

News Letter

Brigstock with Stanion, Lowick and Sudborough
Sunday 4th May to Saturday 10th May 2025.

Back to Basics!

When I used to need a break from the rigours of working life, my allotment was always a place of refuge. A place of escape and a place where I could be active but without having to think too much. And of course the tea breaks or chat breaks were as often as I chose!

In this week's Gospel Jesus' right hand man, Peter, bursts out 'I'm going fishing!'. After the ups and downs of the previous weeks he falls back on something he does well and enjoys. Something he could do with his eyes closed. So, with his cousins, he takes the family boat out on to the Lake to fish. It's more than work, though, as he takes along some other friends to enjoy the early morning air. As it happened they caught nothing that morning until someone joined them. A voice yells to them from the shore and from then on, it's all déjà vu. The stranger of the shore suggests casting their nets on the other side of their boat, and they suddenly fill with fresh fish. For Peter, James and John this has all happened before. No wonder then that John recognises the Risen Christ as the man on the beach. Peter leaps overboard and swims for the shore! The idyllic outdoor breakfast party that follows, must have been so memorable.



This all reminds me that when I recall how God has been alongside me so often, that's when I am most likely to feel it in the here and now. It's a good habit to be thanking God for past blessings, and who knows we too might then experience a touch of déjà vu.

Go well.

Sunday Services



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

3.30 p.m. All Saints Sudborough A service of commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of VE Day followed by refreshments.

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

Sunday 18th May 09.30 a.m. All Saints Sudborough

11.30 a.m. St Pters Stanion All Age service

Sunday 25th May 10.00 a.m. St Peters Lowick

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

Mid-Week Services

Thursday 8th May 10.00 a.m. VE Day 80th Anniversary Holy Communion service St Andrews Brigstock



- **Recently Departed** - Our sympathies and condolences are with Freda Bell on the death of her husband Tony. The funeral will be Kettering Crematorium, The Albert Munn Chapel on Monday 19th May at 1.30 p.m.
- **This week's Mind** - Iris Mabel Rita Howl (Rita) 1990, Ethel Bradford 1997, John Wise 2000, Stan Thompson 2017, Ian Cundy, Bishop 2009, Mary Waterworth 2014, Richard Mann 1998, Ada Mickley 2011, Robert Cobley 2015

Parish Notes

Rector: The Reverend Heather Lowe

Associate Minister (Church Army): Captain Alan Lowe,

Telephone: 07548 892020

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

Reader & Safeguarding Officer – Jackie Makepeace

Telephone: 01832 358978

Churchwarden Contact telephone numbers:

Lowick – Jo Boyers 07542 555249

Jo.boyers@btinternet.com or

lowickchurchwarden@gmail.com

Sudborough – Jeremy Crouch 07790 651116

(Also Lay Worship Leader for the Benefice)

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>

Please note that Rev'd Heather will be taking 3 months compassionate leave from May 26th - August 30th 2025 in order to spend some quality time with Alan.

Enquiries will be directed to either Allison, Jackie or the Church Wardens.

Thank you for your understanding.

Electoral Roll



Belong

Participate

Contribute

Electoral Roll forms need to be returned to Electoral Roll Officers asap - Stanion - Sue Jamieson or Rev'd Heather, Brigstock - Liz Cobley, All Saints - Prue Vaughn and Lowick - Jo Boyers.

PEW BIBLES

Can anyone who has kindly said they will purchase a Pew Bible and has yet to pay can you ensure that the payment is made at your earliest convenience as follows:

For St Andrews Brigstock - please put your payment in an envelope with your name on it and if applicable the name(s) of the one(s) to be remembered then put it through Allison's letter box at 5, Stable Hill Brigstock NN14 3HN

For St Peters Stanion - please put your payment in an envelope with your name on it and if applicable the name(s) of the one(s) to be remembered then put it through Rev'd Heathers letter box at The Rectory, 14, Willow Lane Stanion NN14 1DT

SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB – 1st Sunday of the Month.

Sunday Lunch group meets monthly for good food and company for folk who would otherwise be eating dinner on their own. If you are interested, please contact Carol on the following number and leave your contact details 07894261164. If a lift is required it may be possible for people from the same locality to liaise with each other.



Little Treasures Baby and Toddler Group meet at Stanion Village Hall on a Friday in school term time from 10.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. For Parents and Carers with their children.

Craft, sensory play, toys, jigsaws, drinks and snacks. £3.00 for first child and siblings £1.00 each (the increase is due to an increase in the village Hall rental cost). Concessions for those on Universal Credit.

Dates for your Diaries



Bell ringing for 80th Anniversary of VE Day – On the 80th Anniversary of VE Day (Thurs 8th May) there will be bellringing nationwide. Our benefice team of ringers will attempt to ring at all four churches between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the evening so listen out.

On Saturday 10th May we are inviting all locals (from 1 to over 100 years of age) to pop in to either Brigstock or Stanion churches, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. to mark this important anniversary by tolling a bell. Everyone will receive a certificate and we will collate all names to display at the back of the church. If they wish, people can also have their name published in the weekly Ringing World newspaper, and purchase a copy - Proceeds to go to each church.



St Peters Stanion - There will be a Stanion Garage Sale on 10th May between 10.00 a.m. and 2 p.m. If you don't live in Stanion but would like to sell items please speak to Kate (07753565080 kate.redding@sky.com) and we'll try and arrange some drive space or part of the church for you to use.

St Andrews Brigstock -The Spring Fair will be on the 17th May in church between 10.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. There will be stalls selling home-made crafts, plants, cakes and refreshments along with a tombola and raffle. Watch this space for further information



*****We are collecting items for the Tombola They can be left in church or given to Steph Beckett*****
Thank you

St Peters Lowick -



The next monthly Coffee morning offering refreshment and a chance to catch up with friends is happening on Tuesday 27th May, at the Village Hall (Germain Rooms), from 10 a.m. to midday. £2 per person, children and dogs free! All welcome. Future monthly 'morning' will be on 24th June. Come along and join in!



Stanion Village Fete (Church, School and Village Hall) will be on the 5th July, more information to follow. For further information please contact kate.redding@sky.com



St Peter's, Stanion - Christmas Tree Festival on Saturday 29th November 10.00 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Sky Guide for May 2025

Only two planets on show this month, Mars and Jupiter, until Venus re-appears from behind the sun in the mornings from the 25th. Plus the η Aquarid meteor shower.

The Planets:

The Moon will be full on the 12th and new on the 27th.

Mercury will not be visible from our location all month.

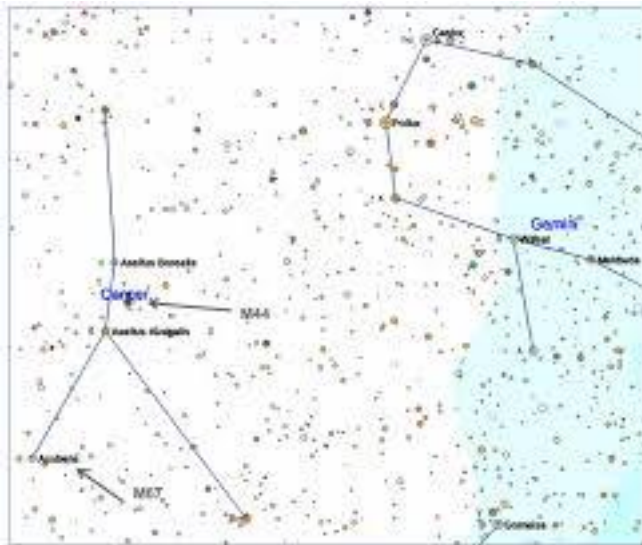
Venus will not be visible until the 25th when it will appear in the early hours of the morning in the east but fade into the dawn about an hour later.

Mars will be visible after dusk in the late evenings in the south-west and set in the early hours of the morning. It will appear at around 40° in height at the start of the month and gradually get lower to about 26° by month's end.

Jupiter will be visible after dusk in the late evenings in the west and set a few hours later up to the 27th when it will no longer be visible. It will appear at around 20° in height at the start of the month and gradually get lower to about 8° by the 27th.

Saturn will not be visible from our location all month.

Uranus will not be visible from our location all month.



Neptune will not be visible from our location all month.

The Moon and Mars will be within about 2° of each other on the night of the 4th. They will become visible after dusk in the south-west at about 45° in height and set around 02:50. For comparison the full moon is approximately 0.5 degrees across. On the 5th the Moon will be close to an open star cluster M44, (Praesepe), commonly known as the “Beehive” due to its appearance. Try joining the dots to form its namesake.

M44 is situated in the centre of the constellation of Cancer which looks like an upside down “Y” pointing north. The two main stars of Gemini , Castor and Pollux generally point towards the lower half of Cancer.

Binoculars recommended.

Clear Skies

Peter

- **This week's Mind** - Iris Mabel Rita Howl (Rita) 1990, Ethel Bradford 1997, John Wise 2000, Stan Thompson 2017, Ian Cundy, Bishop 2009, Mary Waterworth 2014, Richard Mann 1998, Ada Mickley 2011, Robert Cobley 2015

Readings and Prayer **Third Week of Easter** May 4th 2025

Gospel Passage: John 21. 1-19

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes,

Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

New Testament Passage: Acts 9. 1-6

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'