

South Croxton Churches

The parishes of Ashby Folville & Barsby, Gaddesby, South Croxton with Beeby
and Twyford, Thorpe Satchville & John O'Gaunt

Newsletter December 2017 and January 2018

Take time out . . .

Hello to you all!

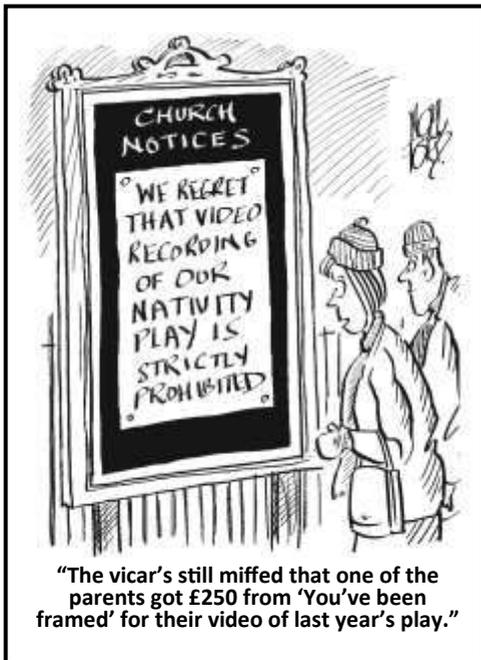
As we enter into the ADVENT season leading up to Christmas, I do hope that you 'take time out' of your busy schedules and think, reflect and contemplate what this penitential season is all about.

To begin – Advent means waiting expectedly for the coming of Jesus Christ. This is twofold; it is about awaiting the celebration of his 'birth' as he was born of

Mary, his mother, which we do on

Christmas day; and secondly awaiting his 'second' coming which is of great significance and importance to Christians everywhere.

Advent is called a penitential season (as Lent is) not because it is a sorrowful time – but because it gives us time to reflect about the person that we are – about what we feel and think about – what our conscience tells us about the world and the people around us – how we treat and interact with each other – and more importantly what we can do to be 'better people' – Christian people. Jesus promised his return – but didn't tell us when this will be – but he did tell us that he will at that time judge every



"The vicar's still miffed that one of the parents got £250 from 'You've been framed' for their video of last year's play."

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one of us who is alive at his coming and all those who have died. So as well as waiting and trying to be better people with our heart, mind and spirit – we will be ready to say; “Maranatha” (Come Lord Jesus!).

Advent is a time of self-examination – a time of rest and relaxation and our Church decorations are ‘simple and spare’ throughout this penitential season.

So to help us to reflect and give a just and humble approach to Advent, there is going to be a ‘time of quietness’ including; reflection with music, contemplation of the self – in candlelight over four days at Thorpe Satchville Church on Tuesday 19th, Wednesday 20th, Thursday 21st & Friday 22nd December at 7.00 pm; each session will last one hour and is different each evening. Please do attend as many as you are able. The sessions

finish with Compline (night prayer) which is a fitting end to the day. This is a time to ‘step out’ of the business of Christmas; Man has made Christmas a time of consumerism and turmoil on people’s time and finances; but this is not what the meaning of Advent and Christmas is about – so I do hope you will join us on any of those days.

■ At the end of November we will be told if we have been successful in our bid for lottery funding for St John the Baptist Church at South Croxton. The church needs major structural work to the tower, and is currently on the ‘at risk’ register of Historic Churches in England. If we are successful, phase 2 will see the bells rehung in the tower; and I am ever grateful to all those in the village who have come together and continued to give generously to the Bells and Tower Fund over the past several years – and to all those who continually raise vital funds for this project. To hear the bells rung again would be a time of great celebration – so as the lottery motto tells us – fingers crossed !

■ Throughout December we are holding some special Christmas-tide services throughout the benefice; we hold our;

◆ Nine Lessons and Carol Service at Ashby Folville on Sunday December 10 at 6.00pm

◆ United Carols and Christingle service at Twyford with the Methodist Church – a service for all ages, especially the younger ones – on Wednesday December 13 at 7.00pm

◆ Gaddesby school will be in St Luke’s Church on Thursday December 14 at 9.30am for their Christmas celebration service

◆ Gaddesby school choir will again be joining the Carols by Candlelight service at 7.00pm at St Luke’s on December 14.

◆ Sunday December 17 at 6.00pm will be a Christingle/Carol service, again all age but with emphasis on our younger members



- ◆ A Crib and Carol service at Thorpe Satchville on Christmas Eve at 5.00pm
- ◆ Later on Christmas eve at 11.30pm we will have our ‘First Holy Communion of Christmas’ at Twyford
- ◆ On Christmas day there will be a worship with Eucharist service at South Croxton at 10.30am

■ Please note that there will be **no** 9.30am weekday services at Thorpe Satchville on Thursday December 14 or Thursday December 28..

■ So over this festive season I do hope you will be able to join us at all our services – or as many as you are able. You’ll see all our services in the SWF benefice Christmas card that you will receive soon.

At Christmas time we remember it can also be an anxious time for some; those who will go hungry or those who will sleep outside in the doorways of shops, and those who are homeless, unloved, and have no families to share this special time.

Jesus told us to love those equally and without prejudice; he told us to see himself in those people; and he told us that whatever we do for them – we do for him. There is a very fine line between wealth and riches and poverty and deprivation. There are those also amongst us who are sick in body, mind and spirit – so throughout Advent I will be saying prayers for them at each of our services; If you wish us as a Church to pray for you, or someone close to you – please do let me know – just give me a call on 841278. If it is for someone else – please ask for their permission first. So during Advent let us look forward with gratitude, reflect on who we are, and celebrate the birth of Jesus at this very special time in the church calendar.

As this is a double issue newsletter covering events in December 2017 and January 2018 – there will be little time and notice to let you know of Church services in February 2018; the important season of LENT begins on ASH WEDNESDAY February 14 and we mark the beginning of Lent (a penitential season) by having a service of worship with the imposition of ashes on our foreheads. This will be at South Croxton on February 14 at 9.30am.

So do have a peaceful and blessed Christmas, and receive God’s love, grace and mercy as he promised to us; in great abundance, and may the start of the New Year comfort you with the same Christian virtues that you were blessed with at Christmastide.

Blessings,

Revd Neil

■ **Funeral:** November 9 at Gaddesby, Adrian Billows. *We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Adrian..*

■ The former rector of our benefice, the Rev Susan Leighton, is inviting former parishioners to her licensing as priest-in-charge at St Theodore’s Church Centre, Rushey Mead, 2 Sandfield Close, Leicester, LE4 7RE, on Sunday December 10 at 4.00pm, followed by refreshments in the church.



Parish councils

Gaddesby, Barsby & Ashby Folville

Parish Council: The next meeting will be at Gaddesby Village Hall on Monday December 11. The following meeting will be at Ashby and Barsby Village Hall on Monday January 8. The February 12 meeting will be at Gaddesby. All meetings start at 6.45pm. At the beginning of each meeting there is a timeslot during which people living in the parish can raise matters of concern. If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity please contact the clerk, Trudy Toon (840490) email: gaddesbypc@hotmail.co.uk. Minutes of meetings and dates for future meetings can be found on the Gaddesby website: <http://www.gaddesby.org.uk/village-organisations/parish-council/>



The church roof was a matter of urgent concern.

South Croxton Parish Council: The next meeting is on Thursday December 7. The following meeting will be on Thursday January 4 and the next on Thursday February 1. All meetings take place at the village hall at 6.30pm.

Twyford and Thorpe Satchville Parish Council: The next meeting will be on Tuesday December 19 at 2.30pm in Thorpe Satchville village hall. The following meeting, on January 16, will be at Twyford Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Women's Institutes

Barsby and Ashby Folville: Members will be enjoying a Christmas party on December 13. There will be an open meeting on January 10, at which new members will be welcome, to be addressed by Janet Kirk, chairman of Leicestershire and Rutland Federation of WIs. The competition is "your favourite Xmas card of 2017".

Gaddesby: In November we not only held the annual meeting but also celebrated the 90th birthday of one of our best-loved members. We shared a moment of pure delight, magic and friendship as we stood together in the glow of her birthday cake candlelight. Such is the fellowship of the WI.

Our Christmas party is on December 13 and we are expecting everyone to wear a decorated hat. Please also remember to bring the food promised!



Next year we are going to be welcoming several local heroes (they must be heroic to agree to come!) to speak at our meetings. In January, well-known artist (and sometime musician), Andy Geeson will be joining us for the evening. This will be an open meeting so put the date in your diary – January 10 – and just come along or contact a WI member or Daphne (841184).



We are so pleased that our 75th Anniversary Bench has finally reached its destination by the post box on Main Street. Many thanks go to Miles Warrington for doing the hard landscaping and final fixing. We do hope that villagers and visitors will benefit from a place to rest on their rambles up and down the street.

Daphne Tucker

South Croxton: We meet on the third Thursday of the month. Guests are very welcome; the cost is £5, which includes food and a cuppa. Anyone interested, please join us.

Popular postie

Soyab, who has been a very popular postman at Gaddesby and Barsby, says his wife and daughter seem to be getting better after the baby's early arrival. He says he hopes to be able one day to repay people for their prayers, loving kindness and cards.

Ashby Folville and Barsby

Diary date: Carol service, December 10, 6.00pm. *RH*

Carols: Ashby Folville and Barsby WI members will be singing in Ashby Folville on Friday December 15 to raise money for the East Midlands air ambulance.

Barsby Village Green: Carols on the Green Sunday 17 December 17 at 6.00 pm. Everyone welcome to 'sing in' the festive period and the children can see Santa. Mulled wine & mince pies!

Harvest Supper: The event raised £633. Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the evening successful, and thank you to those who kindly donated puddings and raffle prizes. *LS*

Coffee/Tea Morning: The village hall at Ashby Folville will be open for our Christmas coffee/tea morning on Thursday December 14, 10—12 noon. Our first meeting of the new year will be on Thursday January 11. If you need transport please contact Pat Walton (840463) or Sue de Gaye (840904). We wish you all a very happy Christmas.

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Death: We were sad to hear that Mrs. Joyce Woolley had died. She was formerly headmistress of Barsby school, before it closed, our thoughts are with Peter, Nichola and Charles. *RH*

Village hall: For village hall bookings please ring Lucy Stroud (840667). The hall is very well equipped, and is a perfect venue for parties . . . catering/bar can be provided.

Gaddesby

Carols by Candlelight: Thursday December 14 at 7.00pm in St. Luke's Church. Joining us again is Gaddesby Primary School Choir. Mince pies and mulled wine afterwards.

Cheney medal acquired: The Waterloo Medal awarded to Col Edward Charles Hawkins Cheney, of the Royal Scots Grey cavalry regiment, whose statue stands in the chancel at St Luke's, has been acquired, before it was put up for auction, by the Regimental Museum of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys) in Edinburgh.

The end of November is believed to mark the 100th anniversary of the arrival at the church in 1817 of the world famous statue of Col Cheney astride the fifth horse he rode at the Battle of Waterloo. Four previous mounts were killed and the fifth wounded under him and the command of the regiment devolved upon him. The statue previously stood in Gaddesby Hall. Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, of the Pevsner Architectural Guides, said it is "of a type more suited for St Paul's Cathedral than a village church". It draws many visitors to the church and is seen as a memorial to both the Colonel and the men of the Scots Greys, whose troopers can still be seen at the church on special occasions. In 1811 he married Eliza Ayre whose



father, John Ayre Esquire, lived at Gaddesby Hall, which property Colonel Cheney inherited. He died there on March 3, 1848.

Village hall

Yoga, Tuesdays, 7.30—9.00pm, contact Di Angrave (840013); Legs, Tums and Bums, Thursdays, 7.00—8.00pm, contact Justine Hunt (840435), Justine.hunt1@btinternet.com; Why Not Come Dancing (WNCD) Saturdays, 7.00—11.00pm. Contact Barry Preston (840381). The Gaddesby Women's Institute meets on the second Wednesday of the month, 7.30—10.00 pm, contact Daphne Tucker (841184).

Contact Sue Evans (840305) for hall bookings.

South Croxton

Harvest supper: A huge thank you to everyone who supported the harvest supper at South Croxton, with special thanks to all the cooks, helpers, washer-uppers. A lovely evening. *Ann Crawford*

Lottery: If you wish to join the monthly lottery contact Tracy Campbell (840042), Ann Crawford (840231) or Angela Wood (840620).

■ Village hall:

Crafty Chatter: Tea/coffee, chat and craft. We welcome visitors with any craft/project – from knitting, sewing and crochet to drawing, painting or jewellery making. Alternate Wednesdays at the village hall, 2.00—4.00 pm, £1 when you attend – December 13, January 10 and 24 and February 7. Caroline (840272).

Bookings: The hall is available for events, parties and classes. Caroline (840272).

Thorpe Satchville

Village Hall

Table tennis: Monday evenings 7.00—9.00pm, table tennis! Do come along and support this new activity. All ages and abilities welcome. 50p a session.

Coffee and cake: Thursday December 14, 10.30—12.00pm, coffee, cake and chat morning. All welcome, young, old and in-between.

Carol singing: Come along to our village Christmas carol singing around the tree on our little green, the more the merrier, on Thursday December 14. To help put you in the Christmas spirit we will be serving mince pies and mulled wine.

Greetings: The village hall committee would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a wonderful 2018. If you haven't been along to any of our events so far, make it your new year's resolution to join us in 2018!

Pub night: Friday January 26 – an evening with a nod to Robert Burns. Bar opens at 7,00pm.

Boot camp: An experienced trainer is running exercise sessions at Victory Lodge Farm on Klondyke Lane. Anyone interested should contact Michelle (07814423438). All welcome, whatever fitness level you are – enjoy good company and get fit.

■ The village hall can be hired for £10 an hour before 6.00pm and £15 after 6.00pm. It has an excellent catering kitchen, fridges and freezer. It is attached to a large village playing field and play area, which makes it ideal for children's parties. Contact Annie Jones (07871277177/840470). Alternatively visit www.thorpesatchville.co.uk

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Scout groups: Our group acquitted themselves well at the Remembrance Service in Thorpe Satchville. A week later the cub pack again won the Melton District Swimming Gala. We have a number of different activities planned for December including the District Christmas Concert and a Christmas party.

After eight years Tim Ashton is stepping down from the Scout Group. Thanks to Tim for all his work. If you would like to help as a leader in any of our three sections please contact us through 1thorpescouts@gmail.com

We have just invested four new Beaver Scouts into our Colony - which is for boys and girls aged 5 3/4 to around 8 years old. We meet on Thursdays between 17:45 and 18:45 at Thorpe Satchville Village Hall. We do have more places so if you have a child or grandchild who would like to join please contact Simon Hargrave 07795 281332 or email 1thorpescouts@gmail.com



“... No, I don't think you're the real Father Christmas! I think you're up there stealing lead from my roof!”

Twyford

DECEMBER

Village hall:

Karate: Sundays, 10.00am, December 3, 10, 17; Wednesdays, 6.00pm, December 6, 13, 20. More details: Alison (851238).

Carpet bowls: Mondays, 8.00pm, December 4, 18.

Whist drive: Friday, 7.00pm, December 8.

Drop In: NB—Friday December 8 is the Christmas lunch at Sysonby Knoll. Last drop-in this year will be on Friday December 15, 10.30am

Yoga: Mixed ability, Mondays, 11.00am, December 4, 11, 18, men's, Thursdays, 7.00pm, December 7, 14, 21.

Woolly Days: Saturday December 9, 10.30—3.30pm. Knitting, spinning, crochet, weaving . . . enjoy a day with like-minded people. Everyone welcome, £5 and something for a shared lunch. For more details contact Lizzie (07754 497004).

Inns and Outs: Tuesday December 12, 7.00pm. Fun and games, prizes - all welcome. £3.50 each. Bring your own drink and a plate of food for the Christmas buffet. Ideas for next year's programme welcomed. (Paula: 840787.)

Book and Film Club: We are not holding a meeting in December (See January).

Website: www.twyford-vh.org Check out what's coming up and the latest news. See the hall's facilities and availability and book your event!

Village hall bookings: Twyford Village Hall is available for booking for your party, wedding, meeting or other event. Regular activities or 'one off' events can also be advertised in the VH Programme which is delivered to every house in the village. Call Chris (07811 859813) or (840774) or check online at www.twyford-vh.org.

JANUARY

Village hall:

Karate: Sundays, 10.00am, January 7, 14, 21, 28; Wednesdays, 6.00pm, January 10, 17, 24, 31. More details: Alison (851238).

Carpet bowls: Mondays, 8.00pm, January 15, 29.

Whist drives: Friday, 7.00pm, January 5, 19.

Drop In: Fridays, 10.30am, January 5, 19.

Yoga: Mixed ability, Mondays, 11.00am, January 8, 15, 22, 29, men's, Thursdays, 7.00pm, January 4, 11, 18, 25.

Inns and Outs: Tuesday, January 9, 7.00pm. Chris and Peter's Quiz Night. Always popular, questions on all sorts of topics, with a prize for the winning table, £2.50 each. Bring a drink and a plate of food for the supper table. All welcome

Woolly Days: Saturday January 13, 10.30—3.30pm. Knitting, spinning, crochet, weaving . . . enjoy a day with like-minded people. Everyone welcome, £5 and something for a shared lunch. For more details contact Lizzie (07754 497004).

Book and Film Club: Thursday January 25, 4.00 pm at The Saddle. January's book and film will be *The Light between Oceans* by M L Stedman – widely available. For further details please contact 840774 or 840605.

Advance notice: Tim Kliphuis Trio Goes Grappelli – Twyford Village Hall, February 11. Reserve your ticket – advance purchases: £9. 'Classically trained and widely regarded as Stéphane Grappelli's heir, Kliphuis first made his name playing with the fiery European gypsy guitarists, then developed a more personal style which has taken him on a busy touring schedule around the world. He weaves the music of Vivaldi, Stéphane Grappelli, Django Reinhardt, Edward Grieg, Duke Ellington and Celtic traditionals into a dazzling tapestry of moods, colours and grooves.' International music here in Twyford – not to be missed! Call 840774 or visit www.twyford-vh.org.

Newsletter online

If you have far flung friends or relatives who would like to see an electronic version of our newsletter – or would like to receive your own copy to store on your computer – please send your email address to the editor, Glyn Tucker, at churchmaged@gmail.com. Copies are sent as "blind" carbons so others will not see your email address. Alternatively look for "newsletter" at www.gaddesby.org.uk (with thanks to Simon Hargrave). *Editor*

Who to contact in the South Croxton Benefice

Priest in charge (Rector Designate): The Revd Neil Stothers

The Rectory, 19 Main Street, South Croxton LE7 3RJ

Tel: 01664 841278 or email: revneilstothers@yahoo.co.uk

Please contact Revd Neil for all wedding, funeral, baptism or home communion visits, or urgent pastoral matters in the first instance. When Revd Neil is on leave, kindly contact the administration office (01664) 561909 or the appropriate contact from the list of churches below.

The South Croxton Benefice is part of the South West Framland group of churches and has an administrative office that deals with official and authorised forms that you may have to complete, and for collection of all fees for the services we provide. This office is open on Tuesdays and Fridays (01664 561909); or by email: clusteradmin@btinternet.com

For general matters relating to one of our benefice churches, visits, or record searches, please contact: (All numbers preceded by 01664):

St Mary Ashby Folville & Barsby: Rosemary Holt – Warden (840783).

St Luke Gaddesby: Daphne Tucker – Warden (841184).

St John the Baptist South Croxton & Beeby: Ann Crawford – Warden (840231) or Brian Piper – Warden (840627)

St Michael & All Angels Thorpe Satchville: Jane Smith – Warden (840333)

St Andrew Twyford: Dorothy Edwards – Warden (840591)

■ The Wardens may direct you to other contacts who will assist your enquiry as necessary.

For matters relating to this magazine, contributions, news items, celebrations or events contact Glyn Tucker (841184) or email

churchmaged@gmail.com



■ **The deadline for the February edition is January 22.**

January 2018

Where to Worship in the South Croxton Group

January 2 Tuesday	7.00pm	BCP Holy Communion	South Croxton
January 4 Thursday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Gaddesby
January 7 Baptism of Christ	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Twyford
	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist	Thorpe Satchville
	3.00pm	Evensong	South Croxton
January 11 Thursday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Thorpe Satchville
January 14 Epiphany 2	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Ashby Folville
	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist	Gaddesby
January 16 Tuesday	7.00pm	BCP Holy Communion	Ashby Folville
January 18 Thursday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Gaddesby
January 21 Epiphany 3	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Twyford
	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist	South Croxton
January 25 Thursday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Thorpe Satchville
January 28 Epiphany 4	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Ashby Folville
	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist	Twyford

For other services in the South West Framland Group (SWF)
please contact the SWF Office on 01664 561909 or
clusteradmin@btinternet.com

See the card that accompanies
the magazine for all your special
Christmas services



December 2017*Where to Worship*

December 3 Advent Sunday	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Twyford
	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist and Holy Baptism	Thorpe Satchville
	3.00pm	Evensong	South Croxton
December 5 Tuesday	7.00pm	BCP Holy Communion	South Croxton
December 7 Thursday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Gaddesby
December 10 Advent 2	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Ashby Folville
	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist	Gaddesby
	6.00pm	9 lessons and Carols	Ashby Folville
	6.30pm	Carol Service	Beeby
December 13 Wednesday	7.00pm	United Carols and Christingle Service	Twyford
December 14 Thursday	9.30am	Gaddesby Primary School Christmas Service	Gaddesby
	7.00pm	Carols by Candlelight	Gaddesby
December 17 Advent 3	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Twyford
	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist	South Croxton
	6.00pm	Carols and Christingle Service	South Croxton
December 19 Tuesday	7.00pm	Advent Meditation and Compline	Thorpe Satchville
December 20 Wednesday	7.00pm	Advent Meditation and Compline	Thorpe Satchville
December 21 Thursday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Gaddesby
	7.00pm	Advent Meditation and Compline	Thorpe Satchville
December 22 Friday	7.00pm	Advent Meditation and Compline	Thorpe Satchville
December 24 Christmas Eve	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Ashby Folville
	5.00pm	Crib Service	Thorpe Satchville
	11.30pm	First Holy Communion Service for Christmas	Twyford
December 25 Christmas Day	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist	South Croxton
December 31 Christmas 1	10.30am	United Group SWF service of Holy Communion	Somerby