

# IN TOUCH



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

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### **Barkston and Syston Village Hall Regular Bookings**

Monday: Parent and Toddler Group, mornings  
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](http://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](mailto: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 Mondays; November 24th, December 22nd.

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

**Please send to Wendy Card by December 26th, on**

**Telephone 01400 250462**

**or e-mail [alan.c.card@btinternet.com](mailto:alan.c.card@btinternet.com) by 26 Dec. 2014.**

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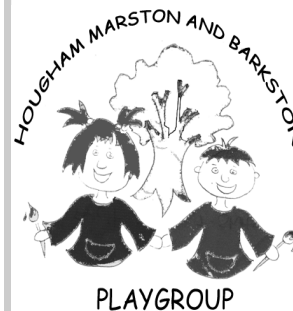
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**From the Rectory**

“Worship the Lord with gladness;  
 come before him with joyful songs”  
*Psalm 100, verse 2*

This time of year has traditionally been associated with fruitfulness and harvest, a time of celebration and thanksgiving to God. Having very recently taken the decision to retire (with effect from the first of January 2015), it has, for me, also become a time for looking back and reflecting - as well as looking forward and anticipating. In all this too, I give thanks to the Lord.

It has been both a privilege and a pleasure to serve in these parishes for the last six years (almost four in the case of the Barkston & Hough Group), in your homes, the schools, the churches and wherever else we’ve met. I am grateful for the help and support given me by so many, both with work and during the ups and downs of my own life: for the friendship and love shown to me and to Monica.

I’ll be with you for a while yet and I shall be replaced. At some point, there will be an opportunity to say a formal farewell, but, for now, I’d like to say ‘thank you’ to you all.

With every blessing,

*Alan*

Rev Alan Littlewood  
 01400 231145  
[ancaster.rectory@btinternet.com](mailto:ancaster.rectory@btinternet.com)

## **Barkston and Syston Parish Council**

The Parish Council met on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2014. Six Members of the Parish Council were present together with four members of the public.

Before the commencement of the Parish Council meeting, Chris Townson, a member of Barkston LIVES gave a presentation on the work of the Group since it was set up in 2013. The two main objectives of the Group were to provide 24/7 coverage and to become self-sufficient. It was noted that the Group was financially stable, although always in need of money, and Chris Townson outlined proposals for increasing funding. Group membership remained the same, at 5, although it was hoped to recruit two new members within the next two months, thereby increasing the level of cover. The Chairman thanked Chris Townson for attending, and for his interesting presentation.

During the public forum, a member of the public drew attention to the continuing problems with flooding on the A607, near The Stag. The Clerk explained the current discussions with the Highway Authority, and the Council were asked to stress the importance of action soon, particularly in view of the danger to traffic and pedestrians from the deep area of water at the location.

Highways matters were discussed, and the Council received an update with regard to matters on which action had been promised.

The Council were reminded that they had agreed in principle to the erection of a bus shelter on Church Street, outside the School. Two objections had been received to an informal consultation on the grounds that the short "sides" on the proposed shelter would obstruct pedestrians, particularly those with buggies or in wheelchairs. The Clerk showed a plan of the shelter without the sides, and the Council confirmed their wish to proceed on this basis, subject to planning permission. Formal consultation would take place on the planning application in due course.

A recent case of fly tipping on Minnetts Hill had been dealt with speedily, and the Council considered a suggestion that the road be stopped up so that it could be gated, thereby preventing access for the tippers. After discussion, this suggestion was not proceeded with.

A request had been received for the reduction of the speed limit on Hough Road from 40 to 30 mph, and the Clerk was asked to forward this to the Area Surveyor for consideration.

Consideration will be given at the next meeting to the drafting of a Neighbourhood Plan for Barkston and Syston.

### **Sam & Mike welcome you to THE STAG**

Church Street, Barkston.

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Saturday 12.00—3.00 pm, 6.00—9.00 pm. Sunday 12.00—4.00 pm.  
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Margaret Stevens. Publicity Officer, HOST

## **SCRAP METAL COLLECTIONS**

Pete Wheeler and myself have decided to retire from our "Stepto and Son" roles. We have been playing at scrap collectors for a year now and feel that we should hand Mrs Gladys Harrison her garage back with a great big thank you. Without the use of the garage non of our charitable collections would have been possible.

With your help, through the donation of your scrap materials, we have managed to raise over £1,000 and have made donations to: our local LIVES group; the parochial church councils of St Nicholas Church, Barkston and St Mary's Church, Syston; and the Barkston and Syston Parish Council to contribute half the cost of the cleaning of the War Memorial and all the proposed installation fees for a defibrillator to be installed in a central location. Any monies remaining, once the installation costs are paid, will be lodged with the Parish Council in the charity account.

It has been a fruitful exercise converting your scrap into cash to support local institutions and activities, and as a spin-off Pete and I have had a lot of laughs.

I am sure Syston residents would like to join me in thanking Tim Ancliffe for keeping the field path between The Drift and Main St. clear throughout the summer, and for his continuing 'maintenance' of verges along Main St. A big thank you too to Vicki Strawson for cutting back the Main St. verge from the bus stop leading up to the A 607. All this effort has been a great help as the maintenance provided by Lincs. County Council is somewhat infrequent. .  
Following the cleaning of the Barkston War Memorial I should like to thank Rev. Alan Littlewood for conducting such an appropriate service and also most particularly thank our Parish Clerk, Malcolm Hall, for all the research he undertook into the names from World War 1 listed on the memorial.  
Maryan Nussey. Parish Council.

An amendment to the Burial Grant form was agreed, to provide for the levelling of grave mounds after 12 months, rather than the existing six, as it was not considered that the soil would have been consolidated enough within six months. To cover the cost of this, the Council agreed to an increase in the current fees for interments of £50.

The Council noted the cleaning of the War Memorial, and agreed to a slightly increased cost for the repairs following the cleaning. A thorough inspection had been made of the upper parts of the Memorial, which had revealed that it was in good condition. The Clerk gave an update on the arrangements for the service of rededication to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> September.

Councillor Jackson reported that the application for a grant from the Margaret Brown Trust for the provision of a defibrillator had been successful, and that he would arrange for a presentation at the next meeting. The Parish Council agreed to fund the running costs of the machine, which could be sited on the outside wall of the School

The next meeting is on MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2014 at 7.45 pm at the VILLAGE HALL.

Malcolm Hall  
Clerk to the Council

## **New Rural Dean for Loveden**

The Revd. Sonia Barron will be Inducted as Rector of Claypole and Rural Dean of Loveden at Claypole Church on Monday 3rd November at 7.30pm by the Bishop of Grimsby.  
All are welcome to come and meet our new Rural Dean.

### **Parish Register**

Holy Baptism 12/10/14 Dylan Samuel Walker (Barkston)

### **Xmas Coffee Morning**

Saturday 8th December 2014 at Moatlands, Syston

10.00am—12noon

Raffle, Bring & Buy

Donation £3

Proceeds to St. Mary's Church, Syston

Judith Argles 01400 251703

## BELTON AND MANTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

### Minutes of the Meetings held at the Village Hall, Belton On Thursday 21st August 2014

**Attending:** Chairman M.Coney, Councillors J. Beaty, R. Gibson, T. Hopwell, S. Thompson, K.Gibson, D.Platts, J. Fountain Parish Clerk.

#### **Matters pertaining to Belton were as follows:-**

**Belton Old School – Village Hall & Parking in Belton:** Car Park still not usable but will help matters when it is. Car Parking in Main Street not quite so bad, although when the Antique Road Show was held at Belton House it was chaotic as police cones had not been deployed to stop street parking. The Chairman has been in touch with Brian Gault, LCC Highways trying to move things forward regarding the yellow lines and parking bays.

**Speeding through Manthorpe & Belton.** County Cllr Ray Wootten to send latest report on reactive Speed Signs and order forms to Clerk. Things are moving forward in that Parishes can actually order the signs. Will need to be discussed further.

**Pot Holes in Belton & Manthorpe:** Tony Hopwell had reported the pot holes in Barkston Heath Lane, Belton to “Fix My Street.com” on the internet. LCC Highways filled the pot holes, first temporarily and they have now been filled properly in the worst stretch from Belton Cottage to Carpenters cottage. The internet apparently gets their attention and should perhaps be used more in this way.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

A request had been received from Barkston Heath Parish Council asking the Belton & Manthorpe P.C. to consider supporting LIVES which aids the infirm in their homes. The Council asked for a demonstration after which it would consider offering a donation.

#### **BONFIRES**

Tony Hopwell reported that concern had been expressed over smoke pollution from bonfires in Belton, particularly during the recent hottest part of the Summer when people had their doors and windows open. A number of Belton residents have breathing difficulties and are susceptible to smoke pollution. People should ideally use alternatives such as composting, removal to the council tip or skips, for large volumes. If you must have a bonfire, only burn dry material when the wind is away from your neighbours and never leave a fire unattended to smoulder – put it out.

The next meeting will be held at Belton Village Hall on 27th November at 7.30pm. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

## **St Nicholas Church in Peril**

The church in Barkston as been here for over 700 years – 700 years of being ‘here’ for the local community. The oldest bell is inscribed ‘God save the 1602 church’ and that bell, along with its five fellows, is still used to day, to ring out and tell the community about local celebrations. The church is used for baptisms and marriages; it is a central meeting point for village events like the jubilee celebrations; it is a focus in times of peril; it is a place to celebrate our achievements; and at the end of life, it is the place for everyone to say farewell – all this as well as a place for worship on a Sunday. But St. Nicholas has a problem, the same problem many of us face everyday, the problem of making ends meet. It costs over £10,000 a year just to keep our church in Barkston open - £5,000 goes towards the cost of our clergy, £3,000 on insurance, another £1000 on keeping the building safe, and we all know the costs of heating and lighting!

Many of you do not want to visit the church every week, or even more than a couple of times a year – but you do want the Church to be there when it’s your time – to celebrate a birth, a death or a marriage. Many people believe that the Church of England is fabulously wealthy – well it was once, a long time ago, but no longer. Local churches have to find the money to run themselves and St. Nicholas’ is **our** local church and it is up to every member of the community to support it, if we want it to continue to be ‘there’ when we need it.

Could you spare just a few pounds once a month? If everyone supported St. Nicholas’ in this way, we could be sure that our Church would always be there and ready when we, the community, need it.

If you feel you could help out as a regular giver, please contact our Treasurer, Carrie James (Tel: 251137). She’ll be able to tell you how your donations can be gift aided, making a little go a little further. Or if you’d prefer to give a one off donation, that too would be most welcome, could also be gift aided.

Thank you.

Cora Townson, Secretary. PCC

**Barkston Syston Belton Honington & Carlton Scroop**  
**Annual Produce & Craft Show**

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the show this year and those of you who donated raffle prizes, it is very much appreciated. It is so good to see the hall full of your exhibits which are well worth all your hard work over the year and the week leading up to the show. Thank you to all the judges and Mr Bernard Walker for presenting the prizes.

The AGM is on Monday 17th November 2014, 7.45pm in

Friends of Barkston School

FOBS will be holding a Christmas Fair on Saturday 29th November at Barkston & Syston CE School from 2-4 p.m. There will be a Santa's grotto, craft stalls, refreshments and games & activities for the children. Admission is free and all funds raised go to the Friends of Barkston School.

**Friends of Barkston Church**  
**BINGO**  
**IN THE VILLAGE HALL**  
**Sat 13th December 2014**  
**EYES DOWN 7.00pm prompt**  
**£5 adult/£2.50 children**

**Refreshments provided—bring your own drinks**  
**Tickets available from Jill Hawkins, Cora Townson,**  
**or the Garage**

**Harvest Supper**

**Harvest supper held on Saturday 4 October when 62 attended and entertained by “Collage”. The hall committee would like to thank everyone who participated in organising the event. The village hall is there for all to use and committee welcome ideas for new events.**

**From the Bishop**

First impressions, it is said, are important, so what are my first impressions of the Diocese of Lincoln - after actually being here in post, as I write, all of one week!

Well the welcome has been all we could have hoped for, and we have met some wonderfully warm, affirming and incredibly helpful people. The sun has so far shone, and I have seen the county at what I suspect is its glorious best - and we have discovered a church full of heart and positively wanting to move forward.

It is a contrast to how we are often seen by the world at large - and yet I love the description of the Church in 1 Peter 'but you' he says, 'are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a Holy nation, a people belonging to God'.

That, despite all our flaws, is how God sees us. It is what we are called to live out - and I am looking forward to working with you to build 'faithful, confident, joyful communities' in the years that now lay ahead.

Bishop David Grimsby

**Friends of Barkston Church**

Once again we are holding our Christmas concert in aid of the Rainbow Children's Hospice. This will be at 7pm on Friday 5th December in Barkston Church. We do invite you all to come along, join in the carols and enjoy refreshments afterwards. If anyone is interested in taking part please do not hesitate to contact me on 01400 251886.

Margaret Elnor

## Church Services for Nov—Dec 2014

Date	Barkston	Belton	Honington	Syston
2nd November All Saints	10.30 am RW Morning Prayer	11 am JC Holy Communion		9.30am PC Morning Prayer
9th November Remembrance Sunday	10.45am Rem. SH			9.30am Rem. SH
16th November 2nd before Advent				9.30 am JC Holy Communion
23 November Christ the King	11.00 JB Family Service			
30th November Advent Sunday			11.00am Grp HC SH	
7th December	Consult church notice boards			
14th December	Consult church notice boards			
21st December	11 am JB Family Carol Service			
28th December	Consult church notice boards			

## 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 Thursdays, November 13th, December 11th, January 8th.

Joy Bristow (01400 250339)

### Prayer and Praise

Prayer and Praise at the home of Joy Bristow, 38 West Street, Barkston, (01400 250339), will be held on Mondays, November 3rd & 17th, December 1st & 15th, January 5th & 19th.

Joy Bristow (01400 250339)

### St. Nicholas Knitting Circle, Barkston

Our next Knitting Circle meetings will be on Mondays November 24th and January 26th 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.

Joy Bristow (01400 250339)

**Coffee Morning 14th November, 10.30—11.30am St Nicholas Community Centre. Proceeds to Jacobs Well Appeal**

### **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