

Dates for Your Diary

March 2017

1.3.17	Long Buckby	2.15 pm Ladies Circle
2,3,17	Creaton	12.00 noon Nosh and Natter (men's lunch)
4.3.17	Crick	10.30-12.00 noon Charity Coffee Morning
4.3.17	Long Buckby	10.30-11.30 Charity Coffee Morning
10.3.17	Long Buckby	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm Lunch Club
14.3.17	Kilsby	2.15pm Guild Isobel Pugh & Joan Saunders
16.3.17	Creaton	12.30 pm Over 70's Lunch
23.3.17	Long Buckby	Ladies Circle—Breakfast at Kilsby
28.3.17	Kilsby	2.15 pm Guild Mrs Val Janes

April 2017

1.4.17	Long Buckby	10.30-11.30 Charity Coffee Morning
1.4.17	Crick	10.30-12.00 noon Charity Coffee Morning
4.4.17	Long Buckby	7.00 pm Elders Meeting
5.4.17	Long Buckby	2.15 pm Ladies Circle
6.4.17	Creaton	12.00 noon Nosh and Natter (men's lunch)
11.4.17	Kilsby	2.15 pm Guild Rev. Elizabeth Kemp
13.4.17	Long Buckby	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm Lunch Club
20.4.17	Creaton	12.30 pm Over 70's Lunch
25.4.17	Kilsby	2.15 pm Guild Mrs Ann Tailby
28.4.17	Long Buckby	6.30 pm Fish & Chip Supper & Beetle Drive
30.4.17	Long Buckby	11.00 am Joint Service

May 2017

3.5.17	Long Buckby	2.15 pm Ladies Circle
4.5.17	Creaton	12.00 noon Nosh and Natter (men's lunch)
5.5.17	Long Buckby	7.30 pm Busker's Evening
6.5.17	Long Buckby	10.30-11.30 am Charity Coffee Morning
6.5.17	Crick	10.30-12 noon Charity Coffee Morning
9.5.17	Kilsby	2.15 pm Guild Mrs Ann Townsend
12.5.17	Long Buckby	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm Lunch Club
14.5.17	Long Buckby	12.00 noon AGM & Church meeting
18.5.17	Creaton	12.30 pm Over 70's Lunch.
18.5.17	Long Buckby	Ladies Circle to Weedon for Coffee
23.5.17	Kilsby	2.15 pm Guild Mrs Judy Baldy



The Good News



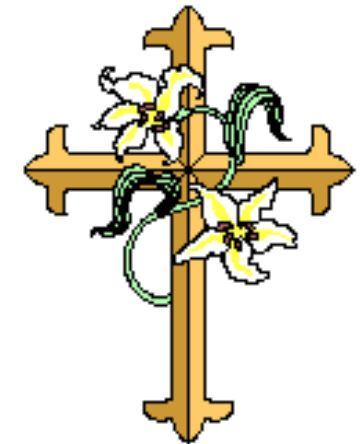
**From Long Buckby, Creaton, Crick
and Kilsby
(North West Northants. Pastorate)**

March 2017—May 2017

Long Buckby	
Acting Secretary	
Wendy Baker	01604 759758
Treasurer	
Mary Bignell	01327 844979
Junior Church	
Norman Chandler	01327 843813
Michael Bond	01327 842234

Creaton	
Secretary	
Marion Heard	01604 843864
Treasurer	
Ian Heard	07810 361403

Crick	
Secretary	
Brenda Morgan	01788 822564
Treasurer	
Brenda Tomalin	01788 823428



Kilsby	
Secretary	
Beryl Lees	01788 823752
Treasurer	
Val Janes	01788 822751

Newsletter Editor

Chris Berry 01327 843307

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Deadline for June/August newsletter 16th May 2017

Minister—Rev. Elizabeth Kemp
Email: minister@chezkemp.net

A Message & News from The Minister

“Is Spring Nearly Here Yet?” We seem to have had a long winter and although the birds are beginning their Spring Choruses, heavy frosts, fog and mucky cars warn us not to discard the thermal underwear, just yet.

Over Christmas through January and February we have said goodbyes to and given thanks for some good friends. Please remember that after the memorials and the thanksgiving services, it can be quite challenging to be alone and still grieving. Pick up the phone for a chat with someone who is facing new circumstances- or invite them round for coffee.

If Jimmy Saville and Rolf Harris have let you down, by behaving in inappropriate ways, you should read on...I am aware that some of you have been concerned about the URC safeguarding policy - that we do all we can to safeguard vulnerable adults and children. We are halfway through the URC Past Case Review, which continues to be willing to accept reports from individuals and churches. The Past Case Review Team have sent an article to all churches and it is good to understand what is happening as part of the government lead review. Please do take time to read it.

I am planning to offer this year's (Churches Together in Britain & Ireland) Lent study course: "Coming Home" in two locations for the whole pastorate, depending on interest. Both courses will be during the day-time and held ideally in people's homes, with one in the Eastern end of the Pastorate at Creaton and the other in either Kilsby, Crick or Long Buckby, depending on who wants to take part. We need to have at least 4 people in the group to make it work. The courses will begin during the week starting March 6th and run for the five weeks of Lent. (Days and times to be arranged). Please either speak to me directly if you are interested, or ask your Church Secretary to give me your name and a contact phone number. There is no book to be bought and if you cannot attend each session, you can still join in when you can.

Jesus told us to love one another and care for the outcasts and marginalised; Paul told his churches to encourage one another. We are blessed to belong in this fellowship, let us remember to join hands facing outwards to the world and not inwards with our backs to the outsider.

God's Blessings to you this Spring.
Shalom,

What's Going on in the Pastorate

COFFEE - If you fancy a coffee a warm welcome awaits you - **Kilsby** is open for coffee and snacks every Monday and Thursday from 9am til midday.

Long Buckby runs a charity Coffee Morning the 1st Saturday morning in every month 10.30am—11.30am.

Crick also runs a charity Coffee Morning, the 1st Saturday morning in every month from 10.30am to 12 noon.

Creaton has Poppies Coffee Shop—open from 9.00am til midday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (closed Thursday).

Creaton offers Bible Study every Tuesday afternoon (term time only) at 2.00pm. Contact the Church Secretary (01604 843864) for more details.

FELLOWSHIP

Creations' Over 70's lunch Club meets at 12.30pm on 3rd Thursday of each month

For the Ladies: Kilsby Guild meets on alternate Tuesdays at 2.15pm. More details from the Church Secretary (01788 823752)

Long Buckby Ladies' Circle meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month in the small hall at 2.15pm

For the Men - Creaton host "Nosh and Natter" (Men's lunch) on the 1st Thursday of every month at 12.00 noon.

Children and Young People - Junior church is offered at Creaton and Long Buckby every Sunday.

It was with sadness that we learned of the death of Phil Davis whose wife Gretta was the editor of the newsletter for 10 years. Phil died after a very short illness on Thursday 16th February and our thoughts and Prayers are with Gretta and her family at this time.



Letter from Gwennie Wilkes

Dear Friends,

Just a repeat of something I said in the last newsletter—please be careful when out walking; all the leaves are dangerous and the roads have been slippery with the constant frosts. I recently heard of a lady who slipped and unfortunately broke her leg—not locally I have to say but the whole country has been affected, even the south coast by very stormy seas.

We have had a flurry of snow but nothing to worry about, we should say hurrah as the lovely little snowdrops are already popping their heads out of the ground and the beautiful little primroses are also in flower. I love them all and it is one of the first signs of spring.

Did you take part in the Birdwatch recently? Unfortunately it was a very dull weekend and many of the small birds were sheltering in the shrubs and all I saw were wild pigeons, collared doves and ravens. Now the second week in February the small birds are here constantly, the robin singing his song, the lovely colours of the finches and each day I have a visit from a pheasant. He struts around the garden as though it is his territory.

It is lovely to communicate with you all and I hope you are all keeping well and warm and wearing extra layers of clothing.

Monthly Lunch Club

Many thanks to Wendy Baker who organises the meal for the Club and it is greatly appreciated by all who sit down to enjoy it. It is a wonderful meal and a chance to eat with friends; thanks also to Mary & Richard and the ladies who wait at tables.

Newsletter

May I also give thanks to Chris Berry who is the editor of this newsletter.

God Bless you all with love
Gwennie Wilkes

A Message & News from The Minister

#I've got six-pence*
Jolly, jolly six-pence,
I've got six-pence to last me all my life.
I've got tuppence to spend
And tuppence to lend
And tuppence to take home to my wife#

So my grandfather used to sing. Of course it refers to 6d and 2d in "real" money that's when twelve 1d coins made 1/-.

In my childhood I can remember getting 1/- pocket money and having to buy a 6d Savings Stamp at the post office, before I could spend anything on sweets (the best were four for 1d- a proper pick and mix!). I'm not sharing all of that to remind me of how old I am, but to introduce the topic of budgeting. Our Church Treasurers do brilliantly, balancing the church accounts and we all know they do a fantastic job getting a pint out of a quart jug.

BUT, just as it was good to ring-fence part of the 6d or 1/- up before spending anything, so too we can earmark our offertory and our Treasurers will find it helpful to know how much they will have to budget with.

The story goes that the minister said to the congregation: "Friends I have good and bad news for you. The Good News is that we HAVE the money to complete our new church halls.... But the bad news is, that it's still in your-pockets!"

Do we give of our time, talents and treasure sacrificially?- literally an Offering so that we feel it? The Church has historically encouraged Tithing (giving a tenth of our resources)- what would that feel like? The alternative is giving a "Collection" - giving God the scraps which are left over after all the money is allocated .

On the Internet is a website devoted to Church Fundraising. It offers all manner of Fundraising ideas. The one proven to raise most money?? It was the Church "scratch card"!! The site was American but I don't think that's the issue. Surely these cards were promoting gambling? It might be argued that scratch-cards were on offer to people who would be buying them anyway and by offering Church as the beneficiary they made gamblers feel they were supporting some good works (like the Health Lottery). -We could have a long-ranging discussion about that whole area .

Envelopes

We used to say that it was only those who paid tax and were either employed or on a large pension who should consider the envelope scheme, where you pledge to give a certain amount each month and the church can claim back Gift Aid so boosting our income...

A Message & News from the Minister continued

Even if you don't pay Income tax, to pledge to give a set amount each week/month and putting it into the dated envelope means that should you miss church one week, you still make your gift to God's work in our church and beyond.

Joining the envelope scheme allows the Treasurers to have a good idea of how much income there will be and reminds you to give regularly.

Envelopes are numbered and not named, so you have a discrete way of giving as you are able.

Each church has a person who oversees the envelope scheme, please have a chat with them to get the details.

Kilsby- Val Janes; Creaton - Ian H; Crick- Brenda T.; Long Buckby- Kath Packer.

For those of you who want to know how Gift Aid works to get extra money from your charitable giving, here is HMRC's (Inland Revenue is not a name currently used) explanation from their website. In the extract, "you" refers to the charity involved.

How does Gift Aid work?

When a UK taxpayer gives a gift of money to a charity, tax has already been paid on that money. Because you are exempt from tax, we can claim this money back from HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) and give it to you.

How is Gift Aid calculated?

Get ready for the maths - you may need a calculator for this one.

Under HMRC's Gift Aid scheme, charities can reclaim an amount equal to basic rate tax (20%) on the amount of the donation, plus basic rate tax already paid by that taxpayer on that donation. To do this, you need to use a 'grossing up' fraction.

Let's take a £100 donation as an example.

The fraction applied to calculate Gift Aid is $100 \times 20/80$. This is 25% of £100 which equals £25.

We have fewer members than ever before and fewer ministers but the number of buildings and congregations has not reduced so the burden on each person is increased. Many people apparently are giving more each month, but there are fewer people around to give.

These are the facts. **Don't feel disheartened but do pick up the challenge.** If you don't already use the envelope scheme, please consider it. Chat with your friends and see what thoughts and suggestions you can come up with. The full figures are accessible for anyone who would like to look at them.

The Gospel imperative leads us to continue living the Good News and bringing hope and reconciliation to this fragmented world. The years ahead will bring us new challenges and may well force us to find different ways of being God's heart, hands and feet in the world.

Remember you are loved.

Long Buckby News

He was very involved with getting a decent scout hut in the village and along with other parents and leaders first raised funds and then physically took part in building the hut. Gerald met Eileen at the Hammersmith Palais- he enjoyed dancing...also football, bowls and table tennis.

Gerald loved children and was "Pap-Pap" to his grandchildren, always ready for a game or a joke. Gerald leaves his two sons Clive and Trevor, daughters-in-law Lynn and Sarah, grandchildren Emma and Mary; Tom and Guy; also his great grandson Joe (aged 6), who wore a very smart three-piece suit to the service.

We appreciate his faith and the love Gerald shared with others and are thankful that he is now free from a mind and body which let him down and left him confused and sometimes frustrated.

Gerald's ashes will be laid to rest in a plot with his wife Eileen.

Dawn Vera Chandler 1945- 2016

A celebration of Dawn's life took place at Long Buckby church, following a service of committal at Rainsbrook, on December 21st 2016.

A talented and creative, highly organised woman, Dawn's life plan had been to become involved with Hansard or court reporting. She attended night school to gain the qualifications she needed; but at a fancy dress Halloween party at the Baptist Youth Club, she met Norman and her career took a new turn. Dawn married Norman in 1966 and spent her young married life as a fun and gifted homemaker and mother... Dawn was a Cordon Bleu trained cook and became a valued PA to several demanding well-known bosses. Her creativity blossomed into painting and flower-arranging after retirement. She also was ordained as an Elder and served as a very efficient Church Secretary. Had the car accident not reduced her lung capacity and curtailed her movement, we might have seen her developing more artistic talent. Dawn was a generous, kind-hearted woman with a strong faith, who was loved and respected within the church family.

Her children Alexia and James and their families Rob, Rhiannon and Tilly; Nathalie, Maxion, Oceane and Celeste were all able to attend the services with Norman. We pray that they will continue to support each other in the days and months ahead.

Dawn's ashes will be buried in our grounds at the end of February.

Long Buckby News

Dates for your Diary:

4th April at 7.00pm Elders Meeting
28th April at 6.30pm Beetle Drive and Fish & Chip Supper
14th May at 12 noon—AGM and Church Meeting



Birthdays

18th April	Moira Hodgkinson
25th April	Don Bird
13th May	Richard Bignell
23rd May	Mark Ellison



Hope Centre

Many thanks for the goods which have been added to the box in the Church in recent weeks.

From the Church Registers

Gerald Griffiths 1927-2017

Following a family committal at Three Counties Crematorium, we held a service of thanksgiving to celebrate Gerald's life on Thursday 2nd February.

Gerald's grandfather Tom had a haulage business and it was Gerald's father Tom, who looked after the stables, keeping the horses fit for purpose. Gerald was apprenticed to a shoe maker at the age of 14 but it was in the Navy where he found his real passion as an engineer. Gerald was brought up Anglican but Eileen, his wife of 40 years, was Roman Catholic. They pragmatically decided to take the boys, Trevor and Clive, to the Baptist Sunday School. Eileen and Gerald moved to a new house in Buckby Wharf in 1962, to assist with the care of a frail relative but it was so cold that the inside the frozen house the walls were icy, hardly a suitable place to take small boys, so they had to stay with family. Eventually the house was habitable and they moved in.

As a youngster Gerald enjoyed scouting and camping- an involvement that remained close to his heart for the whole of his life.

Creaton News

Poppies Coffee Shop is open daily from 9.00am to 12 noon Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Poppies is closed on Thursdays.



Everyone is very welcome

N.B Coffee Shop closed Holy Week and Easter Week re-opens 24th April

Creations' Over 70's lunch Club meets at 12.30pm on 3rd Thursday of each month.

For the Men

Creaton host "Nosh and Natter" (Men's lunch) on the 1st Thursday of every month at 12.00 noon.



Dates for your Diary

Lent Courses (CTiBI) starting on 1st March at 2.30pm, phone church secretary for the venue.

You are warmly welcome to join us for Sunday Worship & Junior Church.

Kilsby News

Guild Meetings at 2.15pm (unless shown otherwise**)

14th March	Isobel Pugh & Joan Saunders
28th March	Mrs Val Janes
11th April	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp
25th April	Mrs Ann Tailby
9th May	Mrs Ann Townsend
23rd May	Mrs Judy Baldy



Community café

**Open Mondays and Thursdays
from 9.00am until 12noon.**

We have recently seen some new people coming along. The purpose of the café is to provide somewhere where you can meet up with friends old and new to have a chat and enjoy refreshments together.



Scrabble Club on Wednesdays at 1.15pm

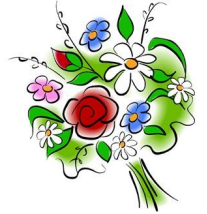
Dates for your Diary

**Sunday 30th April
Joint Service at Long Buckby with Rev. Elizabeth Kemp**

Long Buckby News

Flower Rota (*indicates fixed date)

5th March	*Mrs Gretta Davis
12th March	*Diana Babb
19th March	Don Bird
26th March	Mrs Lucy Faulkner
2nd April	Mrs Mary Bignell
9th April	*Mrs Grace Mawby
Easter	*Mrs Gwennie Wilkes
23rd April	*Mrs Kath Packer
30th January	*The Bruce Family
7th May	*Mrs Rita Stowe
14th May	Mrs Gill Best
21st May	Mrs Sian Ellison
28th May	Wedding flowers by family



Special Events

**Buskers Evening Tribute to
Robert Pring**

Friday 5th May at 7.30pm

We were saddened to learn of the sudden death of Robert, who so enjoyed our previous buskers evenings, so Alan Ketley is organising an evening in his memory. Robert constantly played his mouth organ on the market square raising money for charity. So come along if you play an instrument, can sing or recite, or just like to listen. There will be light refreshments for sale and you are welcome to bring along your own alcohol.



Regular Events

- ♦ Charity Coffee Morning on the first Saturday each month, 10.30am—11.30am



- ♦ Ladies Circle first Wednesday each month at 2.15pm.
- ♦ **Lunch Club**—2nd Friday each month 12.30pm for 1.00pm



CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations to Elizabeth on the 30th anniversary of her ordination, with thanks for all she has done for the URC over these years, and in our pastorate in her time with us.

Dates for Your Diary

Friday March 3rd at 7.15pm

Women's World Day of Prayer Service by the women of the Philippines

Good Friday Service at 7.00pm with Rev. Michael Haighton

Sunday 30th April

Joint Service at Long Buckby with Rev. Elizabeth Kemp



Birthdays

7th March

Joan Saunders

26th April
27th April

Beth Stanley
Joy Cawker



*Jenny
Goodger*

Mission Statement

The purpose of this Church is to provide a warm, welcoming place for people of all ages to worship God and to grow in faith.

Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings will continue on the first Saturday of the month from 10.30 am til 12 o'clock. Come and join us, you are sure to meet someone you know.

Donations for 2016 were as follows:

£100 each to Dementia Research, Cynthia Spencer Hospice, Children Today, Breast Cancer Care, The Ear Trust and Starlight Children's Foundation.

£131.74 to Cancer Research UK.

This makes a total for the year of £731.74, and **£14,897.29** since our coffee mornings started in 1999. It's very rewarding to see how all our individual gifts contribute to such a worthwhile total.

It was wonderful to see our church so full for our carols by candlelight service. The collection raised £318 for UNICEF, and our Christmas Day collection £122 for Christian Aid.



We were very pleased to receive donations from Crick Scarecrow Weekend and Crick Village Market towards the cost of our new windows in the schoolroom and kitchen. The work was finished just before Christmas. These rooms have just been redecorated, so we start the year looking really fresh and clean.



NW NORTHANTS. PASTORATE'S PREACHING DIARY - March, April, May 2017

Date	Long Buckby (All services at 11.00 am. Unless stated otherwise)	Crick (All services at 11.00 am. Unless stated otherwise)	Creaton (All services at 11.00 am. Unless stated otherwise)	Kilsby (All services at 11.00 am. Unless stated otherwise)
Sunday 5th March	Mr Jon Heard	Mrs Mary Barratt	Mrs Lindsey Cole	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp
Sunday 12th March	Mrs Margaret Hooper	Mrs Barbara Haighton	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp	Mrs Bobbie Wakeleigh-Jones
Sunday 19th March	Mr Alan Fox	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp With Holy Communion	Rev. Geoff Townsend With Holy Communion	Mr Keith Bishop
Sunday 26th March	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp With Holy Communion	Mr Andrew Howes	Mothering Sunday at St. Michaels	Mr Clive Leakey
Sunday 2nd April	Rev. Geoff Townsend	Mr Ian MacIntosh	Mr Jon Heard	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp With Holy Communion
Sunday 9th April	Mr Ian Harrison	Mr Tony Cervantes	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp With Holy Communion	Mr Wally Mular
Good Friday	No Service	7.00pm Rev. Michael Haighton	No Service	No Service
Easter Sunday	Mr Andrew Howes With Holy Communion	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp With Holy Communion	Rev. Geoff Townsend	Mr Cecil Gill With Holy Communion
Sunday 23rd April	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp	Mr David Biddle	Mr Alan Thompson	Mr John Perkins
Sunday 30th April	Joint Service at Long Buckby with Rev. Elizabeth Kemp	Joint Service at Long Buckby with Rev. Elizabeth Kemp	Joint Service at Long Buckby with Rev. Elizabeth Kemp	Joint Service at Long Buckby with Rev. Elizabeth Kemp
Sunday 7th May	Mrs Mary Barrett	Mrs Wendy Pitman	Mr Jon Heard with Holy Communion	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp
Sunday 14th May	Rev. Michael Haighton	Mr Wally Mular	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp	TBA
Sunday 21st May	Mrs Margaret Hooper	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp	Rev. Geoff Townsend	Mr Clive Leakey
Sunday 28th May	Rev. Elizabeth Kemp With Holy Communion	Rev. N Cervantes With Holy Communion	Mr Vaughan Griffiths	TBA