

News Letter

Brigstock with Stanion, Lowick and Sudborough
Sunday 28th January to Saturday 3rd February 2024.

The question of power?

We all have a certain amount of power to wield. For most of us it is quite limited. Perhaps we have the power to make our employers or employees happy or frustrated. We can withdraw or offer our volunteering time. We can gossip negatively or positively. Even if we experience, none of the above, most of us have the power to affect the moods of our family and friends, or those who care for us.

To cut a long story short we all exercise some power over others, however small. It's like faith itself, in that it's not how much influence we have that matters, but how we use it. How can we influence someone today in a way that makes them feel better rather than worse? In a world of bad news this simple action, if enacted by enough people, would change the world! Maybe this is the secret of the eternal life the New Testament proclaims. One of the things that made Jesus of Nazareth so special was the fact that he was recognised by many as a man of authority. This was despite him having no special status, no civil or religious position to demand a hearing! Yet people recognised that he wielded power nonetheless, and did it for the good of others. As it says in one of this week's set passages:

They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority (Mark 1.22)



May it always be said of each of us, that the influence we have, however limited, is used for the cheering of others. In this way we are privileged to walk in the footsteps of the one true Son of the living God! Go well.

Sunday/Christmas Services



Sunday 28th January 10.00 a.m. St Peters Lowick

Sunday 4th February 11.00 a.m. St Peters Stanion

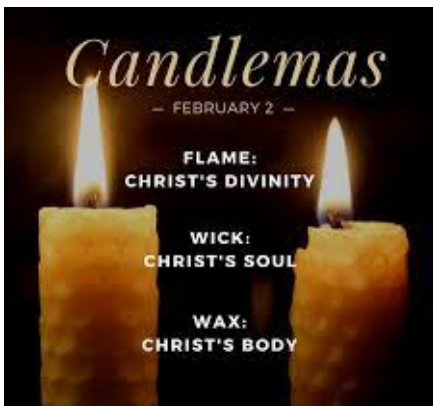
Sunday 11th February 10.00 a.m. St Andrews Brigstock

Sunday 18th February 09.30 a.m. All Saints Sudborough
11.30 a.m. St Peters Stanion All Age Service

For further information and updates please visit our website www.harperbrookanglicans.org.uk

Mid Week Services.

Thursday 1st February 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion Service at St Andrews Brigstock



'This year Candlemas is on Friday 2nd February. Alan has placed a link on the website to view the online Candlemas Service, originally seen in 2021 during the Covid restrictions. A short 13 minutes service and as relevant as ever.'

Please Note: Ash Wednesday is February 14th and there will be an Ash Wednesday Service at St Andrew's Church, Brigstock at 10.00 a.m. This will replace the Holy Communion service at St Andrews Church on Thursday 15th.

Please Pray for

- **This Weeks Mind:** Grace Smith 1987, Kathleen (Dolly) Gray 1989, John Poole Sandlands (Priest) 1915, Len Evans 2014, Lucy Hardy 2011, Marjorie Goodson 2004, Gordon Dunkley 2013, Ken Gibbard 2022, Frank Parkinson 1994

Parish Notes

Rector: The Reverend Heather Lowe

Associate Minister (Church Army): Captain Alan Lowe,

Telephone: 01536 263550

Address: 14 Willow Lane, Stanion, Northamptonshire, NN14 1DT

Reader & Safeguarding Officer – Jackie Makepeace

Telephone: 01832 358978

Churchwarden Contact telephone numbers:

Lowick – Vacant

Sudborough – Sara Dixon 07970 597017

Brigstock – Carl Hector 01536 373410

Stanion – David Lafferty 01536 200175

Benefice Administrator– Allison Porter email: beneficeoffice5@btinternet.com or telephone 01536 373509 or 07933 804432

Benefice website: <https://www.harpersbrookanglicans.org.uk>

Brigstock Warm Space -



Save your heating and come along to the June Small room Mill Lane every Thursday from 11.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. Anyone is welcome and there is no need to book. There will be refreshments, a soup and a roll lunch or bring your own packed lunch. Bring a book a newspaper, puzzle, knitting etc. or just enjoy the company and a chat. If you are interested and need more information please contact Sheila on 373225 or Barbara on 373240



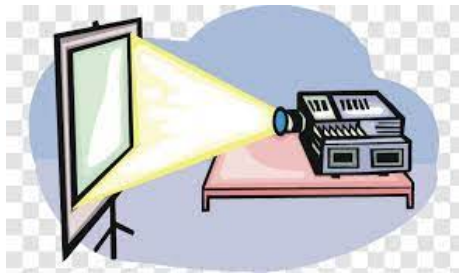
Brigstock Childrens Society Boxes

The Childrens Society moneyboxes will be emptied and counted on Saturday 3rd February between 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon hosted by Lesley Blakeley at Rickholme Back Lane. There will be refreshments and good company, do come along and support this worthwhile charity. If you are unable to attend and have a collection box please can you deliver it to Lesley before the coffee morning.



St Peter's Church Baby and Toddler Group - Little Treasures will be on Friday each week of the school term in Stanion Village Hall. 10.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. Toys, snacks, craft, songs, sensory play and chat. £2.50 per session. £1.00 for each additional sibling.

Fund Raising
St Andrews Brigstock



Friday 23rd February 7.00 p.m. in St Andrews Church.
Memories of Brigstock - a Slide Show by Carl Hector. Tickets £7.50 including a glass of wine and nibbles, available from Jean Casswell 373571 Ros Wooster 373340

Race Night Saturday March 16th Brigstock Village Hall doors open at 7.30 p.m. first race at 8.00 p.m.
Tickets will be available from Barbara Platt £10.
Further details to follow.



Rutland Big Band - A return visit by request on Monday April 8th in Brigstock Village Hall
Further details to follow.

St Peters Stanion:

Dates for your diaries 2024

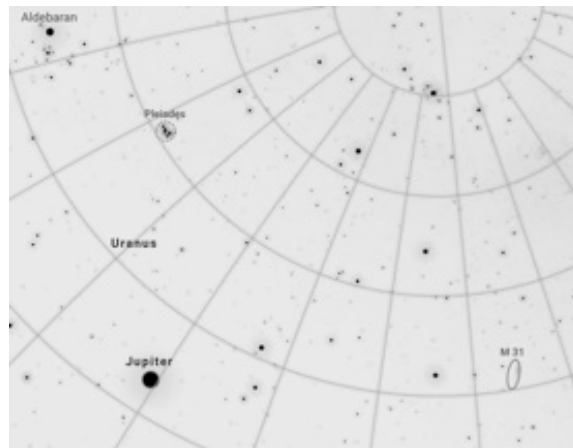
- ❖ **11th May** Stanion Garage Sale. For further details contact Kate Redding
- ❖ **8th June** Combined Summer Fete with Stanion Village Hall, Stanion Primary School and St Peter's Church at Stanion Village Hall.
- ❖ **8th September** Horticultural and Produce Fair, St Peter's Church
- ❖ **23rd November** Christmas Tree Festival, St Peter's Church

Sky Guide for February 2024 Not a great deal to see this February with only two planets on show in the evenings and no meteor showers either.

The moon will be New on the 9th and Full on the 24th. Do take care if trying to spot the crescents during daylight hours. Mercury is not visible from our location all month. Venus is not visible from our location all month.

Mars is not visible from our location all month. Jupiter will become visible during dusk some 50 degrees above the horizon in the south and proceed to set around midnight in the south-west all month. Uranus will also become visible (if you have some Binoculars) when dark at some 54 degrees in the south and set around midnight in the south-west all month. Neptune is not visible from our location all month.

The screen capture from the free Stellarium Planetarium program below shows where to find Uranus (just under the "n") all month looking west-south west in the early evening but you will need to use Binoculars. If you do try this then the Andromeda Galaxy M31 and the Pleiades are not far away and can be seen unaided if you have a very dark sky location and the atmosphere is clear.



Clear skies. Peter

Readings and Prayers

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 18. 15-20

A New Prophet Like Moses

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the LORD replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.'

Gospel Reading: Mark 1. 21-28

The Man with an Unclean Spirit

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

COLLECT FOR EPIPHANY 4

God of heaven,
you send the gospel to the ends of the earth
and your messengers to every nation:
send your Holy Spirit to transform us
by the good news of everlasting life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous Lord,
in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the
mystery of your love:
help us so to live out our days
that we may be signs of your wonders in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen