs.

For further information or to book your wreath please contact Kate Neal, 01780 460501 katejneal@btinternet.com

Carol Service with Young Musicians. On Wednesday 18th December at 6.00pm in the Church. Seasonal music with wine and mince pies to follow.

Drop in for Coffee and Cake, Every Wednesday from 10.30 am to 12.00. All welcome.

ACTIVITIES AT EMPINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Minster: Rev Bekkie Wright, 01778422258

revbekkiewright@gmail.com

SERVICES DURING DECEMBER 2024

SUNDAY 1st 3 pm United Circuit Service at Stamford Methodist Church.

8th 10.45am Morning Worship with Holy Communion -Rev Bekkie Wright.

15th 10.45am CAFÉ CHURCH with Phil Jones

22nd **3pm** Carol Service with Phil Jones and Stamford Orchestra Offering for Save the children. Followed by Refreshments,

29th 10.45am Morning Worship.

MONDAY 2 -4pm. POST OFFICE

Refreshments and Second-hand books on sale. Photocopying and laminating.

**THURSDAY'S. – 10.30 – 12 noon. £1, per family
TODDLER/BABY & PARENT GROUP**

Eileen Ray 01780 460676.

Empingham Bowls Club

Empingham Bowls Club will be holding a Coffee Morning between 10 am and 12 noon on Thursday 19th December 2024, at Empingham Cricket Club.

Everyone is welcome. The charge is £2 per person for coffee and cake, with a raffle at £1 per strip of tickets. There will also be mulled wine and mince pies at this Coffee Morning.

Any donations of cakes or raffle prizes would also be most welcome. Any monies raised will help to keep the Empingham Bowls Club running, and the Club is always looking for new members.

Barbara's Store

Christmas opening hours

23rd December 7am - 5pm

25th December closed

27th December 8am - 12 noon

29th December 9am - 12 noon

31st December 8am - 12 noon

1st January closed

24th December 7am - 2pm

26th December closed

28th December 8am - 12 noon

30th December 8am - 12 noon

2nd January 7am - 5pm

Barbara's Store would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you all a happy Christmas and prosperous New year.

Contact tel. 01780 460348

Email: barbaras.store@hotmail.co.uk

Empingham Village (Audit) Hall

Empingham Village Hall Mini Ernie

Draw No 12

1st £20 28 Laureen Wing. 2nd £15 162 Gary Cooper

3rd £10 117 Ruby Prior

Alan Danbury will be contacting all participants shortly as renewals are due from 1 January.

If anyone wants to join for 2025, the application form can be downloaded from our web site <http://empingham.life/audithall/ernie.shtml> . The subscription is £12 p.a. for twelve draws.

Empingham Together

Come and join the Carol Singing round the village at 6.00 pm on Saturday 21st December.

This year we will be accompanied by a group of musicians.

We will assemble at the top of the village at the Green in Bayley's Close, and walk downhill along Love's Lane, Willoughby Drive, Crocket Lane, pausing at the Nativity Tableau and finishing about 7.30 for Mulled Wine and Mince Pies at St Peter's Church.

We welcome children, accompanied by their adults. We will have glow sticks for all the children.

The collection will be for the Stamford Food Bank

Empingham Garden Club

It's our Christmas Party on 16th December at 7pm at the Cricket and Social Club!

Pizza for everyone arriving from Oakham.

Entertainment by two singing party girls at 8 pm.

9pm results of our fun quiz and mammoth Raffle.

Do come along and join in the Fun.

Empingham Allotment Association

We would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to add their name to our waiting list for a plot in 2025. Our AGM will be on 21st January, 7.30pm at the Cricket Club. Following the formal meeting, Hannah Clarke from Kings Seeds will talk about wild flower seeds and the use of cover crops. We invite anyone interested to join us at 7.45 - you don't have to be an EAA member, just interested in wild flower cultivation. For further details contact Lesley Danbury 01780 460539 or email us at Empingham.allotments@gmail.com.

Cricket and Social Club

The club is open as follows:

- From 5.15 pm on Wednesdays– please check calendar on website for any further changes
- From 4.30 pm on Friday evenings
- From 1.00 pm on Sunday lunchtimes.

Please see facebook for up-to-date details concerning opening times and other events.

Cricket is now finished for the season

Special Events

There will be a quiz on Christmas Eve. There will also be an informal get together on New Years Eve

Club Contacts

The club website can be found at empinghamcsc.org, where you will find useful details about the club and the calendar

The club Facebook page can be found as **Empingham Cricket and Social Club**, or directly from the website. Useful details about the club and events can be found here too.

To join as a member, or renew an exiting membership of Empingham Cricket and Social Club please visit Empingham Cricket and Social Club

Membership enquiries can be sent to bobsloan79@yahoo.co.uk

Club secretary David Duffin, david@theduffins.org.uk

LYNDON

Luxury Wreath Making Workshop at Picks Barn with expert florist Harriet, from The Lincolnshire Flower Company.

Thursday 12th December: 12pm - 2pm OR 6pm - 8pm.

Get your creativity flowing and kickstart Christmas with us here at the Barn under the watchful eye of Harriet whose Wreath Workshops sell out year after year. She will lead you through a 2-hour workshop sharing techniques and tips that will help you create a show-stopping wreath for your home and will be useful long after the workshop is over.

Ticket price (£85) includes either a light lunch for the lunchtime workshop or fizz and festive canapes for the evening workshop.

To find out more or book your place, contact Taisie at pb@picks-barn.co.uk or book online at www.thelincolnshireflowercompany.co.uk/workshops

MANTON

MANTON VILLAGE HALL 150 CLUB Winning numbers for November 2024. **£20:** 43 Ann Taylor **£10:** 30 Mary Stenson **£10:** 46 Peter Ayre **£5:** 125 Christine Palmer **£5:** 83 Diane McKenzie. This month's snowball £50 was not won. If you would like to join the 150 Club and help support the Village Hall contact the Promoter, John Stones Tel: 01572 827944.

COFFEE MORNING ROTA

If you would like to be on the Coffee Morning rota next year please contact Anne (annecowan38@gmail.com) The Coffee Mornings take place on the second Thursday of each month 10.30-12.00. All you have to do is provide coffee/tea/cake/biscuits...and pick your favoured date. We provide the chat!!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

BIBLE / PRAYER GROUP

As usual this month we meet at 1.50 for 2.00 pm on **Thursday 5 December**. Venue to be arranged. Everyone is always welcome to our friendly group, either regularly or occasionally.

There's lots more news for Manton on page 23

adverts Sept

Adverts April 2024

Adverts

adverts

Adverts

Adverts Oct 2024

MANTON continued

MANTON VILLAGE HALL QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 7 December - 7.00pm

Manton Village Hall

Please join us for another fun evening of quizzing at Manton Village Hall. Teams of four but don't hesitate to register your interest if you don't have a full team. Cost per person is £10.00 to include light refreshments in the form of a cheese platter supper. Please do remember to bring your own drinks & glasses. To register your team of four for the village hall quiz please email Helen on mantonvillagehallbookings@gmail.com. Payment details will then be provided.

CHRISTMAS “BRING & BUY” COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 12 December – 10.30 am-12.00

At the home of Finola Hornby, The Croft, Lyndon Rd, Manton. Any problems/ lifts needed, please contact Anne Cowan (01572737503). FREE – but any donations to church funds gratefully received.

A CHRISTMAS FAIR in aid of THE CINNAMON TRUST

“A wonderful charity which provides peace of mind & help for older people with love and practical care for their pets”

MANTON VILLAGE HALL

Thursday, 12th December from 10 am to 3 pm

“PERFECT PRESENTS from 20 unique stands

Coffee and Cake, Homemade soup, Hambleton Bakery goodies!

Entrance £5 cash (included Tombola ticket)

Some stands & refreshments will be cash only

Please park with respect to the residents of Manton village.

Enquiries & donations please to

Ginny Heathcote Ball ginnyhball@gmail.com 07539729829

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP (by Georgia Joy of Stamford)

Saturday 14 December – 10.00am–12 noon followed by light refreshments

Come and have fun learning how to make your very own door wreath. All materials & tools are provided but feel free to bring any decorations or ribbon of your own to add in. Light refreshments will be provided following the workshop. The cost per person is £45.00 & numbers will be limited so please book early to avoid disappointment with Helen - mantonvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

Manton Christmas Party

Saturday 14 December – 4.00–6.00pm

Manton Village Hall

Join us for an afternoon of festive fun for all ages at the Manton Christmas Party! There'll be food, games, music, and a chance for the children to meet Father Christmas and receive a present (included in the children's ticket price). Tickets: Children £5 each (pay cash on the door); adults free entry.

RSVP required for children by 2 December to:

mantonvillageevents@gmail.com with ages and any dietary needs, so we can cater and Father Christmas brings enough presents! A bar will be available for adult drinks and snacks, with donations going towards St Mary's Church, Manton.

MANTON PLAYERS PANTOMIME – revisited!

Sunday 15 December – 14.30pm doors open 13.45

Manton Village Hall

Come and see a re-vamped video of an old Manton Players classic, Mother Goose, on Manton's silver screen. Tea and cake will be served. Tickets £5 from Anne Cowan (01572737503 or 07854595198) in aid of Manton Church Fabric Fund. Manton Players by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES AT THE CHURCH

Saturday 21 December – 10am - 12noon Decorate the church for Christmas. Decorate the tree/ Put up the Nativity scenes/ Childrens craft activities. Coffee/ Squash/Mince Pies/Biscuits etc all morning. FREE

Monday 23 December – 4pm CAROLS IN THE CHURCH

Join fellow villagers to sing carols in the church for an hour to raise money for CRISIS. Children are most welcome to join in with instruments etc. Followed by Mulled Wine/Juice and Mince Pies/Biscuits etc...

Tuesday 24 December - 4pm CRIB SERVICE

Half an hour service for the young and young at heart, telling the Nativity Story with songs, prayers and Crib Scene. Followed by Tea/squash/Mince pies and biscuits FREE

Wednesday 25 December – 9.30am HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

with Vyv Wainwright

COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 9 January 2025 10.30-12.00

At the home of Anne Cowan, 38, Lyndon Rd, Manton.

Any problems/lifts needed, please contact Anne Cowan (01572737503)

FREE – but any donations to church funds gratefully received

MANTON SAFARI SUPPER 2025 Saturday 8 February 2025

Manton Safari Supper will take place on Saturday February 8th 2025. Please call 01572737503 to book your place, host a course etc Tickets £20. Bring your own drinks.

See mantonparish.org.uk for further details.

Tai Chi Rutland - Tai Chi and Qi Gong beginners class from January 2025

Sunday mornings, fortnightly at Manton Village Hall - 10.00am for an hour & a half. A rare opportunity to begin learning these arts with a group of all beginners in an informative and fun environment. Limited spaces available.

Contact Duncan - taichirutland@gmail.com

RUTLAND FOLK DANCE CLUB - MANTON VILLAGE HALL Friday 6 Dec; Friday 13 Dec - 20.00-22.00

Join us on a Friday evening to enjoy English folk dancing at its best!

Newcomers welcome as well as enthusiastic experts. For more information:

<http://www.rutlandfolkdanceclub.wordpress.com> or phone Hilary Wallace

01780 460389

NORTH LUFFENHAM

Christmas Services

As well as the usual

- **9.30am Breakfast Church** in the Community Centre on Sunday 15th December and the
- **Christmas Holy Communion also at 9.30am** in church on Sunday 22nd December we shall have
- **Candlelit Carols on Thursday 19th December starting at 7pm** with a greeting of **mulled wine & mince pies (remember we still have no heating so wrap up warmly!)**.
- **On Christmas Day at 9.30am we shall have a short lay led All Age Worship Service – remember to bring your toys!**

Village Christmas Card Scheme – Instead of sending all your neighbours separate cards, just deliver one card (with a donation for our new church heating) to either Churchwardens, Janet Whittaker (Dove Cottage, 4 Church St., or Patrick Woods (7 Swann Close) All the cards will be displayed in the church porch on the wonderful wooden Christmas tree donated last year by the *Men & Women in Sheds* which will be lit with colourful lights.

Volunteers Wanted for Parish Magazine Deliveries – Please could a few kind people volunteer to help with the monthly delivery of the Parish Magazine. We are in great need (because of our former helpers ill health) otherwise the magazine is in peril of expiring! Just contact your Churchwardens.

The Good Companions: Bringing the Community Together

The Good Companions Club is North Luffenham's local community group, dedicated to fostering a sense of belonging, friendship, and support among our neighbours. Whether you're new to the area or have been here for years, everyone is welcome to join this friendly group.

The Good Companions recently hosted a truly inspiring meeting featuring a presentation by local resident Richard Adams. Richard's talk, titled "See It My Way," was a beautiful showcase of Rutland and the surrounding area through his eyes, combining photographs of familiar places with carefully chosen music that captured the essence of our surroundings. His presentation sparked fond memories and lively conversations, reminding everyone of the beauty and

uniqueness of our wonderful county.

In addition to his presentation, Richard brought along calendars to purchase for the coming year, filled with his photographs of the local landscape and landmarks. The calendars were a huge hit among members, providing not only a lovely keepsake but also supporting the group's mission of community connection. Many members left the event with a calendar in hand, excited to share it with friends and family.

In December, The Fox will host our annual Christmas lunch on Wednesday 11th December. As a real treat, entertainment will be provided by Julie Fox, a singer from stage and theatre, for a good ole sing-along, as well as Christmas hamper surprises! The Club and all its members would like to say a huge thanks to the North Luffenham Safari Supper organisers and the village pantomime organisers, for their very generous donations, which has helped to part-fund the lunch free to our members.

For the first meeting of 2025, we will meet on Wednesday 8th January at the community centre. Members will be reminiscing, sharing stories and memories of special items, moments and events in their lives that mean something to them. Please remember to bring along something that you'd like to share, whatever it might be, small or large.

If you're interested in meeting new people, sharing stories, or simply enjoying a cup of tea with friendly faces, the Good Companions would love to welcome you. The group hosts regular meetings with engaging activities, guest speakers, and plenty of opportunities for socialising. There's something for everyone, and each meeting promises a warm atmosphere where everyone feels at home.

Let's keep our community connected! We meet on the first Wednesday of every month (except December) in the community centre. For more information, please contact Jason Allen (07773 396153) or Alison Gibson (07769 322551). Join us in making our village a place where no one feels alone, and everyone has a companion.

North Luffenham Garden Club

On January (Weds 8th Jan) we will be welcoming Michael Perry - Mr Plant Geek - speaking on 'Curious and Unusual Plants.' This is an Open Meeting and tickets will be available for non-members. Tickets can be bought (with cash only please) for £10pp from The Fox, North Luffenham. Doors open at 7pm for Bar & Raffle Tickets with talk commencing at 7.30pm.

Michael started his career at Thompson & Morgan where he introduced hundreds of brand new plants to the UK. In 2015, he was listed in the Top 20 most influential horticulturists by The Sunday Times. He has been on ITV's The Alan Titchmarsh Show, BBC Great British Garden Revival, The One Show and Channel 4's Steph's Packed Lunch along with appearing on radio and at countless trade events and flower shows across the world. Now he can be seen giving out horticultural tips on ITV This Morning and QVC and he has a very high profile podcast and social media presence. He has won many awards from prestigious bodies within horticulture. If you want to know more, check out his website <https://mrplantgeek.com>

PILTON

St Nicholas Service 6pm 8th December

All are welcome to attend this service. Bring your torch!

PRESTON

FILM NIGHT

Friday December 13th at 7:30 pm in Preston Village Hall

Love Actually

Please join us for this holiday favourite. We might stay and have a few drinks afterwards.

More info on the village WhatsApp group nearer the time.

Please note that these events are now free to residents and all welcome.

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

Sunday 15th December 3pm

Please join us for a lovely village occasion and celebration for Christmas. We are delighted that David Hill will be playing the organ again for us this year.

Mulled wine and mince pies will be served in church after the service.

CHURCH FLOWERS AND CLEANING ROTAS

Thank you to all the village residents who kindly ensure that the church looks lovely by providing and arranging flowers and keeping it clean.

RIDLINGTON

CHURCH SERVICES IN DECEMBER - 9:30 unless otherwise stated

1st Candlelit Contemplative Service 4pm.

8th Holy Communion

15th Morning Prayer.

22nd Family Carol Service 4pm

25th Holy Communion by Extension

Please do join us.

VILLAGE CHRISTMAS CARD - one card to all your friends and neighbours to be displayed in the church with donations to be shared between the church, village hall and playing field. Please give cards and donations to Debra, Pat or Ruth.

FLOWERS

Thank you so much to all the flower rota ladies for their beautiful arrangements throughout 2024. The church calendar has been reflected so thoughtfully by your arrangements. We say a particular thank you to Maggie Wilson and Mary Richardson who have served on the rota for many years and will be taking a well - earned rest now. We welcome Kamilla who will be joining us.

We thank Louise Fox, Jan Powley, Julie Houl, Pat Roome, Karen Baines, Janet Horwood and Debra Thatcher for Christmas arrangements.

CHRISTMAS ACROSTIC - just for fun.

Write a poem where the first letter of each line spells a word e.g.

Praise from

Everyone

Across the World

Christ Child

Embraces us All

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE – A heartfelt thanks to all who participated in our very moving and thought provoking service.

MONTHLY WALK -walk off those mince pies! A short walk on 29th December. Also, a walk on 1st January. Both start at 10:00 from the church porch. Please let Debra Thatcher know if you will attend.

ROTAS FOR 2025 - still time to volunteer. Please speak to Debra Thatcher about opportunities at church.

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS! I would recommend all three this month. First, a well-crafted novel, powerful and gripping exploration of human nature - “Unravelling Oliver”; secondly, “Me Before You” - you may have seen the film. Does anyone have the sequel I may borrow? Thirdly, a memoir “The Last Mazurka” recording the downfall of a once powerful Polish family, mirroring the fate of the Polish nation.

PLAYING FIELD

Huge thanks to everyone who showed up armed with equipment, tea and bags of enthusiasm on Sunday 3rd November to help with the Autumn clear up! As a result the Playing Field is looking great and is now ready for winter.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank those who support us in all other ways including regular donors, individual fundraisers, fundraiser supporters and Talking Gardens, all of whom make a huge difference and help us to maintain this wonderful space for the whole community.

Ridlington Playing Field Trustees

VILLAGE HALL

A Social Night will take place on **Friday 13th December** 7.30 -10.30pm.

If you have any items for inclusion in the parish magazine, please email Annie Harvey acharvey@hotmail.co.uk by 12th of the month, at the latest. Thank you.

For information about Ridlington Village and St Mary Magdalene & St Andrew, Ridlington, please visit the websites below:

<http://www.rutlandwaterbenefice.info/ridlington>

<http://www.ridlingtonparishcouncil.org/>

WING

Flowers No Flowers in Advent **Brass** Nick and Liz Knight

Thank you to all the Wing Flower team for their wonderful flower arrangements for the Harvest weekend, the Church looked beautiful and for all you have done over the past year.

Harvest Evensong was very well attended and the talk by Peter Howell-Jones, Chair of Trustees of Medic Malawi, was very informative and interesting.

The collection of £519.32 for Medic Malawi and the generous amount of food donation for Rutland Foodbank are all gratefully received.

Christmas Services - everyone is welcome to join

Carol Service - Sunday 22nd December 3pm - a service of carols and readings telling the Christmas story.

24th December 11pm - a service of Holy Communion for Christmas which will be led by Canon Vyv Wainwright

Carol Singing around the village - Thursday 19th December meet at the Kings Arms at 6pm and bring a torch. Do come and join in.

Safari Supper

A huge thank you to everyone who kindly organised, hosted, made puddings and supported this great event. A wonderful evening was had and around £1500 was raised for Church funds

Wing Christmas Tree Lights Switch-On

Come and join us at 6 p.m. on Friday 6 December for free mulled wine and mince pies outside 3 Top Street. Lights will be switched on at 6.30 p.m.

Wing WI are celebrating Christmas at our next meeting on Thursday 12 December. The meeting starts at 7pm in Wing Village Hall.

Visitors are most welcome, if you would like to attend please contact Wendy on daltoninwing@gmail.com. Other information about Wing WI please contact Judith [01572 737761](tel:01572737761) quilt9@gmail.com or Jane [01572 737324](tel:01572737324), janegilmour7@gmail.com

WING CRAFT GROUP

The group meets on Wednesday mornings 10 am -12 pm, in Wing Village Hall. Each attendee is asked to pay £1.50 and this is paid to the Village Hall. We take some craft with us or just have a chit-chat! A few of the group are very talented so if you have an item you need help to finish, one of the members will be happy to help. If you are interested, do pop in and join the fun!

The October draw for the **100 club** took place at Coffee Morning on the 7th November and brought out the following winners.

1st 64 Robert Towel

2nd 58 Susanne Baker

3rd 51 Rosemary Clifton

Raise FREE funds for Wing Church when shopping online

Do you do your Christmas or regular shopping online? If so you can help St Peter and St Paul - Wing raise funds by using #easyfundraising when you buy anything from your favourite brands like John Lewis, Argos, Tesco, eBay, M&S and over 7,500 more. It's an easy way to support us just by doing what you do anyway and it doesn't cost you a penny extra. Please support us either by signing up on [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and choosing St Peter and St Paul - Wing as your cause or by following this link <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/st-peter-and-st-paul-wing/2yt1ne/ca/aBZKjyjL/A2304/facebook>

Advertisers needed! Traditionally the Benefice magazine has been funded by advertising revenue but we are now in a situation where with increasing printing costs and having lost some advertisers the sums are not adding up. To save the magazine in it's current format new advertisers are urgently needed. If you are running a local business and would like to reach around 1500 households in the locality then please get in touch with Penny@spiegl.co.uk

SOPHIE'S VOICE
CHRISTMAS
Concert

Sophie's Voice is pleased to invite you to its 2024 Christmas Concert.

Featuring local soprano Sophie Hurst (www.sophiesvoice.co.uk) and flautist Abi Fletcher, the evening will be filled with Carols, songs and music guaranteed to put you in the festive spirit.

Time: 7th December - 7PM

Where: St Peter's Church, Empingham, LE15 8PW

Tickets: £12, children free. Drinks from a cash bar at the interval.

To buy your ticket follow the link or scan the QR code

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1042900733167?aff=oddtcreator>



Stamford Shoestring Theatre presents
Jack Absolute Flies Again by Richard Bean and Oliver Chris
3rd-7th December 2024 at 7.45pm

An uproarious tale of derring-do and romance

It's July 1940, and after an aerial dog fight Pilot Officer Jack Absolute flies home to win the heart of his old flame, Lydia Languish. But Jack's advances turn to anarchy when he meets up with his fellow officers and their girlfriends on the RAF airbase in at Malaprop Hall. Based on Sheridan's classic play *The Rivals*, with the famous characters of Mrs Malaprop and Sir Anthony Absolute, this hilarious new comedy was first performed with outstanding success at the National Theatre in 2022.

Book early for a pre-Christmas treat!

Bring your group dressed up in 1940s' fashion!

An amateur production by arrangement with Concord Theatrical Ltd. on behalf Samuel French Ltd.

Mental Health During Winter

Seasonal changes can affect our behaviour and how we feel, and it can sometimes be challenging for us to manage.

Winter acclimatisation can sometimes seem abrupt, creating a need to quickly adapt, for example, less daylight and changes in temperature. It can also interfere with our internal body clock, creating physical changes and challenges, including mood and sleep pattern changes.



How to improve your mental health in winter

- Recognise how you're feeling and whether it's affecting you day-to-day. Do you need support?
- Keep a journal: note down mood changes (positive and negative) to identify any patterns. Check out mental health Apps, e.g., How We Feel, Headspace.
- Try to keep to a stable routine.
- Build-in some positive activities, e.g., creative, social, getting out into nature to make the most of winter daylight, or simply let more daylight into your home. Benefiting from daylight may help improve Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).
- Practice 'hygge', a Scandinavian lifestyle concept which aims to make you feel content and comfortable at home. Create a cosy, comforting environment: warm lighting, snuggle up with soft blankets, spend time with those you love; create a feeling of safety.
- Take regular physical exercise; it doesn't have to be too challenging.



Seek Support

- Speak to friends, family, or your GP.
- **Central Access Point:** www.leicspart.nhs.uk/service/central-access-point/ (0116 225 6000)
- **Samaritans:** www.samaritans.org/how-we-can-help/contact-samaritan/ (116 123), email jo@samaritans.org.
- **Mental health information:** Mind website: www.mind.org.uk/, NHS website: www.nhs.uk/mental-health/conditions.



Neighbourhood Mental Health Café: <https://peppersasafespace.co.uk/our-services/neighbourhood-mental-health-cafe>.

Thursdays: 17:30 - 20:30 at 2a High Street, Oakham LE15 6AL (Pepper's- A Safe Place), or, Uppingham Town Hall, 49 High Street East, Uppingham LE15 9PY on Fridays: 13:00 – 16:00.

For 18+, free to access, 1 to 1 listening and support. Phone: 07955 344126 (during open hrs), or email nmcsupport@peppersasafespace.co.uk



	1st December	8th December	15th December	22nd December	25th December	29th December
Edith Weston			6.00pm Carol Service		9.30am Holy Communion	
Empingham	10.00am All Age Church		9.30am Holy Communion With Baptism		11.00am Holy Communion	
Lyndon	11.00am Holy Communion					
Manton		9.30am All Age Church		11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion by extension	
North Luffenham			9.30am Breakfast Church	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am All Age Service	
Pilton		6.00pm St Nicholas Service				
Preston	11.00am The Meeting Place	11am Holy Communion	3pm Carol Service			
Ridlington	4pm Quiet Contemplative service	9.30am Holy Communion		4pm Carol Service	9.30am Holy Communion by extension	
Whitwell						
Wing	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Prayer		3pm Carol Service	24th December 11pm Holy Communion by extension	

For details of all carol services and services on 24th / 25th December please see the separate table on page 4.

The Rutland Water Benefice

Churchwardens

Edith Weston.....	(Judith Needham)	01780 720609
Empingham.....	John Archer	07501085451.
	John Haward	01780 460502
Lyndon.....	Lady Conant	01572 737275
Manton.....	Anne Cowan	01572 737503
North Luffenham..	Janet Whittaker	01780 721216
	Patrick Woods	01780 721872
Pilton.....	Caroline McAlpine	01780 722007
Preston	(Kay Waterworth)	01572 737339
Ridlington.....	Debra Thatcher	01572 823910
Whitwell.....	Mary Bell	01780 460205
	Tony Godwin	07906 134316
Wing.....	David Wood	01572 737465
	Alice Hill	01572 737516

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Manton	Roger Hornby	01572 737367
Lyndon:	Susan Day	01572 737403
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Pilton	post vacant - volunteer needed	
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Wing	Jeffy Wood	jeffywood1@gmail.com