

February 2021



All Saints, Naseby



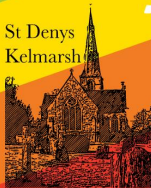
All Saints, Clipston



St Michael's Haselbeck

**STAY HOME**  
**PROTECT the NHS**  
**SAVE LIVES**

St Denys  
Kelmarsh



# The Magazine

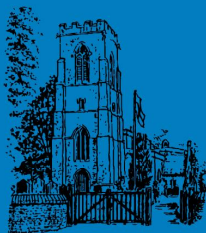
The Vaccine is here!



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, Sibbertoft and Welford**

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#### **St. Mary the Virgin, Welford**

Churchwardens	Michael Morson, 3 Wakefield Drive, Welford Julian Howell-Jones 83 West Street, Welford	<b>575333</b> <b>575757</b>
Treasurer	Julie Newman, 30 Wakefield Drive, Welford	<b>575335</b>
Secretary	Ann Barraclough, 38 West End, Welford	<b>575269</b>
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, Sibbertoft**

Churchwarden	Toby Jackson, Wry Furlong, Welford Rd, Sibbertoft	<b>881091</b>
Treasurer	Lesley Hartshorne, Roserie Cottage, Westhorpe, Sibbertoft	<b>880112</b>
Secretary	Viv Arrowsmith, 5 Beeches Close, Sibbertoft	880988

#### **St. Nicholas, Marston Trussell**

Churchwarden		
Treasurer	Christine Otway, 9 Main Street, Marston Trussell LE16 9TY	<b>289516</b>
Secretary	Diane Parton 26 Welland Rise, Sibbertoft	<b>880972</b>

#### **All Saints, Clipston**

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

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

Churchwardens	Ellie Bletsoe-Brown The Croft, Haselbech John Poulter 1 Wethill Close, Kettering	<b>01604 686633</b> <b>07711995772</b>
Treasurer	Michael Hopkins Orton House, Welford Road, Naseby	<b>01604740309</b>

#### **St. Deny's Kelmarsh**

Churchwarden	Bob Swinfen Lyndale Rectory Farm, Kelmarsh	<b>01604686676</b>
Treasurer	Gina Hankins Scotland Wood Farm, Kelmarsh	<b>01604686216</b>

#### **All Saints, Naseby**

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

#### **Welford Congregational Chapel**

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

## Dear Friends,

On February 17<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday, we will enter the season of Lent, but there is much to think about before then as our celebrations, which began at Christmas and have continued through the season of Epiphany, draw to a close with the Feast of the Presentation . otherwise known as Candlemas . on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

On that day, Mary and Joseph take Jesus to be presented at the Temple, in accordance with the Law of Israel and, as with his manifestation to the wise men, so his identity is revealed to Simeon and Anna.

Many of us, particularly those who are familiar with Evensong, will know the Nunc Dimittis which expresses Simeon's joyful recognition:

Lord, now lettest thou thy  
servant depart in peace:  
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation  
Which thou hast prepared before  
the face of all people

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel. *Luke 2.29-32*

That, though, is not the end of this little vignette, for Simeon is clear in his understanding that the salvation the infant Jesus brings will involve opposition and struggle . and so the Word made flesh in weakness and vulnerability, is identified as one who will cause powerful disturbance and upset as he brings redemption to his people.

We are reminded by Simeon that our own journeys are not always cosy and straightforward, but involve challenge and change. Our own salvation depends utterly on Christ and our willingness to be transformed in and through his love . love that burns with wonderfully joyful energy, but also profound passion and pain.

These past months have been full of challenge and change but, through it all, I hope and pray that you have experienced the presence of God in your lives, that you have experienced your own, personal encounters with Christ, when you have known the reality of his identity and his eternal presence with you.

They may have been fleeting or longer lasting, but whatever form they have taken they will have encouraged, strengthened and affirmed your faith, your hope for today and for the future. And don't worry if you didn't immediately perceive him, it won't be the last time! After all, he is always here if we have eyes to see and a heart to welcome him.

Sometimes, though, we need help to recognise Christ, and over the season of Lent there will be many opportunities for you to share in worship, prayer, Bible study, and fellowship (see the diary in this magazine, and the website for up-to-date details). Each of these will encourage and enable us to be more disciplined and committed in our discipleship. After all, the better we know Christ the easier it going to be to recognise him!

Lent is obviously going to be a bit different this year, but let us see if we can use our circumstances to bring a new focus to our faith, that we may be utterly transformed in and through Christ's love.

## **Miranda**

### **P.S. NEW CLERGY HOUR**

Every Wednesday 2pm-3pm on Zoom (details as per Sunday). If there is anything you would like to talk to Father Kris or me about, or anything you would like us to pray for, do come along. It will be confidential and one-to-one  
. the Zoom waiting room will be in operation if there is more than one person attending, and we will meet you in+when we are free.

## **The Mystery of the Coats of Arms at St Mary's**

Have you ever wondered what the thirty Coats of Arms located on the walls in the Chancel of St. Mary the Virgin church in Welford represent? Many people have asked whose shields they are and why they are there, but as there were no records no one could give the answer.

Well, we now have the answer, although it has taken over 30 years to find it. Back in the 1980s Victoria Morson, a member of the choir, was paying more attention to the shields than to the sermon and thought that they were very faded and needed some attention. After the service she suggested to John Haynes, the churchwarden and accomplished amateur artist, that they needed repainting. John accepted the challenge and over the following months they were all returned to pristine condition. But still no one knew what or why.

Fast forward to last year, and Victoria, now Johnson and a member of the Welford Historical Society, still wanted to know the answer, so she sent photographs to the College of Arms asking if it could help. Bingo, she was contacted by a gentleman with the title of Lancaster Herald of Arms, Official Genealogist for the Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor, who thought he could help, but it might take him some time. In fact, the task turned out to be easier than he thought, as he found that all the shields were the Coat of Arms of the Bishops of Oxford from 1542 until 1869. The connection being that during those 327 years the Parish of Welford, along with others in the area, came under the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Oxford.

Of the thirty bishops some have left their mark on history more than others. Robert King, for instance, previously a Cistercian monk became the first Bishop of Oxford in 1542, following the dissolution of the monasteries. He was appointed by Henry VIII when the diocese was created out of the ancient Diocese of Lincoln. He was followed by Hugh Corwen in 1567, previously Archbishop of Dublin. He approved of Henry VIII's marriage to Anne Boleyn and declared himself a protestant when Elizabeth I came to the throne and was subsequently disavowed by the Irish Church. Another was John Bridges, bishop from 1614 until 1618, who coined the phrase "A fool and his money is soon parted".

Two of the shields have a circular Latin Band from the arms of the Order of the Garter. The first to receive this insignia was Richard Bagot, bishop from 1829-1845, and the first Bishop of Oxford to become Chancellor of the Order of the Garter. He married into the Villiers family and his wife's nephew lived at Sulby Hall, and who later rebuilt the north aisle of Welford church. The second was Samuel Wilberforce who was bishop from 1845 through to 1869. He was son of William Wilberforce and together they championed the abolition of the slave trade. His is the last shield displayed, as churches in this area then left Oxford and joined the Diocese of Peterborough.

Now that it is known what and who the shields represent, we realise that they are not positioned in date order, but that is the next challenge!

## *Help required for Easter surprise!*

*Now I need people who can do basic knitting and maybe have double knitting wool of green and yellow shades lying about just waiting to be made into a lovely gift for Easter. Again I can divide the project into knitters of the shapes, finishers to make the whole gift up and people who would be willing to fund the "insert". If you are curious to know more and would be willing to knit, finish or donate money for the "inserts" please call me, Kairen on 575331 or email [Kairen.ball@gmail.com](mailto:Kairen.ball@gmail.com) with the subject line of Easter gift at the latest by February*



As a proud recipient of a very tasty goodie bag delivered by a member of the Welford Volunteer Group, I would first like to say thank you to whoever nominated me but mostly I would like to say thank you to, and express much appreciation of, the members of the Welford Volunteer Group. Their work, much of it unsung, has been a vital part of Welford surviving and even thriving during the past nine difficult months. All of us, and there are a good many, have benefitted, either directly or indirectly, from your efforts. So a great big THANK YOU and very best wishes for 2021. Whilst I hope your efforts will not be needed for long, may the goodwill and community spirit you have created continue long into the future.

AT Dec 2020

## EMBER DAYS

February 24th.,26th.,27th.



Traditionally observed by some Christian denominations, each set of Ember Days is three days, kept on a successive Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. These three days are set apart for fasting, abstinence, and prayer. The first of these four times comes in winter, after the Feast of St. Lucia, the second set comes with the First Sunday in Lent, the third set comes after Whitsunday/Pentecost Sunday, the fourth and last set comes after the Feast of the Holy Cross. Folklore has it that the weather on each of the three days foretells the weather for three successive months. As with much folklore, this is grounded in some common sense since the beginning of the four seasons cue the changes in weather as well as a shift in how we keep harmony with the Earth and respect our stewardship of the Earth, our garden of Eden.+

*Letting the cat out of the bag is a whole lot easier than getting it back in.....*

# Hello, hello what have we here?

Question: What do you call 72 Secret Santas?

Answer: Rule breakers!! No social distancing here!



72 Secret Santas, covering the real secret which was a bottle of wine. All ready for delivery to Sibbertoft Manor as a gift for each resident and member of staff who worked on Christmas Day.

They were delighted to receive them, and sent us some wonderful photographs of the tables decorated ready for Christmas lunch.



During 2020 with its various times of lockdown, no visiting rules and church buildings often closed it was difficult to keep you all in the loop of what the Church (its people) were actually doing, for and within the community, so it was an absolute pleasure to find a way to link with our friends at Sibbertoft Manor. I would like to thank the *ö*sweatshop<sup>ö</sup> of sewers and finishers who helped to bring this project gift to fruition. To Anthea (Yelvertoft), Liz (Cold Ashby), Ann, Jane, Di, Madeline (Welford), Caroline and Cynthia (Sibbertoft). And the finishers Pam, Gill and Denise (Welford) as well as the anonymous donators all of whom gave most generously with their time, money and expertise.



## Joy to the World (Sibbertoft Manor)

On a very chilly Tuesday afternoon a socially distanced group of 5 singers and one keyboard player visited Sibbertoft Manor where a gazebo had kindly been erected between the porch to the garden wing and the conservatory. Alan was set up with the keyboard and a chair (luxury) and the five singers socially distanced themselves in and around the gazebo (which thankfully kept the howling wind from us which came rushing around the corner as the light faded). For half an hour we entertained the residents who were all in the snugly, warmth of the conservatory, with a programme of Christmas Carols which Alan and Ann had put together. We were very grateful to have a male voice within our number in the form of Gordon. Ann, Lesley, Clare and Kairen forming the backing group! We all remarked that singing for that length of time after not using our singing voice much at all in 2020 had proved to be a marathon. But once again our friends of Sibbertoft Manor were delighted we had been and normalised a very different Christmas of 2020. They were bold enough to demand some requests when we came to the end of the programme. The piece d' resistance was when we received the request for Jingle Bells and we used our musical instruments as well (jingle bells on a piece of elastic with large bells). We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2021



In the month of December the Manor had their monthly zoom service for which the theme was 'Christingle'. With Kate, the activities manager they had made Christingles which were then used in the monthly service, to celebrate The Light of Christ coming into the World.



# SIBBERTOFT NEWS



**Sibbertoft 'Nan on the run fundraising 20/21' Start date 29/3/2020  
Challenge to run the equivalent of 25 marathons (650 miles in one year).**

## **January 2021 update.**

I write this latest update at the turn of the new year on a rainy grey mid January day. Christmas has come and gone and we all turn our hopes towards spring as the vaccine is being rolled out at pace. Spring is around the corner, the day light hours lengthening and buds beginning to show on shrubs and trees. Snowdrops and daffodils are pushing up through the ground. I wish you all a happy, healthy and optimistic 2021.

I have now completed 23.5 marathons most of the last 2 by walking to rest my injured left foot. Glad to say that it is definitely responding well to treatment consequently I hope to finish the remaining 35 miles running. So many people sent kind positive and encouraging messages over the Christmas period and several expressed a wish to run the last few miles with me to help celebrate the end. This is obviously not possible at the moment due to the current Covid restrictions so I have decided to suspend the challenge for a few weeks in the hope it will be safe to resume in late February or early March. The plan is to host a final celebration fun run where friends, neighbours and family can come together to cheer me and or join the fun run round the village. If you would be happy to get involved let me know either by running a few miles or going round the village with a collecting box. Difficult to work out the logistics at the moment but I am sure with the help and support of Sibbertoft residents we can organise a safe/ fun celebration.

Thanks to all who have read these updates on a monthly basis

**Thank you to all who have donated thus far.**

**Help me to achieve the £10,000 on line target.**

**Make a new year gift to Sibbertoft Community buildings fund.**

**Visit [give.net](https://www.give.net) search nan on the run20/21**

**or cash /cheque payable to Saint Helens Church Sibbertoft.**

**All funds raised will be divided between the reading room kitchen refurbishment project and Saint Helens church maintenance fund.**



### **Sibbertoft Pop up Shops 2021!**

We hope to start weekend opening of the Pop up shops at the beginning of April. Sadly it is unlikely we will be able to resume Sunday Teas until later in the year. However following the success of this venture during 2020 and looking at the very depleted **Saint Helens Church funds** it is vital we commence fund raising as soon as it is practical and safe to do.

We plan to have an **Easter time Bonanza** and celebrate spring time and the new growing season. It won't be long before the seed sowing will commence. Vegetable/salad plants, Tomatoes, ornamentals for your gardens, Sweet Peas, perennials, Dahlias, cut flowers and much more. All locally grown with love, care and free gardening tips and advice if needed. A few tasty treats will be available from our skilled bakers and of course home made Jams and marmalade. The crafting group will have been busy over the winter months and will have new designs and goodies available to purchase.

### **More details to follow next month.**

If you have specific enquires or would like to place a specific plant/seed order please contact Cynthia 880392 or Lesley 880112.

**Lets make 2021 another successful community growing year.**



## **Churchyard extension mowing for 2021**

As usual at this time of year I am asking if there is anyone who will volunteer to help mow the churchyard extension.

We have got a team who I hope will continue to do their usual slot on the rota, but there are spaces, so if you would like to help, and release some of us doing more than one time slot, please contact John or Sue Nicholas on

01858 575422 or [s.e.nicholas@btopenworld.com](mailto:s.e.nicholas@btopenworld.com)

You can do a quarter area for about a 6 week time slot or the whole area for a 2 week time slot.

(That usually means you only need to mow it once.)

If you feel the time has come for you to retire from mowing, we will miss you, but I thank you for your efforts over the past however many years you have been doing it.

Just phone me and I will take you off the rota.

**The good news is we will have a new mower which should make the job a lot easier this year!**

There is a certain satisfaction when you have made the churchyard tidier and looking better, and of course you are helping the community.

## The Orange of Christingle

In October the Ministry Team decided that they wanted to offer a "Light of Christ" to the children in the three Church Schools in the benefice for Christmas time, so we offered to provide a "Light of Christ" to the schools to use to make Christingles for an end of term event in school rather than in church as the churches were not able to provide the venue in the three churches due to the large numbers at each one and our inability to keep to Covid regulations.

The candles were provided and the ribbon for the oranges, and the remaining items were supplied either by the schools themselves in Clipston, Naseby and Welford, or the parents of the children.

At a time preceding their service time (Clipston and Naseby were held via zoom and Welford were held in class bubbles outside) the children were directed by their teachers how to make the Christingle symbol, so they were all able to have a Christingle, with the light of Christ (the candle) stuck into an orange (the world) which had the red ribbon around it (representing Christ's blood from his death on the cross, and the four cocktail sticks with sweets and fruit pushed onto them (representing the 4 seasons and the fruit and foods supplied by God for our needs). In all 200 children in the three schools made a symbol of the Christingle, joined in a Christingle service, where they all participated fully in prayers, and listening to Christingle songs, as well as answering questions about the symbolism of their Christingle. One little boy even interrupted my talk on the Light of the World to tell me he had just seen a dove fly over the group which he proceeded to say "said all this" was true because a dove is a sign of God's peace. I did not feel it was the time to point out that it had in fact, been a pigeon. However, who is to say that pigeons cannot also be peaceful reminders from God. I do so miss my funny moments with children



*Shine as a light in the World to the glory of God the Father.*

*Amen*

# QUIZ FOR



1. Which Spaceship disintegrated on re-entry killing all 7 crew in Feb 2003?
2. Which American heiress was kidnapped by the Simbionese Liberation Army in February 1974?
3. President of Haiti, Jean-Claude Duvalier fled the country in February 1986. What was his nickname?
4. In February 1858 a peasant girl reported visions which led to her town becoming a major site of pilgrimages by Catholics. What was her name?
5. Nelson Mandela was released from prison in February 1990. How many years had he served?
6. Chile declared its independence in February 1818, from which country?
7. Born in February 1924, which US actor won an Oscar for his role in 'Cat Ballou'?
8. Born in February 1473, who was the Polish astronomer who first proposed that the planets revolved around the sun?
9. Born in February 1960 Holly Johnson became the lead singer of which pop group?
10. In February 1975, which cricketer was knighted by the Queen in Barbados?
11. Which soap opera was first broadcast in February 1985?
12. In February 1800, who became first Consul having overthrown the French government?



## CHAPEL COMMENT

Let us to believe the future lies in God's hands.

Let us train ourselves to think about the time when all the sad things on earth will disappear and be made right again....

.  
Let us believe that this present situation is not going to last.

Let us learn to let that the light that is there in the future will shine into the present and all are struggles and sadness will disappear.

### **The Magazine**

**If you have anything you would like included in the March edition please get copy submitted by February 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**[thechurchmagazine@aol.com](mailto:thechurchmagazine@aol.com)**

**83 West Street/01858 575757**

## CHURCH SERVICES

All churches in the benefice are currently closed.

Weekly 'virtual' service for the benefice

Sundays 10.00am

Zoom ID 697715534

## WELFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL

In view of the current situation regarding corona virus, it has been decided to temporarily suspend services in Chapel until further notice.

Please check the notice in the chapel schoolroom for any changes .



How should I not be glad to contemplate  
the clouds clearing beyond the dormer window  
and a high tide reflected on the ceiling?  
There will be dying, there will be dying,  
but there is no need to go into that.  
The poems flow from the hand unbidden  
and the hidden source is the watchful heart.  
The sun rises in spite of everything  
and the far cities are beautiful and bright.  
I lie here in a riot of sunlight  
watching the day break and the clouds flying.  
Everything is going to be all right.

Derek Mahon