

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: **Rev'd Peter Collins**

The Starlings, 2 King Edward's Way, Edith Weston LE15 8EZ
revdpeter@msn.com. 07740 039048. (day off Friday)

Please refer to the service rota on page 39 of this magazine and do
make yourselves known to the churchwardens when you arrive. You
will be very welcome.

For all enquiries about funerals, baptisms or weddings, please contact
Rev'd Peter Collins - details above.

Home communions may 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.achurchnearlyou.com



Copy for next month's magazine by 13th May 2026
please, to Alice Hill rutlandbeneficeparishmag@gmail.com

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Photographer: Richard Brown, Rutland
www.rinrphotos.co.uk. 07999 865473

Thoughts from Rev'd Peter Collins

Thursday May 14 is Ascension Day, commemorating Jesus Christ's 'lifting up into heaven' as described by Luke-Acts.

This dramatic event is immortalised in many stained-glass windows of our churches signifying how important Ascension Day used to be in the life and celebration of the Church. As a child I remember Ascension as a day of 'obligation' and a holiday from school!

The language of ascending and descending is found in Scripture, and included in our hymns and Creeds, 'he came down from ... he ascended into ...' Are we still reading this as the early church did, looking heavenwards to God as the angels' peer down on earth? This perception of a separate earth and heaven is not the prophet Ezekiel's understanding, "my dwelling place shall be with them; and I will be their God, and they will be my people." Jesus' teaching confirms that God is always with us, closer than breathing.

Maybe a better understanding of Jesus 'descending' is described in the Book of Hebrews, of Jesus 'emptying himself, setting aside his divinity in order to take up our humanity', and 'ascending' as Jesus 'taking up his divinity once again', and restoring our status with his; carrying us through the barrier of sin which had distanced us from God?

Ascension then becoming movement not away from, but closer to us. Jesus no longer placed in Bethlehem, Bethany, or Jerusalem, but now in every place and at every time. The Ascension bringing us closer to God as the Pentecost Spirit waits to pour out into all creation.

The last time the disciples saw him
His hands were raised in blessing
And that's the way it always is
Christ always blessing his Church
Christ always blessing you.
A God who always holds you in love.
This is Ascension

For Rutland Grand Bottle Tombola Sunday 31st May 2026 at The



Rutland Showground

For Rutland is preparing for this year's much-loved Grand Bottle Tombola and they need your support and your bottles!

loved Grand Bottle Tombola -

For Rutland volunteers are asking for **donations of bottles** — anything unopened and in date, from everyday essentials to something a little special. From lemonade to Lambrini, shampoo to champagne, or beer to bubble bath — every bottle makes a difference.

Last year, the Grand Bottle Tombola raised over £8,100, a fantastic amount. The For Rutland volunteers hope to raise even more this year, but it can only be done with lots of generous donations of bottles.

The team of around 70 volunteers will be in touch with details of where bottles and donations can be made, or you can drop them off at the locations below **before Tuesday 26th May**:

Barrowden Community Shop
Cottesmore Post Office & Shop
Ketton Post Office & Shop
The Fox at North Luffenham
John Porters Dry Cleaning Oakham

Edith Weston Village Store
Barbera's Store Empingham
Market Overton Store
Co-op Travel Shop Oakham
Nelsons Butchers Shop in Uppingham


For Rutland Chair Jeannette Warner said: "The more bottles donated, the more money raised. And the more bottles we have, the more fun there is – please give bottles generously!"

You can also help by making a cash donation, by scanning the QR code below; or BACS transfers can be made to Rutland Citizens Advice Bureau, sort code:40-52-40, Acct No.00032813 Ref FR/BT; or cheques can be made payable to For Rutland, see the website for more details:

www.forrutland.org.uk.




For Rutland raises funds for Citizens Advice Rutland (Reg Charity No.1107907) to pay for specialist advisers who provide non-medical advice to people of all ages living with long term health conditions in Rutland and the Surrounding Community



Dead Easy:
A Practical Guide to the Inevitable

A free, friendly event to help you understand wills, funerals, with discussions around decisions and practical planning.

Time: 2pm - 4pm
Date: 6th May 2026
Location: Rutland Showground (LE15 7TW)
To register, scan the QR code or visit:
www.dyingmattersleicestershireandrutland.com



Part of Dying Matters Week 2026

EDITH WESTON

Edith Weston Academy

We had a busy Spring Term at Edith Weston Academy and are now enjoying our outdoor spaces in Term 5. Upcoming events include both a reading and a writing cafe.

We are very proud of our talented students who have taken part in an inspiring competition called 'Poetry by Heart'. This is a national initiative encouraging children to choose, learn and recite a poem off by heart. We had a super morning listening to our Key Stage 2 children recite their poems at our fortnightly oracy assembly.

The winners of our competition are now being entered into the national competition where they will showcase their skills to the judging panel.

If successful we could have a pupil at the grand final which is being held in July at London's Globe Theatre.

Ellie Kapler Headteacher Edith Weston Academy 01780 720025

EDITH WESTON

100 Club

The Edith Weston 100 club is a village lottery which raises money towards the upkeep of the village hall. You can buy an annual ticket for £15 and be entered into a monthly prize draw to win a share of up to £120. There's a guaranteed prize fund of £60 each month, plus up to £60 snowball prize. Profits go to the village hall. Last year, £870 was won by members, and £930 was donated to the village hall. We'd love to increase our membership and have extended the deadline to join until Wednesday 6th May.

If you'd like to join, please complete the form below and drop it at the village shop. £15 per ticket.

Name.....
.....

Address.....
.....

No. tickets..... Paid by: Cash..... Cheque.....
Bank transfer.....

Please return the completed slip to the village shop. Closing date 6th May 2026.

Cheques payable to: Edith Weston Village Hall 100 Club
Bank transfer: Nat West, sort code 01-06-34, account 44501196
Any questions, please contact Karen Fletcher: karenjfletcher@mac.com /
07957 415467

U3A visit

The visit by the Bourne U3A group to St Mary's, Edith Weston was very successful, and the feedback to the organisers and the vicar extremely positive. The participants enjoyed an inspiring talk by Peter Collins, followed by a spread of sandwiches and cakes homemade in the village. Some of the visitors accepted the bell captain's invitation for a tour of the tower and even had a go at ringing the bells. 'We had a very special visit and I would appreciate it if you would pass on our thanks and warm wishes for a weekend of Easter celebrations'.


Plant Sale


Join us on Saturday 6th June, 10am–1pm for the much-loved Edith Weston Plant Sale! Whether you're refreshing your garden or just love a browse, there will be plenty to discover.

 Quality bedding plants and

 Beautiful perennials from our trusted Lincolnshire wholesale nursery


 Vegetable plants


 Garden accessories

 **NEW** this year: seeds at very low prices

How you can help:

- Donate any unused, in-date seed packets
- Donate plants if you have extras to share
- Come along and support the event!

 Relax in our café with delicious drinks and sweet treats while you shop. All proceeds go towards supporting our three village charities – so every purchase makes a difference.

Bring your friends and come along for a lovely community morning! 

Kath Durrant 07909661649



Congratulations to the latest Edith Weston novice bell ringer in passing her Association of Ringing Teacher Bell Handling Level 1. A very well-done Melanie and to Tracey for her expertise in coaching her.

More exciting news – Edith Weston entered a team into the Peterborough Diocese Guild Bell Striking Competition. Looking resplendent in navy and white the team came a very creditable third place.

This year it was the turn of The Rutland Branch to host the event, with ringing taking place at Braunston and Brooke churches.

The presentation of prizes by Susannah Fish, the High Sheriff of Rutland added further distinction to the occasion.

A delicious tea with homemade sandwiches, cakes and scones was enjoyed by the 100 competitors and supporters expertly organised by Nicky Vickers.

Overall, this was a most successful and enjoyable occasion, highlighting both achievement and community spirit.



EMPINGHAM

News from St Peter's Church

Saturday 16th May 7:30pm. Rutland Concert Band at St Peter's Church. A concert of popular Classics and Film music by our superb local concert band. Music for all ages!

Suggested donation £10 on the door. Cash bar and soft drinks available. All proceeds to St Peter's Church Empingham.

On Wednesday 13 May the funeral of Tony Roscillo will be held in St Peter's Church at 11.00 am. There will be no coffee morning on that day.

Barbara's Store, Empingham

Monday - Friday 7am - 5pm, Saturday 8am - 12 noon,
Sunday 9am - 12 noon

Stocking a full range of groceries, local produce, lottery, hot drinks, filled rolls and off-licence.

Village home delivery for newspapers and groceries.

Contact 01780 460348 barbaras.store@hotmail.co.uk

ACTIVITIES AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Bekkie Wright 07355981564 RevBekkiewright@gmail.com

SERVICES DURING MAY 2026

Sunday

3rd 10.45am MORNING WORSHIP - Mr Tony Law

10th 4pm TEA TIME CHURCH – Mr Phil Jones.

17th 10.45am CAFÉ CHURCH – Mrs Audrey Hensman

24th 10.45am MORNING WORSHIP – Rev Christine Pocock.

31st 3pm AFTERNOON FELLOWSHIP – Favourite Hymns – Tea & Cake.

7th JUNE. 10.45am – MORNING WORSHIP.

Mondays.

First Monday in the month Lunch Club 1pm. Places need to be booked

Please NOTE the MAY Lunch will be on Monday 11th because of the bank holiday – Booking is essential.

Other Mondays 2-4pm Refreshments – Tea/Coffee and Cake. Second-hand books, on Sale Photocopying and Laminating available. BOARD GAMES or just chatting together.

Thursdays,

TODDLER & BABY GROUP – 10.30am till 12 noon. £2 per session. Term Time only.

More details Eileen Ray 01780 460676.

Empingham Parish Council

Empingham Parish Council is committed to serving and supporting the parish and community and enhancing the life in Empingham as a place to live, work and visit.

Our next meeting is being held at the Audit Hall on the 13th May 2026 at 7 pm. This month is a combined Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council Meeting. You will be very welcome to attend and there will be an opportunity to ask questions, raise any concerns, and learn more about the village and its ongoing activities. Agendas are displayed on the noticeboard next to the Medical Centre and are available for all to view.

Empingham Neighbourhood Plan

A group of local volunteers has formed a steering group to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Empingham, working independently but in support of

the Parish Council.

The plan will set out the community's views on how the village should develop within the Government's Local Plan. While growth cannot be avoided, the aim is to ensure it is well managed and reflects the wishes of the community.

Community involvement is essential. We have already held consultation events and will continue to offer opportunities to share your views, including attending local events and engaging with businesses and landowners.

As this is a formal process, a specialist consultant has been appointed, funded by the Parish Council. The process typically takes 18–24 months and will include a community vote when complete.

We will provide updates in the parish magazine where possible; however, as activity progresses, the most up-to-date information will always be available on our dedicated website.

For more information, visit: www.empinghamplan.co.uk

You will also find a contact us page on the website too for any additional comments or questions.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported the process so far. The support has already been brilliant.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Empingham Village (Audit) Hall

AGM

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 21 May 2026 at 19:00 in the Audit Hall. All are welcome.

Empingham Village (Audit) Hall Mini Ernie

Draw No 3

1st	£20	59	Carol Williamson
2nd	£15	36	Alan Lambert
3rd	£10	94	Sandra Higgins

Draw No 4

1st	£20	182	Lynne Holt
2nd	£15	162	Gary Cooper
3rd	£10	117	Ruby Prior

Next Village Breakfast will be on Saturday 27 June. More details next month.

Empingham Cricket and Social Club

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

For lots more from Empingham please see pages following the adverts

adverts October
2025

Adverts October
2025

Adverts

adverts

Adverts

Adverts April 2025

adverts

adverts October
2025

adverts Nov 2025

adverts Nov 2025

adverts Dec 2025

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E.mail: vyv@avwainwright.co.uk
www.avwainwright.co.uk

1/2 page ad

EMPINGHAM continued

Empingham Cricket and Social Club

Special Events

The cricket season starts on Friday 24th April. There will be league cricket every Saturday and a full programme of friendlies every Friday evening, and of course the bar will be open

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

The new membership year started on 1st April .You can pay membership fees over the bar or online via PayPal, but please ensure you have completed the online membership form before you do so.The online membership form is at:

<https://membermojo.co.uk/empinghamcsc>

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

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

Empingham Garden Club

Empingham Garden Club is holding our Annual Plant Sale on Saturday 9 May from 10 till 12.

Come along to buy Homegrown Vegetables and Flowering Plants. Also some garden tools etc.

Lovely Homemade Cakes and Coffee so come along and browse.

No meeting at the Cricket club for a talk in May. Our next talk is 22 June 7-30 by Mike Davey "Vegetable for all Seasons"

Empingham Together

GARDENS SAFARI evening.

Please keep the date free to join in a Gardens Safari in Empingham on Friday 19th June. There will be four large gardens and four smaller gardens to visit, ending with the wonderful garden of Prebendal House, where we will enjoy supper by kind invitation of Rebecca & Matthew Eatough. More details to follow.

Girls Night Out

Girls Night Out are planning an afternoon at Launde Abbey on Wednesday 20th May 2026.

Please meet up in the car park around 2pm for a wander around the beautiful and serene gardens - We have arranged for a member of the gardening team to talk to us in the walled garden about its development. Tea and cake will be available in the cafe around 3pm.

You can make a donation to the maintenance of the garden at Launde if you wish (Sue Millar is arranging the day and would pass any donations on)

Please let Sue (07986 599977) know if you are coming so we can book sufficient spaces in the cafe.

Men's Shed

On Tuesday 26th May at 7.30pm there will be a talk at the Cricket & Social Club by Jonathan Roland with the fascinating title 'Hormones and the Courts'.

Jonathan will explore the case for and against the infamous Lucy Letby, who is currently residing at His Majesty's pleasure on a whole-life order (i.e with no opportunity for parole).

The talk is open to all (£5 entry for non-members). We would be pleased to sign up new members on the night (your £5 entry would be the first £5 of the very small £25 membership fee for the year).

If you have any questions, please contact bobwillars@sky.com

THE TWISTED TROUT, EMPINGHAM

What's on!

Bank Holiday Monday 4th May – Food served 12:30pm till 8pm

Biker Nights are back on 5th May. Join us on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month, now proudly supporting Leicestershire and Rutland Blood bikes. Bring your bike helmet to the bar and enjoy 25% off soft drinks and non-alcoholic options.

Psychic Supper Wednesday 13th May with Rutland Spiritual Centre 7pm Start.
Tickets £25 – limited spaces available

Bank Holiday Monday 25th May – Food served 12:30 till 8pm

Food Service Times

Monday–Friday

• Lunch: 12:30pm – 2:30pm

• Dinner: 5:30pm – 8pm

Saturday

• 12:30pm – 8pm

Sunday

• 12:30pm – 5:30pm

Weekend breakfast each Saturday and Sunday 9am - 12 Noon.

We have an updated menu that started in April.

On **Saturday 9th May 2026** 10am-12pm there will be a second hand book sale at Empingham Audit Hall raising funds for **Empingham Primary School**. Please join us as there are hundreds of books for sale, including adult fiction, children's books and young adult fiction. Some of the books have hardly been read so you will definitely get a bargain. Plus we will have teas, coffees and more importantly cake for sale - so you can pick up a book and read it in our cafe!

Everyone is more than welcome to come along, we are looking to raise lots of money for the school. If you have any books to donate please may you contact Louise on 07827 665916, that would be great, thank you!

LYNDON

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

THE BIG WALK Bank Holiday Monday, 4th May 11 a.m

In aid of THE CINNAMON TRUST the National Charity for older people, the terminally ill and their pets.

Meet at Pick's Barn at 11 a.m. (please park in the bottom car park) for a choice of walks in the beautiful countryside around Lyndon with your canine companions and meet up with friends for coffee/lunch at Pick's Barn Café.

Maps will be available on site, longer walks will be accompanied.

Register your attendance to secure your Goody Bag with

CINNAMON.ORG.UK/THEBIGWALK [Tel:-01736758701](tel:01736758701) Details from

Ginny Heathcote Ball [Tel:-07539729829](tel:07539729829)

SPRING CLEAN

Saturday, 9th May, 10.30 a.m. meet at the Church.

Willing volunteers wanted please with own tools and rubbish bags to help clean and tidy around the Church, paths and village hall border.

Ploughman's lunch afterwards at Courtyard Cottage.

Please contact Ginny HB for lunch numbers. ginnyhball@gmail.com Mobile:- 07539729829

MANTON

MANTON VILLAGE HALL 150 CLUB Winning numbers for March 2026. **£20:** 57 Anne Valiente **£10:** 9 Fiona Brown **£10:** 4 Alan Chalkley **£5:** 116 Margaret Kennedy **£5:** 47 Anne Cowan. This month's snowball **£60** was not won. Next month's Snowball **£70** may be won. If you would like to join the 150 Club and help support the Village Hall contact the Promoter, John Stones Tel: 01572 827944.

MANTON CHURCH ORGAN APPEAL

Did you know our organ is well over 100 years old? It is close to its original state, so it is an instrument of real historic value. What other real value does our organ have? Most importantly it is at the heart of our regular church services and takes a lead in our special celebrations; just think of Christmas carols, Easter hymns and Harvest festivals. The organ also plays a big part in our personal family milestones, such as baptisms and weddings.

The Federation of Master Organ Builders recommends pipe organs are

cleaned every 15 years so this means the organ in Manton is well overdue. Our organ has not been cleaned for at least 40 years! Two organ builders' companies have provided the Parochial Church Council with reports which detail the dismantling, cleaning and refurbishment of our organ, bringing it back to a state of full working order, ready for good service for decades to come. The work will take up to 6 weeks.

Manton PCC is seeking funding to the tune of £15000 for these works. Applications are being made for grants from charities and at the same time there is the opportunity for all of us to make donations towards the cost. Please would you consider donating to our special organ fund, using one of the following methods?

By bank transfer Account name: Manton Parochial Church Council Sort code: 40-45-03 (HSBC) Account number: 21256173 **Please put "Organ Fund" as a reference.**

Cheques, payable to "Manton Parochial Church Council" **writing "Organ Fund" on the back** or cash to: Treasurer Manton PCC, Richard Horner, Manton Cottage, 11 Stocks Hill LE15 8SY

Your donations will be confidential. Thank you so much for your support.

EASTER EVENTS

We all enjoyed a really wonderful Easter in the church from the decorating of the church and the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Saturday to the Holy Communion on Easter Day. Thank you to everyone who made the church look so lovely and shared our Easter celebrations.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

HORSE and JOCKEY, Manton - Under new management What's on in May and June

Manton Village Supper Club First Thursday of the month. May 7th, June 4th, two courses for £15. All welcome. Booking only.

Pub Quiz Night Third Thursday of every month at 7.30pm, May 21st, June 19th, £2 per person entry. Teams a maximum of 4 people. Please book in advance.

Fish and Chips Takeaway Supper Get your takeaway from the pub every Tuesday, £12. Advance telephone orders are preferable.

New Dishes on the Menu Come and taste our new dishes including

Cider Braised Pork Belly, Pulled Lamb Shoulder Shepherd's Pie and Home-made Burgers 01572 737335

COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 14 May – 10.30 - 12.00

At the home of Caroline Burnaby-Atkins, "Manton Lodge Cottage", Lodge Lane

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

FREE – but any donations to church funds gratefully received

MANTON VILLAGE HALL – Annual General Meeting

Monday 1 June 6.30 pm

All villagers are invited to attend the AGM at the Village Hall on Monday 1 June at 6.30pm. The Committee would also love to welcome new volunteers to join the team to help organise events and activities at the hall.

If you enjoy organising events, fundraising, gardening, baking cakes or getting involved with general DIY and painting, then your skills can help ensure our hall remains an important facility for the village and for the wider community. We are a registered charity and rely on fundraising events and bookings at the hall to cover the running and maintenance costs each year. We meet just four times a year and whatever time you can give to support the village hall would be really appreciated. It's also a great way to become more involved in village life. If you are interested, please come along to the meeting at the village hall. We look forward to seeing you there!

COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 11 June - 10.30-12.00

At the home of Mary Stenson "Garden Cottage", St Marys Road

Any problems/lifts needed please contact Anne (01572737503)

FREE – but any donations to church funds gratefully received.

OPEN GARDENS

Sunday 6 September 2.00-6.00pm

Anyone wishing to open their garden, help with Teas and / or make cakes etc.. please contact Susie Horner. Teas in the Village Hall. In aid of Church Funds.

RUTLAND HISTORY SOCIETY VILLAGE VISIT

Sunday 13 September 2.00pm

Manton Village Hall

Rutland History Society visits a different village every year, usually in September. This year our annual visit is coming to Manton on Sunday 13

September 2026. There will be a presentation, an exhibition on aspects of the village history, a local history book stall, a self-guided walk round the village and light refreshments. The event is open to residents and society members and more details about the event and how to book will be given in this magazine, on social media and on the Society's website (www.rutland.history.org) in July.

NORTH LUFFENHAM

CHURCH - St JOHN THE BAPTIST

Our services for May include Holy Communion at 9:30am on the 17th May led by Reverend Peter and our Breakfast Church on the 24th May at 9:30am led by Caroline in the Community Centre near the school. Everyone is welcome to join us. Please refer to the detailed table of services printed in the magazine to see the dates and times of other services across the Benefice. If you wish to share lift to other services, please do get in touch.

Margaret Jones - Many of you will remember Margaret with great affection. She was a stalwart of the congregation at Church for many decades before she moved down south and closer of family. She sung as part of the choir, made impressive quantities of jam every year which was sold in aid of the church funds and will also be remembered for making the 2000 banner with great dedication and with help of some of the children who attended the children service in those days. It is great sadness that we report that she died earlier this year. There will be a service of Thanksgiving for her life at 2:00pm on Friday 5th June - a date for the diary.

Janet Whitaker - You will no doubt know that Janet has moved to Oxford to be closer to family. She too devoted decades to St John the Baptist as Churchwarden. Her knowledge along with her forensic attention to detail and service to others will be greatly missed. She leaves the village with very many memories, and our church much enriched by her dedication. Bishop Debbie inscribed a lovely book for her as a fitting leaving present.

St MARY and St JOHN CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

It's been so lovely to see the sunshine this term! This is the term our pre-school outside area really thrives as the trees blossom and the children can access it more. If anyone would like to come and visit Little Saints (our pre-school) please either contact the school office or Mrs Gay

at littlesaints@northluffenham.rutland.sch.uk. We take children from the term before they turn 3. We are looking forward to an exciting Summer term with trips, residentials and outdoor learning in our new Forest School area.



Barn Dance



Saturday 16th May 7 – 10.30
North Luffenham School Hall - £10 pp

Tickets Available from – Sue 07534 885747,
Judy 07505 623406 or deb.king@hotmail.co.uk



Dress Code: Cowboy Boots & Hats Encouraged

Live Music with Caller from '5 String Thing'

Line & barn Dancing * Licensed Bar

GOOD COMPANIONS

We were delighted to welcome Sue Ball of Springboard Arts again to our April meeting, where she gave an engaging demonstration on how to make beautiful paper beads. Sue, who lives in this lovely village, shared her skills and enthusiasm, guiding us through the process and showing how simple materials can be transformed into something creative and unique. The session was both enjoyable and inspiring, and we all had a lovely moment of our afternoon to take home with us.

We are excited to welcome Julie Abell to our 6th May meeting, who will be talking to us about Canine Partners, who are a UK charity that transforms the lives of people with physical disabilities by training highly skilled assistance dogs. These remarkable dogs provide practical support with everyday tasks, such as picking up items, opening doors, and even helping with dressing, while also offering invaluable companionship and confidence to their partners. The charity relies heavily on volunteers and donations to continue its work, from puppy training to advanced assistance dog programmes. Supporting Canine Partners, whether through fundraising, volunteering, or simply raising awareness, can make a meaningful difference in helping more people live with greater independence and dignity.

For more information about the club, please contact Jason Allen (07773 396153) or Alison Gibson (07769 322551). We meet on the first Wednesday of every month (excluding December & January) in the community centre. Join us in making our village a place where no one feels alone, and everyone has a companion.

NORTH LUFFENHAM GARDEN CLUB

NLGC will be holding their annual plant sale later this month on Saturday 30th May, from 10am till 1pm at The Fox in North Luffenham.

On sale will be a wonderful selection of bedding plants, perennials, vegetable plants, herbs, shrubs, houseplants and much much more... including a selection from the borders of Burghley House!

All plants are lovingly nurtured by our members will be available at very reasonable prices.

The Fox will again be serving breakfast butties & teas/coffees in the morning (10-11.30am) for those wanting to rest awhile whilst shopping.

Our last plant sale helped to raise valuable funds to keep this popular club sustainable, so please spread the word and put the date in your diaries.

Please send any enquiries to northluffenhamgardenclub@gmail.com or follow us on Instagram North Luffenham Garden Club.

In addition this year we will be welcoming 'Men & Women in Sheds, Rutland' – who will be joining us with their own stall selling all things woody & hand-made by them in their 'Shed' in Oakham.

Do please come along & support this worthy charity which is part of AgeUK. All money raised on the M&WiS stand will be for the benefit of the 'Shed'.

So a perfect combination of gardening and all things woody for the garden, brought to you on 30th May @ The Fox in North Luffenham...

CRAFT WORKSHOPS IN NORTH LUFFENHAM

Sue Ball runs a lovely 'club' in the village and here is the programme for the next few weeks. Do get in touch with Sue directly. Treat yourself to an afternoon of creativity!

24th May Sew a quilted zipped pouch

14th June Wet felted bowls

To book contact Sue on 07920 841058 www.springboardarts.co.uk

PRESTON

MAY BANK HOLIDAY COFFEE MORNING

Start your weekend off at Preston Village Hall with friends and neighbours over coffee, cake and plenty of chat.

This month we are raising money for Leicester Animal Rescue near Tilton. There are at least two cats and one dog in the village who came from this self-funded rescue centre.

All welcome **Saturday 2nd May 10 – 12 noon**

PRESTON VILLAGE MEETING - DIARY DATE

Wednesday 24th June 7.00pm in the village hall. This is our annual meeting for the village and everyone is invited to attend. It is your chance to make your input on village matters and meet your neighbours. If there is something you particularly want on the agenda, do please let Phil Grimley know in advance (Tel 01572 737717).

In particular, if anyone is interested in taking on the role of Chair or Clerk for the village, please contact Giles Marshall or Phil Grimley to discuss.

Please put the date in your diary.

CHURCH FLOWERS AND CLEANING

We are very grateful to all the village residents who kindly ensure that the church looks lovely by providing and arranging flowers and keeping it so clean for us. Thank you so much!

Preston Ridlington and Wing Annual Flower and Produce

Show will be held in Preston Village Hall on Saturday 1st August. It is time to start sowing, planting, growing and creating for this event.

RIDLINGTON

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING - To be held at the village church on Thursday, 21st May at 19:15 for the consideration of reports and financial statements and the election of officers. All welcome to attend to learn more about what is happening and to contribute ideas.

CHURCH SERVICES - Everyone welcome.

3rd May - 9:30am Morning Prayer

10th May - 9:30am Holy Communion

24th May - 9:30am Morning Prayer

31st May - 11:00am Benefice Holy Communion

THANKS TO

- Heather and James for hosting the sunrise service on Easter Day and for the delicious breakfast which followed the service
- all those who donated, attended and helped at the monthly Social Saturdays - £599 raised so far this year towards the insurance premium of the church.

USED STAMPS - the RNIB raise £20 for every kilogram of used stamps which allows someone with sight loss to get helpful, personalised and friendly advice from a Sight Loss Advisor. Please continue to place your used stamps in the collection box at the rear of the church. Please ensure that there is at least 1cm of paper around each stamp edge and remember that facsimiles of stamps cannot be collected.

FOOD BANK COLLECTION - the next collection date is Wednesday, 27th May. Please continue to support this very worthwhile local charity - if every household donated one item a month the boxes would soon be full.

ALL AROUND MY HAT – (AND ALL THAT JAZZ!)

The Ridlington Singers present an informal concert in Ridlington church at 7.30pm on Saturday 16 May. Glasses provided if you wish to bring your own refreshment. Donations to MND research and church funds.

SOCIAL SATURDAY - please join us at the village hall between 12 noon and 1:30pm on Saturday, 9th May for jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings. We ask for a minimum donation of £5 towards the insurance premium for the church.

ECO CHURCH - help us to track biodiversity in the churchyard. Spring is a perfect time to spot nesting birds, insects and flowering plants. Please continue to jot down what you see on the Biodiversity List in the church porch. Also, once again we will follow the recommendation of “No Mow May” in the churchyard to ensure that by the time of our Churches Count on Nature bio blitz on Saturday, 10th June we have long and medium length grass which will increase biodiversity - give it a go at home! Leave some areas of grass in own - you might be surprised at what makes their home with you.

MONTHLY WALK - more nature spotting - join us for a bluebell walk on the evening of Endangered Species Day - Friday, 15th May at 18:30. Meet at Prior's Coppice car park. We will endeavour to car share so please let Debra know if you intend to come.

WHITWELL

St Michael and All Angels Church

Open Thursday to Sunday 10.00am - 5.00pm

SERVICE

24 May - 4.00pm Holy Communion

BELLS

Update for those who've noticed, with concern, that the bellcote is without bells; we've now received our Faculty approval from the Diocese and are arranging for re-hanging of the bells on new headstocks.

WING

Flowers Alison Loader. Brass Debbie Whight.

Thank you to all the Church Flower Team who decorated our Church so beautifully for the Easter Service.

Wing Open Gardens will be held on Sunday 21st June 11am to 5pm in aid of Wing Church and Village Hall.

15 Gardens will be opening and there will be various stalls including plant stall, open studio and willow work.

Homemade Teas and refreshments will be served in the Village Hall.

Tickets to be purchased at the Church where maps will also be available.

Adults £6 children under 12 free.

Tarren - a mini folk supergroup will be playing at Wing Village Hall on Saturday 25th April at 7.30pm. tickets available from John Hacket 01572 737794

Wing WI's speaker for Thursday May 14th is a talk by Dr Monica Maparanyanga. The meeting starts at 7.00pm at Wing Village Hall. New members welcome. If you have any questions about the WI please contact Judith [01572 737761](tel:01572737761) quilt9@gmail.com or Jane [01572 737324](tel:01572737324), janegilmore7@gmail.com

Wednesday craft group meets at 10am in the Village Hall. All are welcome.

The April draw of the **100 Club** made at the Coffee morning on Thursday April 9th produced the following winners
1st. 96 Richard Bateman 2nd. 110 John Judge 3rd. 131 Edward Stevenson

There will be **two Pop Up Pubs this May**, both starting at **6pm**, the usual drinks and conversation, but this time with a little extra!

On **Friday 1 May**, Sara McAllister will be serving bowl food (please keep an eye out for details).

On **Friday 22 May**, we are delighted to welcome **Pizza Gorillas**, serving their excellent sourdough pizzas from **5.30pm**. Families are very welcome to come earlier to collect takeaway pizzas before the Village Hall opens for the Pop Up Pub at 6pm.

Everyone very welcome, please bring friends and family, especially those visiting for the May bank holiday!

Please save the date for Wing safari supper on Saturday 3

October! A highlight of the village social calendar, it's also a relaxed and enjoyable way for people relatively new to the village to get to know lots of your neighbours. Singletons and couples are equally welcome to take part. We rely on a team of willing hosts to welcome guests to their homes for either a starter or main course. If you would be prepared to host a course, please get in touch with Carolyn Comben (ccomben2@gmail.com), Alice Hill on 01572 737516 or Helen Bateman on 01572 737499.

Preston Ridlington and Wing Annual Flower and Produce

Show will be held in Preston Village Hall on Saturday 1st August. It is time to start sowing, planting, growing and creating for this event.

The Story of Elgar's *Piano Concerto*

presented by David Owen Norris

7.30pm - 9.00pm on Friday 5th June 2026

All Saints' Church, Oakham



Scan for tickets



Internationally renowned pianist and broadcaster, David Owen Norris, presents his work constructing Elgar's *Piano Concerto*, with the composer's manuscript sketches on screen and a complete performance on piano and organ.

Tickets

£20, free for under 18's
are available from

www.artsfortheheartofengland.com

by emailing
artsfortheheartofengland@gmail.com

by ringing Susie on 07809 229292

from Oakham Wines

or on the door (cash or card)



	3rd May Easter 5	10th May Easter 6 Rogation Sunday	17th May Easter 7	24th May Pentecost	31st May Trinity Sunday
St Mary Edith Weston				9.30am (PC) Holy Communion	
St Peter Empingham	10.00am All Age Service		11.00am (PC) Holy Communion		
St Martin of Tours Lyndon	11.00am (PC) Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Prayer			
St Mary Manton		9.30am All Age Service	14th May 7.00pm Ascension Day Evening Prayer	11.00am (PC) Holy Communion	
St John the Baptist North Luffenham			9.30am (PC) Holy Communion	9.30am Breakfast Church	
St Nicholas Pilton		11.00am Holy Communion			
SS Peter and Paul Preston	11.00am Meeting Place	11.00am (PC) Holy Communion		4.00pm Evening Prayer	
SS Mary and Andrew Ridlington	9.30am Morning Prayer	9.30am (PC) Holy Communion		9.30am Morning Prayer	11.00am Benefice Holy Communion (PC)
St Michael and All Angels Whitwell				4.00pm Holy Communion (PC)	
SS Peter and Paul Wing	9.30am (PC) Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Prayer		9.30am Morning Prayer	

The Rutland Water Benefice

Churchwardens

Edith Weston.....	(Judith Needham)	01780 720609
Empingham.....	position vacant	
Lyndon.....	Lady Conant	01572 737275
Manton.....	Anne Cowan	01572 737503
North Luffenham..	Patrick Woods	01780 721872
Pilton.....	Jayne Williams	07711 623362
Preston	Jane Micklethwait	01572 737219
Ridlington.....	Debra Thatcher	01572 823910
Whitwell.....	Mary Bell	01780 460205
	Tony Godwin	07906 134316
Wing.....	David Wood	01572 737465
	Alice Hill	01572 737516

Magazine Correspondents

Edith Weston	Miranda Palmer	07713715250
Empingham	Stephen St Clair-Thompson	07963 973991
Manton	Roger Hornby	01572 737367
Lyndon:	Susan Day	01572 737403
North Luffenham	Nic Merrett	07801 983530
Pilton	post vacant - volunteer needed	
Preston	Angela Edmundson Jones	angela.ej@btinternet.com
Ridlington	Sarah Tyerman	sarahtlondon@aol.com
Whitwell	Marlen Godwin	marlen@fcdcom.co.uk
Wing	Jeffy Wood	jeffywood1@gmail.com

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