the
Voice

for and from the communities of

Aswarby	Haceby	Scott Willoughby
Aunsby	Laughton	Spanby
Crofton	Newton	Swarby
Dembleby	Osbournby	Threekingham
Folkingham	Pickworth	Walcot

Aug/Sept 2026
Issue No. 193

What a fuss everyone has been making about the weather. I've heard everyone's opinion about whether it's too hot, whether it will last, and how they feel about the humidity. I've heard grumbles about hose-pipe bans and the poor flowers in the garden, though surely it's more important that everyone has water to drink? By the time *The Voice* is published, I imagine we will think that it is too cold, too wet, or too something else.

We talk about the changing trends in the weather as though it's a personal inconvenience - something that just happens to us - rather than the consequence of hundreds of years of selfish human behaviour that has affected plant life, the air, the sea, and the people and animals that share this planet. Even if you are a climate change denier, it is impossible to deny that human beings fail to think about the impact of their actions and fail to share what they have fairly, often more concerned about whether plans to do good will benefit or inconvenience "me and mine" rather than help others.

Spare a thought, and certainly some prayer, for those who are growing our food and those who are worse affected by the changing climate than we are.

As I've been walking the dog on the footpaths through the fields these last few weeks, usually very early in the morning, I've been praying for the growing crops. To anyone who is not a Christian, prayer might seem futile; I just know that when I pray, I am more likely to see answers to the things I'm worried about than when I don't. Throughout my whole life, I've seen God faithfully and generously answer more often than not, and sometimes in ways I couldn't have imagined. There is an old saying, "I've never met a farmer's wife who doesn't pray"; it's a bit dated now, but it points to how much trust in, and help from, God is needed in farming - alongside research, skills, and experience, of course.

At our "tractor service," as it's affectionately been called at the start of the farming year, we prayed for God's blessing on the farmers, the farm machinery, and the seed. And we thanked God for the land, for his provision, for his awesome creation, and for his faithfulness.

Prayer is about thankfulness as well as about what we want. Research shows that gratitude - an attitude of thankful appreciation for the tangible and intangible good things that we have - is good for us. People who have a habit of deliberately speaking out, writing down, or thinking about the things for which they are grateful are more optimistic, more satisfied with their lives, and have an overall higher happiness score in psychology experiments than those who don't. There is a significant amount of research in this field, and the correlation between gratitude and wellbeing

*Continued on **page 3**.*

Forthcoming Services

Sunday 2 August
10:00 Cafe Church | Pointon
10:30 Holy Communion | Billingborough
17:00 Healing Service | Threekingham
17:30 Evening Prayer | Horbling

Thursday 6 August
9:00 Holy Communion | Folkingham

Sunday 9 August
10:30 Holy Communion | Folkingham
17:00 Poems & Praise | Scott Willoughby
17:30 Evening Prayer | Horbling

Sunday 16 August
10:30 Holy Communion | Billingborough

Thursday 20 August
9:00 Holy Communion | Folkingham

Sunday 23 August
10:30 Holy Communion | Folkingham

Thursday 27 August
10:00 Holy Communion | Billingborough | Methodist Presbyter presiding

Sunday 30 August
10:30 Holy Communion | Aslackby

Thursday 3 September
9:00 Holy Communion | Folkingham

Sunday 6 September
10:00 Cafe Church | Pointon
10:30 Holy Communion | Billingborough
17:00 Healing Service | Threekingham
17:30 Evening Prayer | Horbling

*Forthcoming services continued on **page 3**.*

Low Farm Park

07539077142

Folkingham

The old Cart Shed

Thank you for everyone who made the effort to come and see us for our sea shanty it was so lovely to see you all x

Join us for some amazing events that we hope you will still join us for.

The old cart Shed is available for private Hire for Birthdays special occasions work events or jus a good old fashioned get together or to use for workshops or regular group meet ups we can offer just a venue or buffets and bar services all in one place. We can even help make you special wedding days that little more special x

SAVE THE DATES

06/06/26 Acoustic cover Kerry & Andy 7pm

04/07/26 AFO Choir & the Garnett Family As seen on BGT (tickets needed) 7pm

26/07/26 Summer sounds from Jess stone 2pm

01/08/26 Back by demand Amber 60s 70s 80s music 7pm

16/08/26 Sandy Beach and the Deck chairs enjoy an afternoon of 60s 70s and 80s classics 2pm

Sat 29/8/26 jess stone 7pm

05/09/26 Sea Shanty 7pm

31/10/26 Fire works events (tickets needed)

12/12/26 Christmas Songs with Jess stone 7pm

Please note all events are outside in our courtyard with an undercover area please dress appropriately for the weather.

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Turn off A15 onto spring lane we're at the bottom of the lane

is remarkable. Even if there are ninety-nine things that you would like to complain about, that have gone wrong, or are hard to manage, writing down, thinking about, or speaking about just one good thing for which you are thankful is transformative for your mental health. Further research shows that those who are closest to people who practice gratitude have their own wellbeing scores positively impacted just by spending time with them.

If you'd like to give it a try, you could write a thank-you note to someone - perhaps making it a habit once a month. You'll feel happier as you think about someone who has made a positive difference to you, and they will feel happier receiving it. If you don't have time to write a note, send them a text, being specific about why you're thankful for them. If they're a stranger, simply thinking about how they did something nice for you and mentally thanking them helps maintain a positive attitude toward others.

Make a habit of writing down the simple things you're thankful for each day. Write them in a journal or on a scrap of paper, and keep them to read whenever you're having a bad day. Count your blessings over breakfast or as you clean your teeth before bed; try to identify three specific things that happened that you're grateful for, and why. If you haven't tried praying, gratitude is a great way to start. You can turn your practice into prayers, thanking God for things, people, and situations. Or, you can meditate on something for which you're grateful, being fully present in the moment (the warmth of the sun, the sound of the wind, the hand of a friend in yours, the food you're enjoying) and allowing your mind to slow down and connect with that feeling.

There is so much I'm grateful for, and so many people to whom and for whom I am thankful. Whatever the weather, I'm thankful to God for the way in which he made this world, as well as the hope of his promise to restore it one day to the perfection of Eden, and to restore us to a perfect relationship with him. Until then, I pray that he will help us live well together in this world we've made imperfect, and that he will guard and guide our farmers during this harvest time so that we can all receive the blessing of food to share.

Every Blessing (don't forget to count them 😊),

Rebecca

This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24

Harvest Services

Saturday 12 September
18:00 Swarby

Sunday 13 September
after service in Village Hall, Folkingham

Friday 18 September
18:00 Scott Willoughby

Friday 25 September
19:00 Dembleby

Thursday 1 October
19:00 Walcot (with Newton)

Friday 2 October
18:00 Osbournby

Sunday 4 October
17:00 Aswarby

Sunday 4 October
17:00 Aunsby





Forthcoming Services

Continued from page 1.

Sunday 13 September
10:30 Holy Communion | Folkingham
17:30 Evening Prayer | Horbling

Thursday 17 September
9:00 Holy Communion | Folkingham

Sunday 20 September
10:30 Holy Communion | Billingborough

Thursday 24 September
10:00 Holy Communion | Billingborough | Methodist Presbyter presiding

Sunday 27 September
10:30 Holy Communion | Folkingham

Please check **www.parishofsouthlafford.org** for amendments to services.

Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

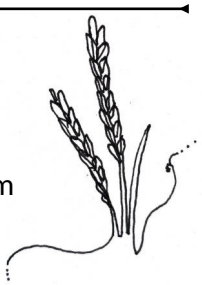
IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER
Ezekiel 47:9, 12

The Season of Creation

1 September - 4 October
Find out more at
seasonofcreation.org

Sunday 11 October
16:00 Pickworth

Friday 16 October
19:00 Threekingham



The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us.

Psalm 67:6

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Update from Folkingham Parish Council

by Martin Smith



The Folkingham Parish Council was a proud supporter of this year's Folkingham Feastival, which took place on Saturday 27th June on the Millennium Green. There was a fantastic turnout of people who enjoyed eight bands performing a diverse range of music, from folk to reggae to rock. To keep people happy, there was a great range of food and drink, and for the young ones, a popular circus skills attraction.

In total, over £1,600 was raised, of which the majority will go on improvements to the Millennium Green, with a portion earmarked for improving green spaces in the village. The event also raised around £150 via the cake stall for St Andrew's Church. The event will return next year on Saturday 26th June. The Parish Council thanks everyone who volunteered to make this event such a success for the community.

In other news, the Parish Council is still looking for someone in the village to help out on the council to support our village. Please email cllr.smith.fpc@gmail.com if you would like to do your bit for Folkingham.



SOUTH LAFFORD
POP IN
"Staying together In friendship".

Summer Pop In News

by Roberts Meeds

The weather has caused pavements to become very hot, being so hot in fact that pets were capable of burning their paws. Dog owners at Pop In are to be congratulated on leaving or keeping their pets at home during the day, and for meetings on a Monday morning. It is another example of the kindness and understanding members have for each other and their furry friends.

Our thanks in this issue go to our Birthday card lady, Margery, who ensures that everyone gets a card at the time of their special day. It is one of the tasks that are diligently done in the shadows, bringing pleasure to us all.

Meetings are well attended at the moment, though holidays will soon deplete us. If you are having a break away from the norm, we all wish you a happy holiday and hope you come back refreshed. Looking after school children during the summer? Please do not forget we would love to see them. The mix of ages put smiles on all our faces.

Recent additions to numbers have boosted our meetings and integrated well. Are you also interested? If so, come along to the Village Hall at Folkingham on a Monday at 10 am, you will be most welcome. Our primary objective is to be a social group, respecting and looking after each other.

Sadly, one of our members lost her husband recently, and to her, from Pop In, we extended our condolences.

Newton Garden Opening

by Judith

Annie and Brian Walton opened their garden at Woodside Farmhouse on the weekend of June 6 and 7 and had an amazing response. They would like to thank all those people who supported this opening and donated time and energy to make it so successful. The numbers surpassed all expectations, with over 370 visitors over the two days.

With help arriving from Hampshire, Norfolk, Warwickshire, Stirlingshire, North Yorkshire, Cumbria, Newton and Folkingham, it was a real team effort. The lovely local community showed its true colours, including visiting, donating cash, baking (including last-minute refills!), supplying plants for the plant stall, selling pottery, helping out, and kind neighbours allowing visitors to park in their gardens.

As a result, the National Garden Scheme benefited to the tune of £2005. The NGS supports medical and nursing charities, including Macmillan, Marie Curie, Hospice UK and Parkinson's UK, to name a few. In addition to this total, cakes, coffees and plants raised a further £1465, which will go to support the building work needed for St Botolph's Church, Newton. So, with a total of £3470 we are very grateful for all the help and support for the two charities. Thank you.



As long as the earth endures,
seedtime and harvest,
cold and heat,
summer and winter,
day and night
will never cease.

Genesis 8:22

Make Haste - Slowly

by David E Anderson

Well that's it, the case is packed
When is the taxi due?
Now what's the time? I'll tidy up.
No! Best trip to the loo!
That's much better! Still got time,
To hoover, maybe dust,
No! Best check all the windows
And the boiler is a must!
He'll be here soon but still there's time.
Can't leave it all a mess.
I'll pack away that pile of clothes
I've still some time, I guess.
What's that lying on the floor?
Beneath my dressing gown?
Good grief, the airline tickets!
They must have fallen down!
Better check the timings,
In order to be sure.
The taxi driver should be here
And knocking on the door.
Ah there we are – the tenth of June,
Take-off at half past eight.
The tenth? But that's tomorrow!
Ah well! I won't be late.

Osbournby Update

by Libby

The annual Yard Sale was held on 6th June and once again was a huge success. Over 22 “yards” were open. However, due to the inclement weather, it was also decided to open the Church for people to stay dry. Tea and coffee were being served in the Village Hall. A total of £55 was donated to the Church and £55 to Blood Cancer. Look out for next year's date!

You may have noticed scaffolding around Osbournby School and Village Hall. This is due to roof repairs, but it’s business as usual for both the school and the hall. It is hoped that the work will be completed by the end of August.

Osbournby holds two village tidy days each year. The last one, in April, had the highest volunteer turnout to date. The autumn tidy will be in November – more information nearer the time.

As soon as the grain is ripe,
he puts the sickle to it,
because the harvest has come.

Mark 4:29





News from Osbournby Church

by Ian

Osbournby Church porch roof has been successfully replaced with the help of a grant from Lincolnshire Churches Trust. Reassuringly no bats were disturbed when the work was being undertaken!

We had an uplifting afternoon on 5th July with Jenny Baines and her team who coordinated a very well attended Hymns and Pimms service with live music in the cool of the church, a brief respite from the summer heatwave.

See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains.

James 5:7b

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Swarby News

by Linda

A warm welcome to our newest Swarby residents! We hope you've settled in. Please note, there will be no Coffee Morning in August but do come along to the **Swarby Gala on Saturday, 8 August 2pm**. Our next **Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 5 September**, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, with the **Harvest Service on Saturday 12 September at 6 pm**.

Swarby 50:50 Club

We are excited to announce the launch of the **Swarby 50:50 club** in which 50% of the monthly income goes to prizewinners and the remainder goes to supporting the maintenance of Swarby Church and ministry within the parish. The inaugural draw will take place at Swarby Gala on 8 August. It costs only £1 per number per month for the remaining 5 months, £5 in total. The club is open to anyone aged 16 or over who holds a UK bank account.

Interested? You can sign up now or find out more by emailing swarbychurch@gmail.com or talk to the Churchwardens.



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Aswarby Update

by Michelle

Hello from St Denys at Aswarby. We have had such a busy year so far with different village events, including a brilliant art exhibition in the church as part of an open gardens event. We are hoping to repeat this again one day. Also, our resident village history expert, Penny Herdman, did a talk for a U3a group, which was brilliant.

We have had three wonderful weddings at the church so far; it's always lovely to be part of these celebrations. We have two more weddings booked later in the year, but we are so excited because on 6th July, work starts to repair the windows, which is long overdue.

We do enjoy welcoming visitors on most days (after the work is complete), so please do visit our church to look around, read the history or sit, meditate or pray.

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Upcoming Courses



Roman Blind & Curtain Making Weekend

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th of August

9.30am - 4.00pm

Spend a weekend with Irenee Chappell in the school workshop making a Roman blind or Curtain for your home using the same methods as a professional soft furnisher.



Now Booking! Upholstered Footstool Course

Friday 21st August
9.30m - 4.30pm

Spend fun Saturday with Master upholsterer Hannah Weston Smith creating your own (30x30cm square) footstool on our beginners one day upholstery course.



Needle Felted Highland Cow

Thursday 10th September
6.30-8.30pm

Learn how to sculpt wool into a head and body for the cow. Add colourful curls, horns and some legs using different felting techniques. to your quirky cow sculpture.



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Friday 4th & Saturday 5th September

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News from Threekingham

by Jacqueline



A communion service will be conducted by Revd Rebecca as part of the increasingly popular regular Healing Service on the first Sunday of the month at 5pm. The news has been welcomed by members of the growing congregation. All members of the combined Well Springs Group and beyond, are welcome to attend.

Villagers turned out in force with scythes, secateurs, shears, etc for a spring clean-up day on 16th May. Fortunately, the weather was kind. As a result, the churchyard looks tidy and well cared for. Thanks to everyone who gave their time and effort, and to our local farmer Ollie for clearing up afterwards. See the photo of the workers!

There have now been three social get-togethers - *Sip & Chats* - in the church, which have seen neighbours and friends meeting over drinks and snacks, raising over £300 for St Peter's. On July 5th a quiz was organised; great fun and mentally challenging. Many thanks to the organisers for the questions and prizes. The next *Sip & Chat* is on Friday, 7th August.

You never know who has visited St Peter's. We were intrigued to see an entry in our visitors' book by a gentleman from Engelburg in Switzerland, on his way from there to Edinburgh on foot. There is no obvious pilgrim route, and the only link appears to be the Protestant reformers John Knox and John Calvin, who spent time together in Switzerland. Both appear prominently on what is known as the Reformation Wall in Geneva, which commemorates the leaders and events of the Protestant Reformation. Perhaps someday our foot-weary guest will explain all.

St Lucia's Church, Dembleby - A Legacy of Generosity and Restoration

by Anne

The arch and light above the entrance gate to St Lucia's Church, installed in 1993, stand as a lasting tribute to Gilbert Glynne Christian, whose family farmed at Heath Farm. Gilbert passed away in 1988, leaving a substantial bequest dedicated to the upkeep and preservation of the church.

Rather than spend the gift immediately, the parish chose to invest the funds, using the interest, then offering a strong return, to support essential repairs. Villagers also rallied to raise additional money, ensuring the church could undertake long-needed restoration work.

Over the following years, St Lucia has benefited from a series of major improvements. Grantham Electrical completed a full rewiring, accompanied by new heating and lighting throughout the building. The distinctive pendant lights were crafted by Anwick Forge. Pattinson Roofing of Grantham later undertook a significant re-tiling of the roof, replacing a large number of worn tiles.

The Christian family's support continued when Gilbert's sister, Mona, left a further generous bequest upon her death in 2006. Thanks to their kindness and the efforts of the village, St Lucia's has been able to meet the ongoing demands of maintenance that historic buildings inevitably face.

The parish remains deeply grateful to Gilbert and Mona Christian for their enduring dedication to St Lucia's Church.

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The National Garden Scheme raises funds for healthcare, nursing and community gardening charities. If you are interested in opening your garden, please contact **Lesley** via email at **lesley.wykes@ngs.org.uk** or on **07771675146**.

Open Gardens

The Secret Garden of Louth
68 Watts Lane, Louth LN11 9DG
Thur & Sun Aug 11:00 - 16:00 |
Pre-booking essential | Adult: £5
Child: Free

Woodlands
Peppin Lane, Fotherby, Louth
LN11 0UW | Sun 2 Aug / Sun 20
Sept 10:30 - 16:30 | Adult: £5
Child: Free

The Fern Nursery & Bowling Club
Grimsby Rd, Binbrook LN8 6DH
Sat 8 Aug 11:00- 16:00 | Adult: £4
Child: Free

Fydell House
South Sq., Boston PE21 6HU
Sun 9 Aug 10:00 - 16:00 |
Adult: £4 Child: Free

Boston Exotic Garden
40 Allington Garden, Boston
PE21 9DW
Sun 16 Aug 11:00 - 16:00 |
Adult: £5 Child: Free

Discover gardens opening across the country on the National Garden Scheme website, **findagarden.ngs.org.uk**.

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Folkingham & Osbournby
21 August and 18 September
11:45 - 12:15 Folkingham,
Churchfields Road
12:30 - 13:00 Osbournby,
The Church

Pickworth
14 August and 11 September
14:30 - 15:00
Village Street, outside Hus House

Dust off your boots for

Country Nights 2026

Be part of the fun at **Osbournby Village Hall** *(NG34 0DG)* for fantastic live country music. Join us every **second Saturday of the month**. Doors open at **7pm**, music starts at **8pm**. **£6** entry. Tea, coffee, rolls & hot sausage rolls available. Please bring your own drinks!

Contact **Mags**: 07872 926143 or **Graham:** 01529 455449 / 07984 161738

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12th Sept, with **Warren DeWitt**

10th Oct, with **Darren Busby Duo** (all proceeds to Cancer Research)

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Ruskington
7 Aug | Led by Julie & Peter
Park at rear of Co-op.

Bulby
21 Aug | Led by Judy & Phil
Park at Callan's Lane Woods.

Ufford
4 Sept | Led by Wendy & Steve
Park at White Hart Pub.

Stamford
18 Sept | Led by Judith & John
Park at Burghley House Car Park.

stuart couling

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Osbournby
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Regular Events *Please check times with venue or organiser.*

Event	Day of Week	Time	Venue
Pop In Club	Monday	10:00 - 13:00	Folkingham Village Hall
Gentle Fitness	Monday	14:00 - 15:00	Folkingham Village Hall
Folkingham Singers	Tuesday	10:00 - 12:00	Folkingham Village Hall
Line Dance Classes *(beg./imp.)*	Tuesday	14:30 - 16:30	Folkingham Village Hall
Fitness Pilates	Tuesday	19:00-20:00	Osbournby Village Hall
Tuesday Warblers	Tuesday	19:00 - 20:00	Folkingham Village Hall
Bell Ringing Practice	Tuesday	19:00 - 21:00 *Learners: 18:30 - 19:30*	St. Andrew's, Folkingham
Folkingham Art Group	Wednesday	09:30 - 12:00	Folkingham Village Hall
Folkingham Craft Group	Thursday	09:30 - 12:00	Folkingham Village Hall
Handbell Group	Thursday	15:00 - 16:00	St. Andrew's, Folkingham
Folkingham Ukulele Players	Thursday	19:00-20:00	Folkingham Village Hall
Fitness Pilates	Thursday	19:00-20:00	Osbournby Village Hall
Baby Music Class	Friday *(term time)*	09:00 - 09:35	Folkingham Village Hall
Toddler Music Class	Friday *(term time)*	09:40 - 10:15	Folkingham Village Hall
Baby & Toddler Play Group	Friday *(term time)*	10:30 - 12:00	Folkingham Village Hall





Get in Touch

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To be featured in our next issue, please submit your content to the editor by **10th Sept 2026**.

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