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IN TOUCH



**The Magazine of
 Barkston, Belton, Honington and Syston**

Rural Dean:	Rev. Sonia Barron	01636 626720
Associate Priests:	Revd. Stuart Hadley	01476 575854
	Revd. Lilian Hall	01400 250729
Reader:	Mr R O Wall	01400 281133
Editor:	Mrs Wendy Card (alan.c.card@btinternet.com)	01400 250462

Issue 318

Mar/Apr 2015

Barkston and Syston Village Hall Regular Bookings

Monday: Parent and Toddler Group, 10.00-11.30 a.m.
Short Mat Bowls 2.00—4.00 p.m.
Tuesday: Dance class 12.00—4.00 p.m.
Wednesday: Dance class 12.00—9.30 p.m.
Thursday: Yoga 10.00—12 noon
Short Mat Bowls 2.00—4.00 p.m.
Saturday: Dance class 9.00—4.00 p.m.

Rainbow, Brownies and Guides meet weekly, more information is available at girlguiding.org.uk

Cardiac Group meet every second Tuesday of month 2.00 -3.00 p.m.
Macular Society, WEA Courses and Lincs Trust for Nature Conservation

The Hall is available for hire for, children's parties, family parties, wedding receptions and christenings.

Bookings—Carol Bradford 01400250744

County Council Representatives

Ray Wootten is County Councillor for Barkston, Belton and Syston Parishes. (Tel: 01476 400183 or e-mail cllr.wootten@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

Post Office, St Nicholas Close, Barkston

Mondays and Thursdays 9.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.
Contact Tel No: 01636 704516

Mobile Library dates

The library will be in West Street between 11.00 p.m. - 11.30 p.m. on the following Monday 16th March, 13th April.

Items for inclusion in the next issue of 'In Touch'

Please send to Wendy Card by 24th April 2015, on

Telephone 01400 250462

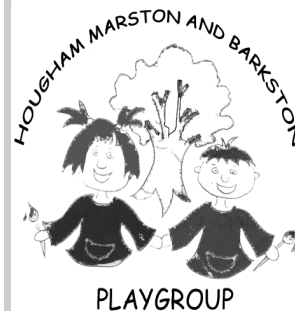
or e-mail alan.c.card@btinternet.com by 24 April 2015

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Kathryn Davies Tel:07958 262727

Google "Barkston Playgroup"

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NOT FROM THE RECTORY



‘Really cheers you up, doesn’t it?’ said the lady walker. We’d both paused to admire the drift upon drift of snowdrops by the lake at Belton. It was one of those days when despite the ground still being frozen solid, a touch of real warmth in the sun told you that Spring was on the way. We’re so used to the variations in our climate, to feeling our hearts lift at the first signs of Spring or to enjoying a country walk on a crisp autumn day, that we can sometimes forget what a blessing our changing seasons are – how they add colour and interest to our lives, stimulate our senses, give us something to smile about and something to grumble about.

The Church’s seasons work in much the same way. They give shape, texture and a sense of rhythm to our year; they add colour and drama and help us feel that we are part of a bigger story, one that is ages old and yet continually unfolding. At present, having passed through the upbeat seasons of Christmas and Epiphany, we are into the more sombre season of Lent. At least, sombre is the way it usually comes across. Traditionally Lent has been a time of prayer, penitence and abstinence for Christians – a time for ‘giving something up’. The 40 days of Lent remind us of the 40 days Jesus spent in prayer and fasting in the wilderness in preparation for the great mission God had entrusted to him. In the same way, for us, practising some form of self-denial is not meant to be an end in itself but a way of helping us engage with God in deeper ways. The end result is, or should be, a heightened sense of celebration when we come at last to Easter, our great ‘Feast of Feasts’.

It is this undercurrent of joyful anticipation that can sometimes be missing in the way Christians observe Lent, and is perhaps something we need to rediscover. It is a time for taking serious stock of our lives, but we shouldn’t feel we have to be miserable about it. The word Lent is derived from an old word meaning spring, and in the early days of

the Church, Lent was not seen as a time of rather dreary self-denial but of spiritual renewal. The disciplines of prayer and fasting were a means of bringing about a kind of springtime of the soul, an inner reawakening that coincides with the reawakening in the natural world we see going on all around us.

If this year is anything like typical, there are sharp frosts and wintery showers still to come, but all the spring flowers will carry on pushing through regardless. What a blessing our changing seasons are.

With best wishes, Lilian

From: The Revd Lilian Hall, Associate Priest, Barkston & Hough group of churches.

SAMARITANS FASHION SHOW

Lincs Fashions fashion show and sale
All garments half price or less - no seconds, top brand names.
Barkston Village Hall 7.30pm on Tuesday 21st April.

Tickets available from:
Amanda Strawson - tel 01400 250364
Maeve Streeter 01400 250201
Fundraising for the Samaritans.

LOVEDEN DEANERY QUIET MORNINGS

Deanery quiet mornings give us an opportunity to take some precious time out in a peaceful, atmosphere. They usually comprise shared, guided reflection followed by personal quiet time, and are open to all.

They are held on the first Tuesday of every month at the Sports Pavilion, Old Lincoln Road, Caythorpe, meeting at 9.30am for a 10 am start. They usually conclude with a short Holy Communion service and a shared lunch. Everyone is welcome.

For more information contact Penny Grosset at 01400 272715 penny-grosset@gmail.com or the Revd Lilian Hall at 01400 250729

Sam & Mike welcome you to THE STAG

Church Street, Barkston.

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IN TOUCH DELIVERY

Would anyone be willing to undertake the delivery of In Touch to the Hough Road and Thorold Gardens area please? Unfortunately Mr & Mrs Roberts feel they can no longer deliver these due to health problems. I am sure everyone would join me in a big thank you and wish them well for the future.

If you are willing to help, please contact Wendy Card—01400 250462

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Letter from Bishop Christopher

This month the church begins the season of Lent – traditionally a time of reflection and prayer when we to reflect on our life as followers of Jesus.

During Lent the story of John the Baptist will be read in our churches. John is a fascinating character who risked being mocked not only for his eccentric dress and his bizarre taste in food (locusts and wild honey) – but also for the controversial things he said, calling people to repentance. To 'repent' is to turn away, to change direction and do things differently.

John called his hearers to turn away from the mistakes of the past and to re-orientate life in the Christian way. That is the same vocation to which God, through Jesus and his church, calls us today.

As you know, the diocese has begun a Year of Discipleship, running through 2015, and I'm excited about the signs of growth and renewal in our churches which I hope will flow from this initiative. One of the things which set John the Baptist apart was that he was prepared to talk about things that matter – what it is to lead a holy life, how to reflect on our experience through a spiritual lens, how to talk about God, and so on.

I want all of us to be able to talk freely about our faith. My hope and prayer is that the Year of Discipleship will increase our confidence about doing that, and help us to find the words to share the love of God with those we meet in our daily lives, for our faith to be expressed in lives of discipleship and service, enabling us to make a real difference to the life of our communities.

Bishop Christopher

RAINBOWS CONCERT

Update on the last report re the Church Christmas Concert—the final amount forwarded to the Rainbow Hospice was £400 following a generous donation after the event. Many thanks to all who gave for such a deserving cause.

Barkston and Syston Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Monday 12th January 2015. 8 Members of the Parish Council were present together with two member of the public and the District and County Councillors, Councillors Scott and Wootten.

Before the public forum and the Parish Council meeting, Mr Martin Fagan from the Community Heartbeat Trust gave a short presentation on the work of the Trust, following the Council's decision to proceed with the installation of a unit in Barkston. He said that once the unit had been put in place a community awareness evening would be arranged, to explain the operation of the system to local residents. Consideration was given to the installation of a unit in Syston, subject to the availability of a grant, which was to be pursued.

During the public forum, a member of the public referred to recent articles in "In Touch" in relation to proposals to refurbish the children's corner at the Playing Field. The article had invited comments from residents, and two had been received, including one from the resident at the meeting. He asked for, and received, an update and information on the questions he had posed. It was agreed that the responses from residents would be taken into account during the consideration on the budget later in the meeting.

Highways matters were discussed, and the Council received an update with regard to matters on which action had been promised. The Countryside Officer had declined to take action in regard to the reported illegal use of bridleway no. 4, and had submitted photographs showing no evidence of illegal use by motorcycles and 4WD vehicles. It was agreed to continue to monitor the area and record photographic evidence of any unauthorised use.

Consultation in regard to the double yellow lines around the Church Street/Church and Honington Road corner was expected to start shortly. The flooding at The Stag corner had been investigated by the Area Surveyor and action to replace pipes and install new gullies was proposed. Flooding at the garage and the Hough Road corner was being dealt with by the Environment Agency. Although the worst of the holes on the road to Barkston Gorse had been filled, it was suggested that the

pavement. Autocraft pointed out the dangers of using the road in the area but sent letters to workers asking them to be courteous to other users. They asked that the P.C propose an extension to the current cycle path or improve lighting to provide safer passage for cyclists and pedestrians through the parish. Cllr. Wootten attending a "Cycle Meeting" next week and said he would ask about extending the current cycle path to Belton House or The Garden Centre and if possible on to Chandlers.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

In Memoriam

Belton

27th January 2015, The Hon Caroline Elizabeth Maud Partridge – the Daughter of the 6th Baron Brownlow.

SOUP LUNCH

Saturday 28th March, 12noon—2pm Adults £5, Children £2.50

Friends of Barkston Church will be holding a Soup Lunch in the Village Hall, Soup/Cheese & Biscuits/pudding. Please come along and join us.

Ladies Night at The Stag in aid of Breakthrough Breast Cancer Glad Rags and Handbags!

Thursday 26th March 7.00pm The Stag Barkston.

Once again Helen Lane and I are doing our (almost) annual 24 mile hike in aid of Breakthrough Breast Cancer. This time along the Norfolk coast (which is at least relatively flat!) but to do our bit we need to need to raise a minimum of £500 to help fund vital research into this devastating disease which affects so many families.

With the very kind help of Sam, Mike and Matt at The Stag we are hosting a ladies night on 26th March. Tickets are £12.50 each, **reserved and paid for in advance** for a two course set meal. There will be a raffle and a handbag stall on the night.

We have a restricted number of tickets to sell for the meal so it will be on a "first come first paid" basis. If you would like to help, but can't come, we would be grateful for any handbags that you may wish to donate or indeed any sponsorship.

Any bags not sold on the night will be donated to The Cancer Research Shop.

Many thanks for your support.

Linda Painter (3 Thorold Gardens 01400 251422) and Helen Lane (32 Hough Road 01400 250542)

BELTON AND MANTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meetings held at Manthorpe Village Hall On Thursday 19th February 2015

Attending: Six Councillors, County Cllr R. Wooten, and one member of the public attended.

Matters pertaining to Belton were as follows:-

Belton Old School – Village Hall & Parking in Belton Car Park is now finished but it is now a muddy mess. People don't want to use it as they walk mud into the hall. Vehicles from the car park are bringing the white hoggin mud out onto the road. The National Trust is aware and is proposing to do something about it. M. Coney and T. Hopwell will bring the situation up next week at a meeting with the National Trust. LCC Highways have approved the suggestions sent in regarding plans for yellow lines and parking bays. LCC will shortly put these out for consultation. When the consultation begins the Chairman will arrange a meeting for Belton Villagers to view and discuss the plans

Speeding through Manthorpe & Belton. The Reactive sign has now been delivered and put up in Belton Village opposite the Village Hall. This has been working for a week (there are four approved sites in Belton where the sign can be used). Much information is recorded by the sign i.e., speed and number of vehicles passing through the village. The average speed through Belton was 27 mph but some vehicle speeds were much higher. The mobile sign will be used in Manthorpe also where there are two approved sites. There is still a strong feeling that there should be a 50mph speeding limit on the A607 from Manthorpe, through Main Road Belton and as far as Barkston. Cllr.Wooten to make enquiries.

Pot Holes in Belton: The potholes reported have been filled but more are appearing. Some have been filled on Five Gates Road but not the one reported by M. Coney at the side of the road, which is very dangerous. Ray Wooten says that he reports any new ones he comes across and suggested that everyone do the same so that they will be filled in.

Smoke Pollution in Belton. Smoke pollution in Belton is much better but occasional fires are still being lit in the Wood yard. S Thompson reported that there had been a fire lit there last Tuesday or Wednesday.

Flooding outside 8 Main Road, Belton and Coach House. The lady from 8 Main St., Belton wished to thank M.Coney for digging out the dyke which has stopped the flooding.

Any Other Business:

Autocraft had responded to letter from P.C. re workers cycling on pavement on A607 at Belton and through the village, showing no respect for pedestrians on same

Area Surveyor be asked to look at the area again, with a view to carrying out more work to fill in the holes. The damaged grit bin on the lower slope on Minnetts Hill was to be replaced by the Area Surveyor, who was also to arrange for overhanging vegetation on the Syston bypass to be trimmed back.

The application for the erection of a bus shelter had been approved, and the licence to erect the structure on the highway footpath had also been approved. The contractors had proposed week commencing 19th January to erect the shelter but it was suggested that this be deferred until half-term, in view of the possible congestion this might cause at school time. Clerk to query this with the suppliers.

A dangerous headstone in the Burial Ground will be repaired. At the same time the contractors will repair a memorial in the Churchyard, at no cost. This stone is a memorial to J W Blackbourn, who is named on the War Memorial. Councillors Card and Rowell advised that the dead trees in the Burial Ground would be removed shortly, and other maintenance work would be carried out.

It was agreed to contact the Village Hall Committee in regard to an SKDC offer to provide community broadband/wi-fi in community venues, such as village halls.

An offer from SKDC to provide a stock of sand and sandbags to help cope with cases of localised flooding was accepted. The sand would be stored in the Bier Shelter in the Burial Ground.

The Parish Council received a detailed report on the budget for 2015/16, and noted comments made by residents in regard to funding for the improvements to the village hall, as well as options for financing them suggested in the report. Funding for the new bus shelter, defibrillator and tree felling had already been included. In considering the funding options for the Playing Field, it was agreed to allocate £5,000 from balances and budget for another £5,000, to make a total available of £10,000. The total budget agreed was £14,185.

The next meeting is on MONDAY 9th MARCH 2015 at 7.45 pm at the VILLAGE HALL.
Malcolm Hall Clerk to the Council

Church Services for Mar-Apr 2015

Date	Barkston	Belton	Honington	Syston
1st March St David's Day 2nd in Lent	10.30 am RW Morning Prayer	11am JC Holy Communion		
8th March 3rd in Lent	11.00am Holy Communion SH			
15th March Fourth in Lent Mothering Sunday	11.00am Family Ser- vice JB/LH			9.30 am JC Holy Communion
22nd March Fifth in Lent				
29th March Palm Sunday 2nd April Maundy Thursday	Honington 7.30pm	Honington	Honington 11.00am	Honington
5th April Easter Sunday	9.30am at Syston	11.00am Holy Communion		9.30am Holy Communion
12th April Low Sunday	11.00am Holy Communion SH			
19th April	11.00am Family Ser- vice JB/LH			9.30am JC Holy Communion
26 April				

Services of Wholeness and Healing

Wholeness and Healing services are held on the second Thursday of each month at St Nicholas' Church, Barkston at 7.30 p.m. These are quiet reflective services, where people have an opportunity to pray for any concerns, personal or of a wider nature. The service consists of two or three hymns, a meditation, prayers and opportunity to light candles, place written prayer requests on a Prayer Tree, receive the laying on of hands for oneself or for others, or simply to enjoy a time of peace and rest. Prayer is complementary to, and in support of the work of medicine and treatment.

St Nicholas' Church is warm and has toilet facilities. Refreshments are served after the service. The next services will be held on March 12th, April 9th.

Prayer and Praise

Prayer and Praise at the home of Joy Bristow, 38 West Street, Barkston, (01400 250339), will be held on Mondays 4pm. March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th (Lent Course) April 20th, 27th.

St. Nicholas Knitting Circle, Barkston

Our next Knitting Circle meetings will be on Mondays March 23rd, April 27th, May 18th in the Community Centre, St. Nicholas Close, between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. We knit for The Jacob's Well Appeal, Beverley, Yorkshire. Come and join us for a Knit or just a Natter.

Joy Bristow (01400 250339)

KEY:

HC - Holy Communion **FC** - Family Communion **FS** - Family Service

MP - Morning Prayer **ES** - Evening Song **EP**—Evening Prayer

CS - Crib Service **RS** - Remembrance Service **SP** - Solemn Prayers

AL - Alan Littlewood **SH** - Stuart Hadley **LH** - Lilian Hall **JC** - John Cook

JB – Joy Bristow **PC** - Peter Coombs **DF** - Di Fairhead **RF** - Dick Fairhead

JL - John Lord **BL** - Ben Lyte **SM** - Sheila Mitchell **AS** - Angela Sims

BG - Betty Groves **DH** - David Hitchcock

RW - Bob Wall **MT** - Ministry Team **(RS)** - Richard Shireby **(BW)** - Brian West