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THE FARTHINGHOE CHRONICLE



Village news, notices and events….

USEFUL CONTACTS

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Mansion Hill
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Taylor Vets
Brackley - 01280 474796
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The Fox Inn

Chronicle Editorial
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EDITOR'S WELCOME

"If I should die, think only this of me,
then there's some corner of a foreign field,
that is forever England."
The Soldier: Rupert Brooke. 1915

November is always poignant, a time for reflection and remembrance, when we remember with respect, gratitude and sadness all of those who made the ultimate sacrifice during the First World War, the Second World War, and all of the conflicts that followed. "Lest We Forget."

In our old home in Normandy we would attend the commemorations in our village and then travel to the British Cemetery in Bayeux to lay our Poppy Wreath and observe two minutes silence. Difficult not to shed a tear in front of so many graves; as a Military family such occasions have always been important to us; and it was gratifying to see that many others who came along clearly felt the same.

In France November 1st is a national holiday. It is deemed 'The Day of the Dead' and is a time when families visit the graves of their loved ones and place pots of Chrysanthemums around their resting places. At the midday meal a place is always set for any departed relatives. During our first Winter in Normandy I made an embarrassing faux pas. Spotting pots of brightly coloured Chrysanthemums on the market stall I bought a couple thinking how nice they'd look by our front door. I placed them in situ; and a little later there was a knock on the door. It was Isabel our Factrice (Post Lady) "Oh no Lynne" she said "those flowers are only for the dead, never for home decoration". OOOPS! I apologised and rushed round to the cemetery where I put the pots by our Maire's family tomb. I knew he wouldn't mind a few more flowers.

Of course, in the UK we celebrate Guy Fawkes Night. Try explaining that to a French person. "What? You burn an effigy of a man who was put to death centuries ago for trying to blow up the Houses of Parliament? Then you set off fireworks and cook potatoes in the fire and eat those weird Apple things covered in toffee?" Heula! (blimey) Les Anglais sont fou ". (The English are mad!)

If you are intending to have a bonfire party please do check the woodpile for Hedgehogs and ensure that all pets are safely indoors. Our Hedgehogs could do with a little help just now prior to hibernating so if you can spare a little cat food and a shallow bowl of water, it would aid them tremendously. If by chance you see a Hedgehog about in daylight there is something wrong so do contact Brackley Hogwatch who are always ready to help.

November can bring its own sort of beauty with crisp days and hoar frosts if we are fortunate. The countryside at such times can be glorious, as all of the hedgerows glisten and the berries glow in the sunshine. Such a pleasure to walk the lanes and fields and rejoice in the bonuses of Nature. Other than that, stay warm and cosy, and enjoy November.

Lynne

SALT FOR THE VILLAGE FOOTPATHS

We are now moving into Winter and there may times when the streets and footpaths have become icy through frost or snow

We have 2 salt containers in the village to help with these occasions.
One located close to the Post Box in Baker Street and the other at the junction of Cockley Road and Bowling Green

They are there for Community use so please use when needed

If there are occasions when either of these containers is empty please let me know and they will be refilled

Regards

Mick Morris

VILLAGE NOTICES

CHURCH NOTICES.

Church Cleaning
Church cleaning will take place on Tuesday November 10th from 8.30 am

Coffee, Cake & Chat
Coffee, Cake and Chat on Friday November 13th from 10.00-11.00 a.m. in the Church Vestry. Raffle. Hope to see you there.

Angie Robbins
It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Mrs. Angie Robbins, Churchwarden of Croughton, and an active part of village communities. Funeral arrangements will be announced in Pews News when they are confirmed. Please keep Angie and her family in your prayers at this time**.**

Nativity Play
We are pleased to announce that we will be staging a Nativity Play in our Benefice at All Saints church in Croughton, with actors from all of our villages, on the 11th and 12th December from 7pm-8pm. Come and see our adult volunteers retell the story of the birth of Christ in one of England's 1000 best churches. Free entry, but donations appreciated.

Choir
Time to Sing Out. We have a new choir, open to anyone with any or no singing experience, and any age, that will sing for our 9pm Midnight Mass at Croughton church. In the new year we hope that this choir will sing for our monthly Evensong Service on the 3rd Sunday of the month. If you are interested, or want to dip your toe and find out if it is for you, this is your chance. Join the rehearsals on the 15th December (Tuesday) 7pm & 21st December (Monday) 7pm at All Saints in Croughton.

GENERAL NOTICES

Macmillan Coffee Morning

A big thank you to everyone who supported this event in any way. Thanks to your generosity £403.70 was raise



THE FOX FARTHINGHOE RE-OPENING

We are the new owners of the Fox public house, Mark and Zoe Woodbridge. Our son Luke also works with us and has done since he was 16.

We have a great team that you will all meet in time, whom are dedicated to us and what we stand for and each and every one of them are part of our family.

Myself and Mark come from a very vast array of businesses and we hope that our experience and knowledge within the industry will be fed into the fox to make it a fabulous village pub once again.

We do have very busy lives, as well as the three pubs, we also have two daughters - Laura who is 21 and Georgie who is 12, we also have two black Labradors Jax who is 6 and Casper who is 2 and I might add very naughty!

We do look forward to meeting you all as well as you meeting us and our team.

We will be welcoming the village of Farthinghoe into the pub on Saturday 14th for a seek preview of all areas and of course a drink from 6-10pm

Reopening to the public Monday 16th at 12pm.

Kind Regards

Zoe

VILLAGE HALL

BOOKS & BAKES – FRIDAY 27th NOVEMBER - 3.00 - 4.30

Come and join our ever-growing group for tea/coffee & cake, lots of catch-up gossip and enjoy the books in our Library. We will also be holding the 150 Club draw during the afternoon.

IT'S PANTO TIME AGAIN – 'OH YES IT IS' - SUNDAY 20th DECEMBER

Once again TPB Productions who have brought us a Panto for the last two years, and provided us with two very entertaining musical evenings earlier this year, are returning in December (see poster following). There will be a bar, with soft drinks also available. Tickets at £5 (under 3 free) are available from bookings@farthinghoevillagehall.org or by tel. 07900 590808.

150 CLUB

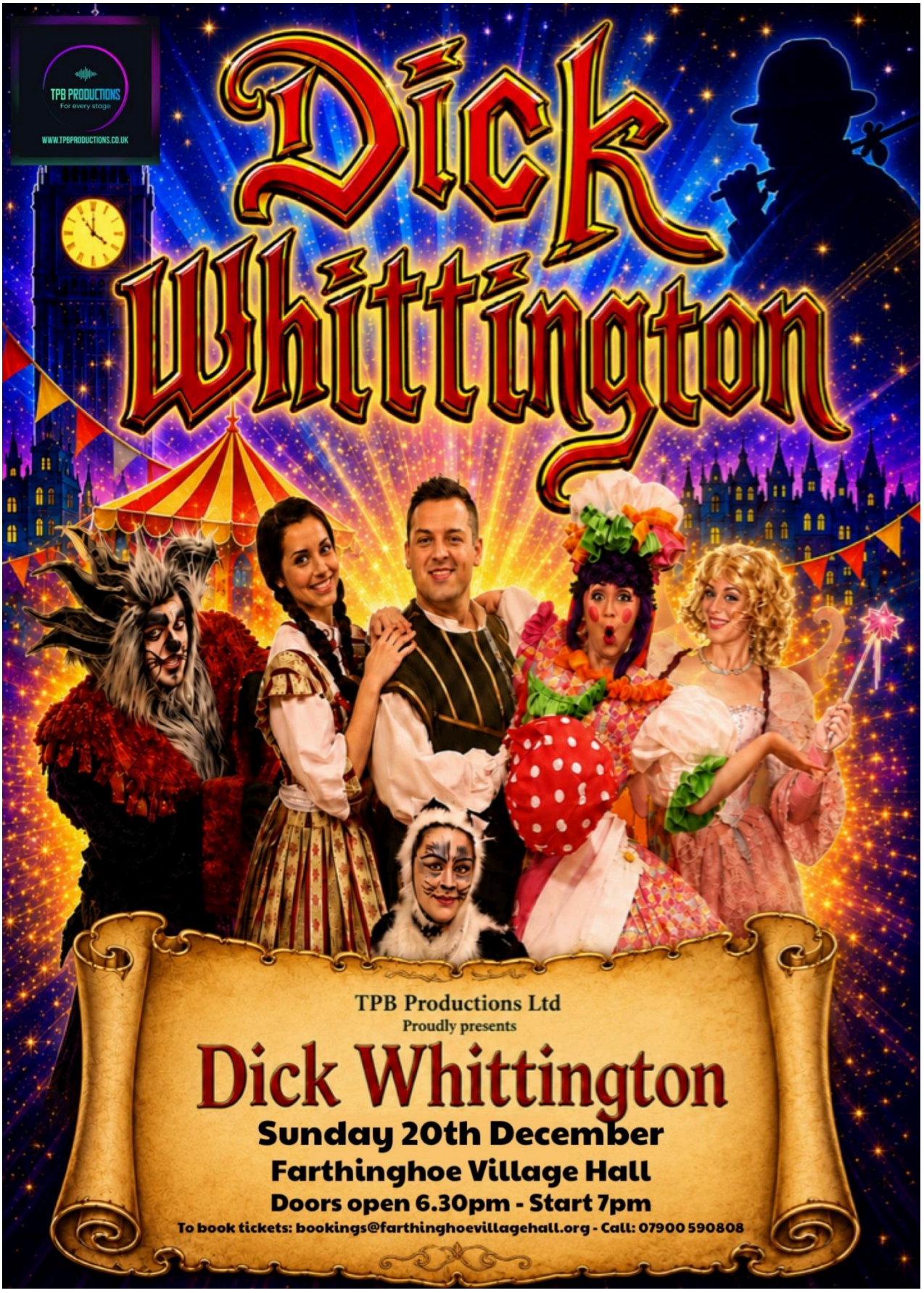
We have decided to change the format slightly to hopefully make it more attractive, and there will now be one prize of **£50** each month starting with the November draw, so if you have not renewed your subscription this year or you want to take an extra number do it now so that you are in the draw. The cost for the remainder of this financial year to 30th June 2027 will be £8.00 per number. Contact Marjorie (marjoriemorris@hotmail.co.uk) for details of how to pay.

REGULAR CLASSES:

Baby Massage	Wednesday	- 10am - 11am
Ballet (Children)	Monday	- 5.30pm - 6.30pm & Saturday - 9.00am - 1.00pm
Ballet (Adult)	Wednesday	- 6.30pm – 7.30pm
Ballroom	Thursday	- 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Martial Arts	Sunday	- 11.30am - 1.30pm
Pilates	Tuesday	- 6.30pm - 7.30pm & Friday - 9.30am - 10.30am
U3A Spanish	Advanced	- 1st & 3rd Thursdays 2.00pm - 4.00pm
	Beginners	- 1st & 3rd Fridays 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Yoga	Sunday	- 10.00am – 11.00am

150 CLUB - OCTOBER DRAW WINNERS

1st Prize - £25 – No153 – Lynne Lee
2nd Prize - £15 - No. 56 – Ruth Brittain
3rd Prize - £10 – No.124 – Sowjana Vellore


TPB PRODUCTIONS
For every stage
WWW.TPBPRODUCTIONS.CO.UK
Dick Whittington
TPB Productions Ltd
Proudly presents
Dick Whittington
Sunday 20th December
Farthinghoe Village Hall
Doors open 6.30pm - Start 7pm
To book tickets: bookings@farthinghoevillagehall.org - Call: 07900 590808

FARTHINGHOE EVENTS TEAM - a great evening at our village hall.

On 10th October we were delighted and honoured to have the renowned Lone Wolf Comedy Club come to Farthinghoe village hall for the first time. For those who have been to one of their events before – you will know that Andrew and Katka Bird have access to famous and up and coming comedians that tour on the comedy circuit. Andrew himself is an experienced comedian as well as an hilarious and skilful compere! Our guest comedians were Jake Lambert (previously support to Michael Macintyre) and Carey Marx (an international award winning comedian). All three comedians offered something different and it's fair to say that the packed hall didn't stop laughing all evening!

The Events Team are proud to announce that a fantastic £500 was donated to Brackley Food Bank from profit made on the night. We worked hard to organise and promote this event largely to provide a different form of entertainment for the village but we were delighted to welcome people from neighbouring towns and villages too and in so doing were able to show off our newly decorated and furnished village hall!

We'd like to thank all those who helped and supported the event. The licenced bar was expertly run by Dave, Jules and Sid - providing a constant stream of Old Hooky pints! We have had several requests for another comedy night and welcome suggestions for any other event Farthinghoe residents would like to have at our fantastic village hall.

Best wishes from The Farthinghoe Events Team: Becky, Wendy, Pippa, Ruth and Lisa

Rectors Ramblings

Shopping the other day, I saw that the supermarket had cleared away some of their Christmas displays to make room for Halloween. It set me to thinking about the ghosts we encounter in everyday life, and which are made more apparent at this time of year. I am not talking of spectres that wander gothic corridors - for those stories, enquire of the Rector after a Sunday Service! - but of the moments in life when the presence of another comes to us unbidden and clearly.

There will always be places or objects that in sight or use take us back to a person or a moment. I know that there are phrases I use that come directly from family, friends, even long forgotten lessons. Some of these are general. Some of our service registers go back nearly two hundred years, and writing into these the latest iterations of a changeless pattern will naturally bring to mind 1000 years of clerics with the same calling and works in the same place. But that is nebulous. When I lead the Creed at Evensong, and turn to the altar, I always remember the Canon who led this at a cathedral for years, and who would bellow the opening words with such force and faith ‘I believe in GOD’ that robes would billow, candles on the altar gutter, and smaller choristers cling to the stalls in case they were blown away. At least this is how it felt.

But these ghosts that can swarm around us - to some barely if ever noticed, for others almost suffocating- are not just personal. We have institutional memories as well. In November we have All Souls Day, when we pray for all who have died, often calling to mind our own dead. At Remembrance we recall all who have died in war. Invoking personal scars, and memories, and loves, as well as those names from our own village regardless of whether they still speak of a remembered individual or just a sign of past life and loss in this place; and the unspoken weight of all who are unknown and unrecorded here.

We also have All Saints - All Hallows, who can be overshadowed by the eve of their feast. Those whose lives have spoken to the presence and work of God in every age, even our own. Whose prayers, and habits, and follies and faith are still repeated and relived intentionally and accidently.

These personal and institutional memories shift in time. The subtle difference as we revaluate Remembrance on that first year when no one from a particular conflict remains. I wonder what it was like for the early Church when they met, and read, and celebrated the first time after the last of the Apostles? When they found their presence still there in the words and actions that had been theirs, but were also equally those of the next generation. Such is the power and purpose of corporate memory of ghosts we share.

Why do we remember? Partly because it is hard not to, so much of what we do is bound to what has been done. We also remember because memory is one of our greatest moral tutors. But memory seems too passive and remote for some things. That is why I have said ghost -and because it was a shameless seasonal hook. The people we have known, whose lives have touched ours - directly or through the generations - are a part of us. Not controlling, but present still. Acknowledging that the lives, wisdom, folly, and miracles of others impact on us; we know that we do not face life alone. As we recall at this time with love and fealty, we carry all we have been and are, and continue in the world to share and impact for the better on other

George Frost

Take the Next Step in Your Faith Journey: Confirmation in 2027

Have you been baptised and feel ready to affirm your faith for yourself? Or perhaps you are exploring faith and curious about making a personal commitment?

We are delighted to share that our Benefice will be hosting a Confirmation service next year!

What is Confirmation? Confirmation is a meaningful step where you "confirm" the promises made at your baptism (often made on your behalf by parents and godparents when you were a baby). During the service, the Bishop prays for those being Confirmed for God's Holy Spirit to give them strength, wisdom, and guidance to live as a follower of Jesus. It is a warm, joyful celebration of faith and community.

Preparation & Classes: To help you prepare, we will be running informal confirmation sessions ahead of the service. These are low-pressure opportunities to explore the basics of the Christian faith, ask big questions, and reflect on what confirmation means for you.

Flexible Formats: We offer both small group gatherings and one-to-one chats, so you can learn in whichever setting feels most comfortable for you.

Who it's for: Adults, young people, and anyone curious — everyone is welcome!
Interested or Want to Learn More? There's no obligation — if you'd simply like an informal chat to ask questions and see if confirmation is right for you, we would love to hear from you.

We look forward to sharing this journey with you!

Please get in touch with our Rector to find out more or register your interest:

Contact: The Reverend George Frost

Email: rev@gfrost.name
Phone: 01869 810 903

Launton Handbell Ringers Farthinghoe Church
4th December 7.30pm

We are very lucky and pleased to have booked this popular and talented group of handbell ringers to ring in the carols and tunes of Christmas this year at our lovely, old church.
hey have a fascinating history and some extremely old and rare bells which they will introduce to us. There also may be an opportunity to try ringing a tune yourselves if enough of the audience volunteers! Children will be especially welcome.

The church will look very festive with trees contributed, decorated and lit by villagers and local businesses. {Please see the Christmas Tree Festival article in the Chronicle for more info. All are welcome to provide and decorate a tree - including children and label it with your name.} There will also be mince pies, sausages rolls and mulled wine to enjoy.

This lovely evening will be a free event - although, of course, the church always welcomes voluntary contributions. Please arrive by 7.15pm ready for the bell ringers at 7.30pm.

Any further queries, please email Wendy Hancock at wendy.gainford@gmail.com or phone Andrew Harrison on 07778 265491.

We look forward to seeing you.

LOCAL EVENTS DURING NOVEMBER

Wednesday 4th November - 7.30pm
Brackley Methodist Church.
Brackley History Society Talk.
" Cliveden House". Given by Peter Haugh.
01280 702837

Sunday 8th November. 2.30pm - 3.30pm
Brackley Remembrance Service and Parade.
Departing Winchester House - 3pm Service
Wreath laying at the War Memorial.

Wednesday November 11th - 11am.
Armistice Day Service.
Brackley Town Piazza.

Tuesday November 17th - 8pm.
Evenley Village Hall.
Evenley Gardening Society – Talk by Howard Drury
"Pruning - are you a Butcher or a Hairdresser?"
Members free Visitors £3 (cash)

18th November - 24th December -10am-3pm.
Canons Ashby - Merlin's Magic Christmas Trail.
£3.50 per trail plus normal admissions.

Saturday 28th November. 3pm - 7pm.
Brackley Christmas Market. Brackley Town Centre.
Wide range of stalls.

28th November - 24th December. 11am- 3.30pm
Canons Ashby. 'A Christmas Quest'.
Free event. Normal admission.

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🎄 FESTIVAL OFCHRISTMAS TREES 🎄

Theme: Carols and Bells 🔔

We are delighted to be holding another Festival of Christmas Trees at St Michael and All Angels Church!

This year's theme is “Carols and Bells” – and we invite everyone in our community to take part by bringing a tree and decorating it for Christmas, inspired by the joy of Christmas carols and the sound of festive bells.

Whether you are a local business, an individual, a street or a community group, we would love you to join in and help make our church sparkle with festive cheer!

When: Friday 27th November, 5pm–7pm

Mince pies and mulled wine will be provided to enjoy while decorating your tree.

If you are unable to attend between 5pm and 7pm, the church will also be open from 9am to 2pm for you to decorate your tree.

Please provide a small card with your tree identifying who it is from, whether that be a business, individual, street or community group.

Need an alternative date or have any queries?

Please contact:

- Wendy: Wendy.gainford@gmail.com
- Andrew: 07778 265491

Important: All donated trees must be dismantled by Twelfth Night.

We look forward to welcoming you all and seeing your wonderful, creative trees bring the magic of Carols and Bells to our Christmas celebrations!

🎄🔔 Let's make this Christmas a little brighter together! 🔔🎄

Sunday Service Planner for the Astwick Vale Benefice October-November 2026									
	4th October 18th after Trinity	11th October 19th after Trinity	18th October St. Luke the Evangelist	25th October Bible Sunday	1st November All Saints Sunday	8th November Remembrance Sunday	15th November 2nd before Advent	22nd November Christ the King	29th November ADVENT SUNDAY
Aynho	11am HARVEST	10am Morning Worship	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at **Hinton-in-the -Hedges** 5.30pm Evensong at **Croughton**	9.15am Communion	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at **Croughton**	10.15am Act of Remembrance	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at **Aynho**	9.15am Communion	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at **Croughton**
Croughton	9.15am Morning Prayer	11am HARVEST		11am Morning Prayer		10.45am Act of Remembrance		11am Morning Prayer	
Evenley	11am HARVEST	9.15am Communion		5.30pm Evensong		10.50am Act of Remembrance		5.30pm Evensong	
Farthinghoe	9.15am Communion	5.30pm Evening Prayer		9.15am Morning Prayer		6pm Act of Remembrance		9.15am Morning Prayer	
Hinton-in- the-Hedges with Steane	6pm HARVEST	11am Morning Prayer		11am Communion		10.50am Act of Remembrance		11am Communion	