

South Croxton Churches

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

Newsletter February 2012

Letter from Tony Leighton

A challenge for Christians

Are you caught up in the excitement of the anticipation of the amazing spectacle that will be the London Olympic Games this summer? Or do you think that it is a waste of (taxpayers') money?

Whatever our own views about the Olympics themselves we can all recognise that not only do the athletes have skill, they also have amazing dedication and commitment to training. They would have no hope of competing, let alone gaining medals, without spending much time and effort in preparation and training.

St Paul compared the life of a Christian to what is required to take part in a race:

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize. Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.
(1 Corinthians 9 v24, 25)



In St Paul's time winning athletes were given a 'crown of laurels'. Modern Olympians are aiming to win medals. Christians are motivated by God's love, which provides us with *'a living hope . . . and an inheritance than can never perish, spoil or fade'* (1 Peter 1v3,4).

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Church services and contacts – Back Page

The season of Lent has traditionally provided us with an opportunity to spend time in spiritual training. May I recommend that you consider setting aside a time every day to read a portion of scripture and to pray. The Lent courses in each benefice (see elsewhere in this magazine for details) also provide an opportunity to learn and grow together. I commend this study of Acts 2, verses 42-47 as a helpful way to gain insights into and be challenged by the life and experience of the early church.

May those of us who follow the Lord Jesus Christ be caught up in excitement as we train to experience *'the living hope'*.

Church notices

from the Priest in Charge, Revd Susan Leighton

Hymn Books

Thank you to all those who have been able to support this by offering to donate a book. Particular thanks go to those who sorted out monies, names, inscriptions, and to Julian Duxbury (of Melton Mowbray Bookshop) for ordering and supplying the books.

The hymn books were dedicated on Sunday, January 1, at the New Year Service at South Croxton Church. We are now using the books, and getting to know one or two newer hymns!

Revd Susan Leighton and the South Croxton Benefice Council

Thank you for your prayers, cards and good wishes following my foot operation on January 9. I hope to begin driving by the end of February as I gradually return to work. Thank you to all those who have covered the services, and other duties in my absence.

It's happening!

‡ **Messy Church on Saturdays:**

Dates for your Diary:

Families are invited to come along to a once-a-month '**Messy Church**' happening on the first Saturday of each month, 3—4.30 pm at Thorpe Satchville Village Hall. (cost £1 per family).

What is ‘**Messy Church**’? Come along and find out as we enjoy being together, making things together, eating together and celebrating God together through his word, through music and through prayer.

The next two ‘Messy Church’ sessions will be on:-

Saturday, February 4 *Journey to Easter (part one)*

Saturday, March 3 *Journey to Easter (part two)*

More information from Revd Susan Leighton (840245).

‡ The **Sunday Club** (0—11 years, *children under 5 years, please bring a carer to stay with you*): Sunday, February 12, South Croxton Church, 11.30—12.30 pm

‡ The group for teenagers, **Living our lives 4 Jesus**, (LOL4J) is continuing on Sunday afternoons. All young people in school years 7 to 11 are welcome. Please contact Wendy Hardy (0116 260 7949) for more information.

Looking back ...

Thank you to all who decorated the churches so beautifully for the Christmas Season! Also thanks to all who assisted with refreshments, reading, welcoming, bell ringing, providing music, and in any other way, which enabled the services to run smoothly. Charitable collections were taken at different Carol services, supporting a variety of organisations such as The Children’s Society, Crisis at Christmas and the East Africa appeal. Thank you for your support for these.

Baptisms: To have your baby, child or yourselves baptised please contact Revd Susan Leighton (840245).

Confirmation for adults. If you would like to consider being confirmed please contact Revd Susan Leighton, as a preparation group will start in late February.

Looking forward . . .

‡ Please note that on the first Sunday of February, February 5, the 8.30 am service will be at Gaddesby, and the 10.30 am at South Croxton. There

will also be a United Covenant Service at Twyford at 3.00 pm, led by the Methodist minister, Revd Jane Carter. All welcome

‡ **Ash Wednesday,**

February 22 – an opportunity to mark the start of Lent – 7.30 pm, Holy Communion & Ashing at St Mary's, Ashby Folville, with the Revd Susan Leighton.

I invite you to this very special service. Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence and Ash Wednesday is named after the custom (since the Middle Ages) of being marked in ash with the sign of the cross on the forehead.

Accordingly during this service there will be an opportunity for you to receive in this way. It is not compulsory and a fuller explanation will be given during the service.

‡ **Lent courses** — See above.

SW Framland Cluster of Churches and Methodist Churches

LENT COURSES

Five week study on the Life of the early Church
Acts 2: 42-47



Fellowship, Sharing and Giving,
Holy Communion, Worship, Mission

Monday evenings
Hoby Methodist Church starting 27th February

Tuesday evenings
Twyford Vestry starting 28th February

Wednesday evenings
Sommerby Church starting 29th February

ALL meetings will start at 7.15 pm for refreshments and the study from 7.30-9.00 pm. All are welcome.

For more details please see your church leaders

New home

A technical glitch meant that a message from Hughie and Beryl Jones wishing all their friends seasonal greetings was omitted from the Christmas magazine. Their new address is: 2 Leigh Court, Moor Pond Piece, Ampthill, Bedfordshire, MK45 2GR, 01525 405993, email: hughie.jones913@btinternet.com

Mothers' Union

The speaker on March 1, at Annette Piper's home, will be the Rev. Pam Harvey on "Lenten Thoughts". On March 28 there will be a Deanery Festival at St Luke's Church, Gaddesby, at 2.00 pm. New members always welcome. Please contact Annette (840627) for further information.

Council notices

Gaddesby, Barsby & Ashby Folville Parish Council: The council's next meeting is on Monday, February 6, at Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall. The following meeting will be on Monday, March 5, at Gaddesby Village Hall. Meetings start at 6.45 pm.

Twyford and Thorpe Satchville Parish Council: The council will meet on Thursday, February 9, at 7.30 pm, in Thorpe Satchville Village Hall.

South Croxton Parish Council: The council will meet at the village hall on Monday, February 13, at 6.30 pm.

Royal British Legion

Twyford and District Branch

The Twyford and District branch was formed officially in 1945. At the inaugural meeting 90 members attended. We still have the official minutes. They were raising money for "homecoming heroes". We are still trying to do the same but at our meetings the average attendance has dropped to 10 and the average age 70. One or two of our present members were in at the very beginning.

We need new members who will give support to our ageing branch if it is to be kept going. You do not need to have military service to join the branch and we have quite a number of social events and outings throughout the year., The branch meets once a month at a local pub.

The cost of membership is only £14 a year. If you are interested in joining us, contact David Gulley, chairman (840528) or email gulley4@aol.com.

This year's poppy appeal raised £3,249, beating last year's total by more than £250. Many thanks to all involved. *G B Dilkes*.

WI meetings

Barsby & Ashby Folville: Jill Collinge will speak of *Affairs of the Heart* at the meeting on February 8. The competition is a lady's fan.

Gaddesby WI: Malcolm Britten will tell members about *The Story of Brooksby* on February 8. The competition is a stately home photograph.

South Croxton: *Woodchester Park* will be the subject of a talk by Val Williams at the meeting on February 16.

Ashby Folville & Barsby

Pop concert: Two bands, Dead Rock Stars and When Cousins five, will be playing at the village hall on Saturday, March 3, at 7.30 pm, in aid of the village hall and the handbell ringers. Fully licensed bar. Tickets £12, including snacks, from the Carington Arms (841234).

Village hall bookings: Please contact Sylvia Favell (840259).

Gaddesby

The Gaddesby Gallop: Many, many thanks to Lance Shaw and Jeff Bodycott for resurrecting the Gaddesby Gallop after an absence of 4 years.

The Gallop is a wonderful 5.25 mile cross-country race across the fields, through dew ponds, drainage pipes, Gaddesby brook and plenty of mud.

The race took place on Saturday, December 17, and, following local tradition, began with the tolling of the church bells at 11.00 am.

Mark Powell was the first of almost 90 runners to complete the Gallop and his time of 30 min 4 sec is a new course record. Zoe Smith won the women's race in 37 min 58 sec. A 14-year-old, Sam Geeson, was the first runner from the village to complete the course, with a time of 48 min 17 sec and Justine Hunt was the winner of the village women's race, completing the course in 54 min 38 sec.

A team of 30 volunteer marshalls, the St John's Ambulance and countless hours of organisation were needed to stage the race and thanks must go to all those who gave up their time and energy to support Lance and Geoff on the day.

Sarah McWilliam

St. Luke's Electoral Roll: The current electoral roll is displayed on the church porch noticeboard and is about to be updated. If your name is not on it and you wish to be included please take an enrolment form to complete and return to Daphne Tucker, PCC Secretary, 18 Ashby Road, as soon as possible and no later than March 31.

South Croxton

South Croxton Village Hall: Come along and have a chat with other villagers over a coffee and homemade cake on Saturday, February 18, 10.30—12 noon. Before you leave you can buy a bargain book, CD, or DVD and take a look at the art exhibition. Donations of books welcomed. Contact Julian (840455) or Caroline (840272) for collection.

Murder Mystery Evening: Footprint Theatre Productions present *Dead Men Don't Get Dessert* on Saturday, March 3. It's set in 1929 Chicago and the theme is gangsters and molls. Anyone wishing to dress up from this era would be great. Tickets, £15.00, include a three-course meal and a glass of wine.

Dates for your diary: Big Brunch Walk, April 21, and Queens Jubilee celebration June 2 from 12.30 pm

Thorpe Satchville

Roof fund update: We would like to thank everyone for their support and interest in our roof restoration project. We have completed the stage one investigation and costing for the proposed work, including a full survey of the work required, tree, bat and archaeological surveys, and the tendering process. This resulted in the discovery that the scope of work is much wider than anticipated from the initial reports. At the start of the project we had approached English Heritage and managed to obtain a substantial grant towards stages one and two of the restoration, but we have now had to apply for an enhancement towards the additional costs. We are expecting their reply shortly, and hope to start the main stage two contract as soon as possible, providing we receive a favourable reply. We have also applied for other grants, with several awards already confirmed, but we still need to keep fund-raising to make sure we have sufficient finance to complete the whole project — the DCC would welcome any ideas any suggestions to assist us with this. *Janet Collins*

Twyford

Twyford Recreation Ground Commitee: The annual meeting is on February 23, 7.30 pm, village hall. Unwanted Christmas gifts would be appreciated by the committee for the Bank Holiday Monday tombola stall. Please deliver or ring 840454 or any committee member.

Village hall: Karate: Wednesday, February 1, 8, 15, 22 (6—8.30 pm); Sunday, 5, 12, 19, 26 (10—11.00 am). Carpet bowls, Monday, February 6 and 20. Drop In, Fridays, February 10 and 24, 10.30—12.15 pm, all ages and visitors to the village welcome. Join us for the raffle and to eat, drink, read the papers and chat. Whist drives: Fridays, February 10, 17 (charity) and 24, at 7.30 pm.

60s Evening: Live music from Left Hand Band, village hall, February 11, 7.30—11.45 pm. Bring your own drinks and glasses, snacks available, raffle. Proceeds to diabetes and kidney research and Macmillan nurses. Tickets: 840655.

Newsletter Editor: Glyn Tucker

Contributions, news, events and notices may be telephoned to 01664 841184, emailed to churchmaged@gmail.com or left at/posted to 18 Ashby Road, Gaddesby LE7 4WF (next to the village hall car park). Please provide a name and contact telephone number on any submissions in case checks need to be made.

Deadline for March is February 22 please.

Who's who in the parishes of the South Croxton Group

Priest-in-charge The Reverend Susan Leighton, 01664 840245
Churchwardens (all numbers preceded by area code 01664)
 Ashby Folville & Barsby: Rosemary Holt 840783
 South Croxton with Beeby: Ann Crawford 840231; Brian Piper 840627
 Twyford & John O'Gaunt: Dorothy Edwards 840591; Stephen Hardcastle 840733
Gaddesby contact: David Wyrko 840385
Thorpe Satchville contacts: Janet Collins 840649 or Jane Smith 840876

Church Services			
Feb 5 Third before Lent	8.30 am	Gaddesby	Holy Communion – MC
	10.30 am	South Croxton	AAW & Baptism – PC
	3.00 pm	Twyford	Covenant Service & HC – JC
Feb 12 Second before Lent	8.30 am	Ashby Folville	Holy Communion – MC
	10.30 am	Thorpe Satchville	All Age Communion – PC
	11.30 am	South Croxton	Sunday Club – WH
	6.00 pm	Twyford	Evensong – MB
Feb 19 Last before Lent	8.30 am	Twyford	Holy Communion – MC
	10.30 am	Gaddesby	All Age Worship – MB
Feb 22 Ash Wednesday	7.30 pm	Ashby Folville	HC and Ashing – SL
Feb 26 Lent 1	8.30 am	Thorpe Satchville	Holy Communion – SL
	10.30 am	Ashby Folville	All Age Worship – SL/LT
March 4 Lent 2	8.30 am	South Croxton	Holy Communion – SL
	10.30 am	Gaddesby	Holy Communion – SL/MC
	3.00 pm	Twyford	Methodist Service
SL Revd Susan Leighton; PC Revd Peter Collins; MC Canon Michael Covington; MB Malcolm Britton; JC Revd Jane Carter; WH Wendy Hardy; LT Local Team. HC Holy Communion; AAW All Age Worship			