

THE CLAYPOLE GROUP OF VILLAGES

CLAYPOLE, DRY DODDINGTON, FENTON, STUBTON, WESTBOROUGH

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026



It always used to be an effective rain dance -
let's hope it works again! We need some serious rain!

LOCAL INFORMATION

CLAYPOLE

Priest in Charge: Jon Speirs-Davies email: jon.sd@lincoln.anglican.org

Mobile: 07766 486452

Churchwardens: John Padley, 9 The Cottage, School Lane, 01636 626510

Bridget Rosewell 2 Main Street Claypole 07836 215181

Parish Council Clerk: clerk@claypole-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council website: <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/claypole>;
www.facebook.com/claypoleparishcouncil; www.facebook.com/claypoleleisurepark

Claypole C of E School: 01636 626268 www.claypoleprimary.org

Claypole Brownies- Please register at girlguiding.org.uk/joinus or contact Sarah on 07765 791882 for further details

School Hall- contact Claypole School 01636 626268

Claypole Village Hall bookings: www.claypolevillagehall.org/onlinebooking

DRY DODDINGTON Churchwarden: Dick Loynes 07899 787057

richardloynes@btinternet.com

Parish Council Clerk: <https://westborough-dry-doddington.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>

email: clerk@westborough-dry-doddington-pc.gov.uk

Village Hall bookings: Brian Beddows 07552 757242

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator: Mike Hine, Hazelwood, Manor House

Lane. 01400 282690 email- mikehine38@hotmail.com

STUBTON Churchwarden: Mike Libby tel - 07493 243918 mglibbyl4@gmail.com

Parish Council Clerk: stubtonclerk@gmail.com

Village Hall bookings: stubtonvh@gmail.com

WESTBOROUGH

Churchwardens: John Lawrence, Sandalwood. Town Street 01400 281850

Village Hall Bookings: Jane Ford 01400 281206 jane.h.ford1@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator: vacancy

FENTON

Parish Meeting Website www.fentonvillage.com. chair.fentonvillage@gmail.com

Chairman Parish Meeting _____

Clerk: Graham Doney, clerk.fentonvillage@gmail.com

Churchwarden: (vacancy)

DOCTORS: LONG BENNINGTON SURGERY 01400 281220

CAYTHORPE -SURGERY 01400 272215

L.I.V.E.S. Coordinator Linda Kingston 01400 272740 lfkingston@hotmail.co.uk

Treasurer - David Harvey david.l.harvey@btinternet.com

LOCAL POLICE: PC Mark Barr 07973 845128.

If you ring 999 state "Lincolnshire Police" or your NG postcode will get the Nottingham force and delay any response!

Letter from your Editor



Hello!

Haven't seen rain for weeks it seems! I hope by the time you are reading this, that we have had the drought relieved. If I walk on my grass, it makes a crisp crinkly noise! And I have given up on my golden courgettes. I got tired of watering them from the depleting water barrels on the down pipes. Fingers crossed they refill before next summer.

So now we are embarking on a whole load of new enterprises as we are back from the summer break. The calendar is remarkably full already.

We have received a really nice **thank you letter from Bransby horses** after my friend Mavis took a whole load of neatly trimmed stamps up there recently. My brother donated his childhood stamp album which wasn't much at the time, but, as we are both ancient, contains stamps from King George VI's time and countries which now have new names and borders. The letter is published in this edition.

Please continue to save stamps - they really pay off, and especially now that the drought has caused a loss of hayfields and fodder for the horses, so they will have to buy in more food, stretching their resources even further.

Many many thanks are due now to Tony Tucker who has helped me out so much as I have been trying to be an Editor while stuck in hospital with just my iPhone for communications. I am now out - totally - from all those weeks of incarceration, and many thanks also to all of you who sent kind messages. I am now back painting, drawing, cartooning and as near normal as possible!

Best wishes, *Jane*

Info for OCTOBER DOUBLE EDITION

By 16th SEPTEMBER please

The Ings, Town Street, Westborough NG23 5HJ

01400 281206 email jane.h.ford1@gmail.com

Events Calendar 2026

**Send your event dates as soon as available
Let's try to avoid clashes!**

September

- Fri 4** WI art & Craft in Westborough 9-12.00
- Tue 8** - WI Westborough 7.00pm Life as Lorry driver
- Fri 11** "The Grand Budapest Hotel" showing at Claypole
- Sat 19** DD church "Fire pit"
- Sun 20** DD church Harvest Festival & Songs of Praise 10.30am

October

- Fri 2** WI art & Craft in Westborough 9-12.00
- Fri 9** Talk on Archbishop's Palace Southwell Long Ben 7.30
- Fri 9** "Nobody" showing at Claypole
- Tue 13** WI talk on Bletchley Park
- Sat 12** Claypole Village Hall Open Event
- Sat 17** Claypole Book Fair in church
- Sun 18** What's On Claypole - see what's happening in the community
- Fri 19** Dry Doddington Harvest supper (see poster)

November

- Thur 5** Westborough bonfire night
- Fri 6** WI art & Craft in Westborough 9-12.00
- Fri 6** "Hacksaw Ridge" showing at Claypole
- Sat 7** Pre-Loved sale Claypole village hall 110.30-1.30
- Tue 13** WI Games Evening
- Thur 26** Wreath making at Stubton Hall

December

- Sun 6** Stubton Hall Christmas market
- Sun 13** Christmas afternoon tea Stubton Hall
- Sat 19** "Prime Suspects" band Westborough village hall

SAVE YOUR USED STAMPS FOR THE HORSES PLEASE



**Thank you to all the kind people
who have saved stamps for us this year**



Collecting used stamps
please leave half inch or 1cm border round if possible

**Please pass stamps to Mavis Arnold or Jane Ford or any WI member
Remember they raised over £10,100 for the rescue charity last year!**

Mrs M Arnold

Dear Mrs Arnold,

Thank you for your large collection of stamps that you donated at the Visitor Centre on the 12th of June 2026. These are very much appreciated, as they are a useful way of helping us to raise funds to help the animals in our care.

The loose stamps are sold, unsorted, by weight to collectors to generate funds to support our work in equine welfare. We recommend that you leave a half-inch border around the used stamps to help protect them from damage. Collectors also give a very good price for collections of old stamps or albums.

By the end of 2025, we raised £10,147 from the sale of used postage stamps alone, all of which were donated by generous people like yourself.

Once again, may we take this opportunity thank you for your continued support. As one of our most valued supporters, we've partnered with accredited Will writing provider Bequeathed to offer you the opportunity to make or update a Will free of charge. To find out more or to take up this offer, please contact us on 01427 788 454, email legacy@bransbyhorses.co.uk or visit BransbyHorses.co.uk/free-will

Kind Regards,

The Supporter Relations Team

On Behalf of Bransby Horses



In 2025,
our stamp
appeal
raised

£10,147

all
thanks to
supporters
like you!



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Opening hours Summer time Mon to Fri: 7am to 8pm Sat: 7:30am to 8pm
Sun: 8am to 5pm



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Book Fair

in St Peter's Church Claypole



Saturday 17th October

10.00am-1.00pm

Any donations of Books, CD's, DVD's, Jigsaws, tombola items or items for our Christmas Stall please contact Gillian 01636626510.

Also anyone who would like to help set out the books etc on Thursday 15th from 9.15, or help on the rota on the day,

The Richard III Society presents



'Shining a Light on The Archbishop's Palace Southwell'

An illustrated talk by Roger Blaney
a brilliant and knowledgeable speaker

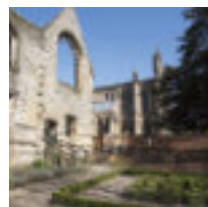
This building was hugely important in the middle ages and it was visited by many of our medieval kings. It is surprising how few people know of its existence!

Friday October 9th 7.30pm
Long Bennington Village hall

Tickets visitors £5.00 to include light refreshments

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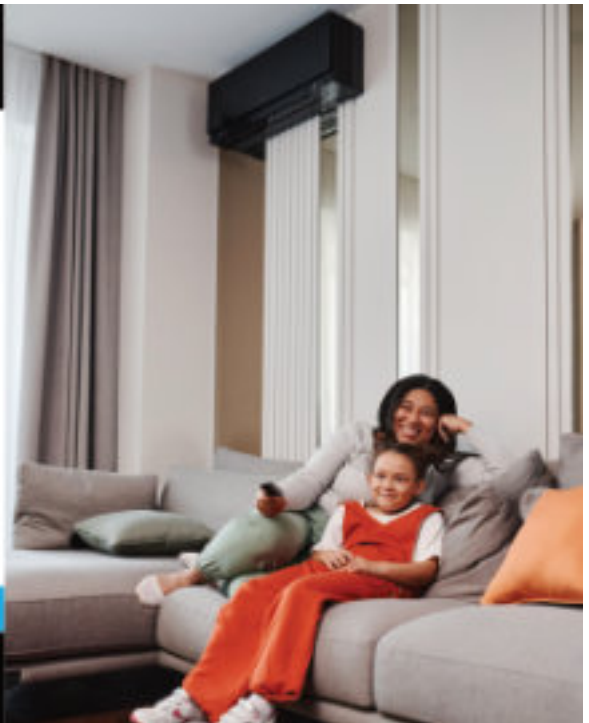
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THREE ITEMS OF NEWS FROM

ST JAMES'S CHURCH DRY DODDINGTON

ONE: 2.00 pm on the 19th September join us in church to see and photograph the "Fire Pit"

TWO: Sunday 20th September at 10.30 am join us in church for "Harvest Festival/Songs of Praise"

THREE: Win two tickets to see Ricky Gervais in Sheffield on Thursday 3rd December. More details soon!

Dry Doddington



Harvest Supper



Friday October 16th

in the village hall

Bar Opens at 7pm

Food will be served at 7.30pm

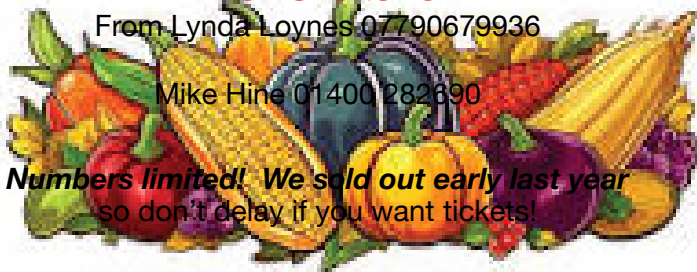
Bar available No BYO please

Tickets £10

From Lynda Loynes 07790679936

Mike Hine 01400 282690

Numbers limited! We sold out early last year
so don't delay if you want tickets!





News from Claypole & District

Are you thinking of joining, or coming back?

We are a friendly group of all ages, with varied interests. Our WI is a great way of meeting people and making new friends, while learning about something that perhaps you knew little about, often with some lighthearted fun along the way.

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month from 7-9 pm in Westborough Village Hall NG 23 5HJ.

Our yearly programme includes Speakers and Demonstrations on interesting topics, outings, craft evenings, a social garden party in August and of course a Christmas party. Please see the following for future fixtures.

September 8th Amusing but true stories of **life as a lorry driver** and furniture removals man by Len Priestly.

October 2nd Jane Ford's **Art & Craft Group** in Westborough Village Hall. 9 am to noon, at a time that suits you. (With coffee and cake!)

October 13th A talk on **Bletchley Park** by Keith Appleyard.

October 18th **Claypole Village Hall**. Find us at the Hall's "**Open Event**".

November 7th **Pre-Loved sale** in Claypole Village Hall. 10.30 am-1.30 pm (See details in this magazine). Get ready for Christmas.

November 10th **Games evening**.

Please note: While we presently meet in Westborough Village Hall, we intend to use all four village halls next year on a rota basis.

Contact – Julie Greenberry (President) – telephone 01636 627079
Kathleen Thomas (Secretary) – telephone 01636 626860

Our WI is pleased to support local charities
Newark Women's Refuge and Bransbury Horses.

We support the Women's Refuge all year round. If you have anything, please contact secretary Kathleen to make arrangements



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Community Cuppa



At Claypole village Hall

Join us every **third Monday**

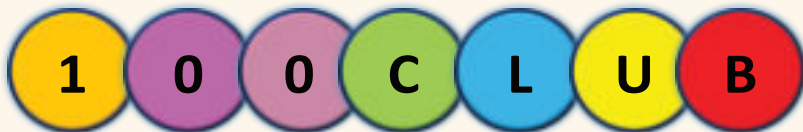
10.30–12.30

21 September, 19 October, 16 November

Supported by Lincolnshire Coop



JOIN CLAYPOLE'S



Winners of the September Draw

Will be announced in the October Edition of the Magazine

£15 PER QUARTER. QUARTERLY CASH PRIZES.



SCAN TO SIGN UP OR FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR CONTACT STEVE EVERSON ON claypolepctreasurer@gmail.com

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ADVERTISING - IN THE CLAYPOLE PARISH MAGAZINE

Full page colour	£50	Quarter page colour	£16
Full page b/w	£38	Quarter page b/w	£13
Half page colour	£31	Eighth page colour	£11
Half page b/w	£21		

For further information contact Tony Tucker

H61@me.com 07939897118

Could you help shape the future of your local primary school?

We're looking for two new governors to join
our friendly governing body from the local
community.

We'd particularly welcome people with HR or
finance experience, although this is not
essential. Most importantly we're looking for
people with enthusiasm and a willingness to
get involved.

If you'd like to find out more or express an
interest, please get in touch with Tony Tucker,
Chair of Governors.

adminoffice@claypoleprimary.org



**The Claypole Church of
England Primary School**

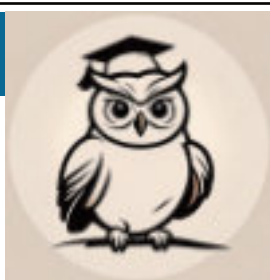
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Dry Doddington

WHAT'S ON
Claypole 

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CONNECT.
GET INVOLVED! 

YOUR VILLAGE.
YOUR COMMUNITY

Come along and find out about the fantastic groups, activities and opportunities happening in Claypole.



MEET LOCAL GROUPS
Find out what's active in our village



FIND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES
Something for everyone!



CONNECT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY
Meet new people and build connections



BE INSPIRED & GET INVOLVED
Discover new opportunities



SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER
2PM - 5PM
CLAYPOLE VILLAGE HALL

  Refreshments available!
TEA • COFFEE • CAKES

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All materials provided 

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SAT 5TH DEC
2PM

SUN 6TH DEC
10AM

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Claypole Cinema Club

UPCOMING MOVIE NIGHTS

at Claypole Village Hall

DOORS OPEN
6:30PM
FILM STARTS
7:30PM

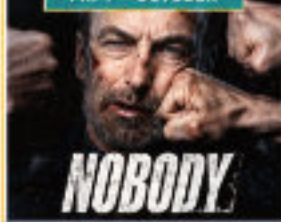
FRI 11TH SEPTEMBER



Doors open 6:30pm.
Film starts 7:30pm

Food vans:
The Peel
(Food: fixed price)

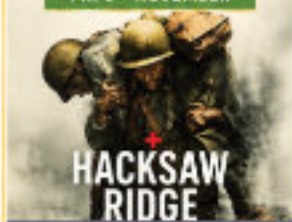
FRI 9TH OCTOBER



Doors open 6:30pm.
Film starts 7:30pm

Food vans:
George & Cooking
(by week arrival)

FRI 6TH NOVEMBER



Doors open 6:30pm.
Film starts 7:30pm

Food vans:
TBC



Claypole Cinema Club is a "social cinema" – seated around tables, with beer, wine, soft drinks and snacks available to buy. Membership costs just £10 per individual or £25 for a family of 4 for the year. You can attend as many screenings as you like for that price. Guest passes are also available.

JOIN CINEMA CLUB HERE:
bit.ly/ClaypoleCinema



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UPCOMING DATES

FRIDAY
11
SEPT



THE PEEL
Wood Fired Pizza

WEDNESDAY
30
SEPT



NATHAN'S
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FRIDAY
9
OCT



GEORGE
IS COOKING

FRIDAY
23
OCT



THE PEEL
Wood Fired Pizza

FRIDAY
20
NOV



GEORGE
IS COOKING



TIMINGS
TYPICALLY
5-8PM



MENU DETAILS & HOW TO ORDER
Shared online the week before each visit



EVERYONE
WELCOME



SUPPORT LOCAL
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£1.00!

See you
there!

Pre-Loved Sale

Saturday November 7th

10.30-1.30 (set up 10.00)

Claypole Village Hall

Baby items, clothes, shoes, hats, tools, toys, games

Clear your clutter before Christmas!

Cost of tables TBA. Contact Jane H on 07979 045192

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• HALL VIEWINGS • FREE EVENT • POP-IN •



SAT 12TH SEPT
9:30-11:30AM



For hire rates, to check dates, or request a booking, visit:

www.claypolevillagehall.org



The Green Page



Just like that - it's September once again! We have all had it rough recently with the heatwaves, but the wild animals have had it far worse. I mean imagine not being able to go inside into a cool room or exist anywhere near a fan? Sounds awful!

However, with the Earth reaching temperatures never seen before, it is unlikely we have passed the worst of it. Knowing that we don't live on this Earth alone, here are some tips to help wildlife suffering with the heat.

The main thing is to keep them hydrated, we have the ability to fill up a glass of water to help us cool down but if animals can't find water sources, they don't get to drink! If you have a bird bath, keeping it topped up with water is a great way to help out! Not to worry if you don't have a bird bath, just putting a bowl of water outside is helpful!



Protecting these critters from the sun is also important - I mean we definitely didn't want to be walking around outside at its highest! Achieving shelter for wildlife is easy, avoid trimming hedges completely and keep plants a little overgrown! Anything is better than seeing wildlife suffer the harsh temperatures!

Keeping cool is so much easier for us and that means we begin to forget about who we also share our world with! We are the animals best shot at surviving these temperatures and we are all they have. Leaving water out and letting plants overgrow are simple and non time consuming ways to put these little critters first - because they definitely were here before us!

Of course protecting wildlife is important, but so are the animals you share your living spaces with! It is important to remember that there are no benefits to walking dogs in excessive heat, they are wearing a coat they can't take off and end up burning their paws on the hot ground. Keep in mind, it is always better to wait until the evening when the temperature starts dropping. Your dog will thank you!



Elizabeth

Kathleen's Kitchen

Summer Baked Fish

(All weights & measures are approximate)

Serves 4 to 6 – reduce amounts for less people or smaller appetites.

Ingredients:

White Fish - any with a similar thickness to cod – weight - 1 & half lbs/680g

Mild Olive Oil 3-4tbs (Extra Virgin Olive Oil can be used if you would prefer)

Oregano (dried) 2tsp

Thyme (dried) 2tsp

Salt

Black Pepper (amount to your taste)

Red Onion (finely chopped) - 3tbs

3 -4 Cloves of Garlic (crushed or finely chopped)

8 Cherry Tomatoes halved which ever ones you prefer (I use the ones on the vine)

1 Lemon (fine zest & juice), limes or a small orange, can be used instead & will give you different flavours

Method:

Heat the oven to 200c/400f. Oven temperatures can vary.

Use an oblong baking dish (13-14 inches by 9-10 inches). Oil the base before placing the fish in it.

In a bowl mix together the oil, herbs, zest & juice of lemon, a pinch of salt & some black pepper. Then stir in tomatoes & red onion.

Pat the fish dry & lightly season with salt & freshly ground black pepper & place in the dish. Stir the oil & tomatoes mix & pour over the fish. If concerned that there doesn't seem to be enough oil, then drizzle a little bit more over the fish. Place in the oven & bake for 15-20 minutes. Check that the fish is cooked & if necessary give it a little bit more time, but making sure it doesn't burn.

Note: If you like olives, then you could add some to the oil & tomato mix to give it a Mediterranean touch. It can be served with anything you like, from a vegetable rice or couscous or new potatoes with vegetables or salad.



Lincolnshire Flooding

First Shared in Setember 23

A recent TV programme reminded me of the catastrophic flooding that occurred along the East Coast of Scotland and England in the night of January 31st - 1st February 1953.

Nearly 1000 miles of coastline was damaged, 24,000 properties were badly damaged and 30,000 people had to be moved out of their homes. The death toll on land was 307 and at sea 224



At Sutton on Sea the waves were 2 metres high and the surge lasted for 3 hours.

The sea came in at Mablethorpe and Sutton on Sea for several miles and caused significant destruction. Tragically, six people died locally.

Mablethorpe
High Street

I was 4 years old at the time and can remember my Dad going away for a long time. He went to work on building the sea walls to prevent the flooding from ever happening again. He later told us that he worked though the nights in dreadful weather without any days off until it was complete. The men went out in the dark in the evening and returned twelve hours later still in the dark! Rebuilding in the UK required 25,000 tons of materials every day and the teams had to contend with the high tides each day.



The secondary school at Alford, six miles inland, was used as an emergency centre and was closed for two terms. A tramp was amongst those rescued and his sodden clothes were found to be fastened together with 83 safety pins!

Local police officers Charles Lewis and Leonard Deptford both received the George Medal for their part in rescue work.

Lewis leapt from a police station upper window to save an elderly couple being swept away in 3 feet (1m) floodwater, carrying them to safety at a house across the road. He continued rescue work for hours until he found a working telephone to call for help.



Deptford was off-duty at his son's party when the wall of water hit. He realised that elderly people were vulnerable as the sea wall was breached and he dragged and carried many to safety. At one house he found a bedridden elderly couple with their middle-aged daughter in the waist-high floodwater. He lashed together oil cans to make a raft, to which he tied the couple and pulled them to safety.

He carried on into daylight, his last rescue being a dog. There is a small plaque near to the Village Hall in Sutton on Sea recording the flooding.



FARMYARD TAILS

At the time of writing this article (mid August) I can honestly say that I have never been so worried for the welfare of my animals. There are the 'usual' things to worry about like bTB, Mastitis, Pink eye etc but this year we have a very large outbreak of Blue tongue disease sweeping across England. This is a disease spread by midges. It is usually fatal in sheep and other ruminants but less so in cattle. The strain is different each year and like last year the vets are struggling to get enough vaccine for everyone who needs it.

This year so far we have endured temperatures in excess of 34 degrees here in Claypole. When you have ANY animal under your care you know that this sort of situation can be fatal. Here at the farm the cattle are allowed access to every vacant shed we have, we put big tubs of water in shaded places, keep the mains fed water troughs clean, provide lots of quality hay and feed supplement licks and salt blocks. We have large fans on them but all this can do is blow the hot air over them. Not ideal but better than nothing. We watch them throughout the day for signs of heat stress which can be fatal. The sheep have a lovely big willow tree to shade under, a feeder with hay in, water troughs and mineral blocks. Barry has an old trailer he can hide under for shade. Sheep are much more adapted to the heat than Highland cows!

Pippa & Jess the two heifers have had 6 attempts at getting in calf using Ai now. Having spoken to our vet, the cattle scanner and other farmers who Ai it seems we are all having problems in this heat with the cows holding. As such, if they return again in the next 2 weeks we will have to leave it for this year as it's getting too late in the season. Late born calves never do as well as the early ones as the goodness in the grass is diminishing.

Some of you may remember Phillis who was suffering with arthritis. I'm sorry to report that I had her put to sleep. It was breaking my heart to see her struggle. Getting down to rest and get back up again was hard work and painful. She was only 15 yrs old, she gained many championship trophies in her time and has left a big gap here at the farm.

This year's hay crop was good. It was cut, dried, baled and wrapped in record time. The straw too was baled and in the shed really quickly. I would like at this point to express my sadness to all the farmers that have lost crops and fodder due to not only the wildfires but the crazy humans that have set fire to them on purpose. Farming is so hard sometimes and subject to so many external factors beyond our control. "No farmers, no food, no future".

There is no 2nd cut as there is no grass!! We have been feeding this years hay back to them and have been doing so for 5 weeks now. We will be short come late winter/spring and will have to buy in I'm certain.



On a happier note- the 5 Kestrel chicks fledged successfully and two weeks after a pair of barn owls moved in. They have 5 eggs but with the weather being so dry I fear the small voles and shrews that they hunt for will be very scarce indeed.

Fingers crossed for some rain, cooler temperatures and happier news.

Take care,
Tracey.

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Sunday Worship Times September

Sunday 6th

Claypole	10 30	Holy Communion
Longbennington	10 30	Morning Worship
Allington	10 00	Holy Communion

Sunday 13th

Longbennington	10 30	Holy Communion
Stubton	18 00	Holy Communion

Sunday 20th

Claypole	10 30	Holy Communion
Longbennington	10 30	Morning Worship
Foston	15 00	Holy Communion

Sunday 27th

Longbennington	10 30	Holy Communion
Allington	10 30	Morning Worship/HC

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