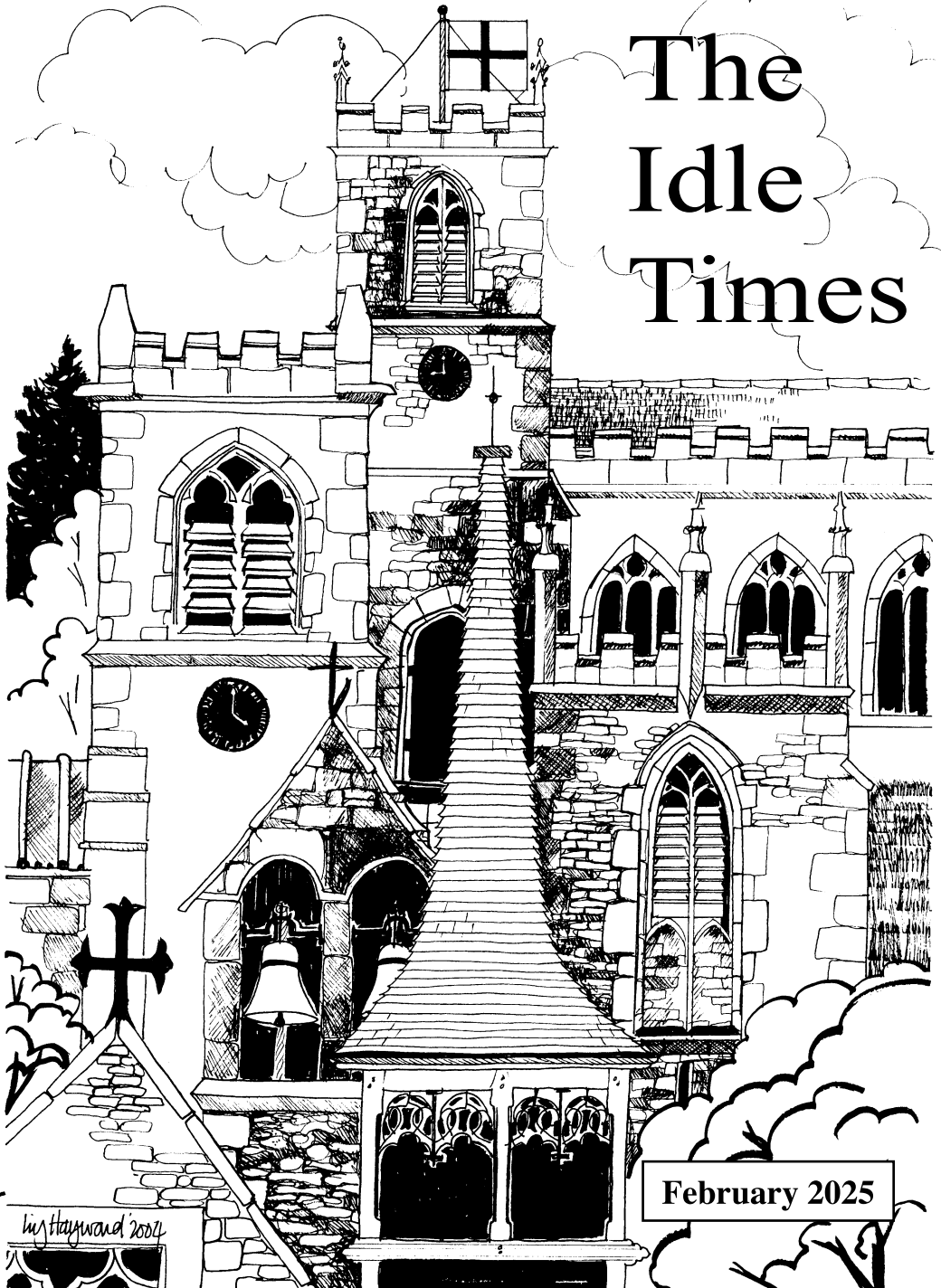


# The Idle Times





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## Church Diary for February

<i><b>February</b></i>	<i><b>Time</b></i>	<i><b>Service</b></i>	<i><b>Venue</b></i>
<b>Sunday 2</b>	9.00am	Holy Communion	<b>Scofton</b>
	9.30am	Candlemass Service	<b>Sutton-cum-Lound</b>
<b>Sunday 9</b>	9.15am	Holy Communion	<b>West Drayton</b>
	9.30am	Songs of Praise	<b>Sutton-cum-Lound</b>
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	<b>Babworth</b>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<b>Eaton &amp; Gamston</b>
<b>Sunday 16</b>	9.30am	Worship for All	<b>Sutton-cum-Lound</b>
	10.45am	Family Service	<b>Elkesley</b>
	11.00am	Holy Communion	<b>Babworth</b>
<b>Sunday 23</b>	9.15am	Holy Communion	<b>Bothamsall</b>
	9.30am	Family Service	<b>Sutton-cum-Lound</b>
	10.30am	Morning Worship	<b>West Drayton</b>

**Idle  
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Please will you send any articles for the March 2025 edition of *The Idle Times* to **Francis Waite**, preferably by email to [fagrouting@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:fagrouting@tiscali.co.uk) by 21st February 2025.

The postal address for Francis and Alison Waite is: **6 Main Street, Bothamsall, Retford, DN22 8DT**  
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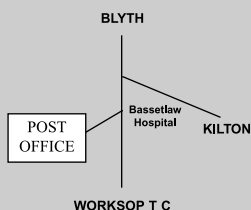
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## ELKESLEY SCHOOL NEWS

We have a fantastic new lego club for our Key Stage 2 learners where children get to plan and build creations based on set criteria. This is alongside our fantastic breakfast and after school clubs available every day for all children attending our setting.

Our high-quality music provision continues to produce some fantastic final pieces; with our music room boasting two drum kits, whole-class sets of guitars and ukuleles, a piano, keyboard and various other instruments! Our new music teacher is fantastic and provides a full session of music per class every week; additionally, our music tutor provides 1:1 and small group music tuition - and we will be finishing the half term with a music concert!

A massive well done and thank you to all of the children who entered the 500-word competition. All children were entered and all children received a prize from school. One of our children has been selected for the second round of judging. Out of tens of thousands of entries, they only select around 5,000 go through for the second round of judging – Well done!

Our new Little Acorns have settled in fantastically and are exploring the wonders of Early Years. We still have places available in our nursery. We can offer mornings or full days along with the option of breakfast and after school clubs. We take children from the first term after they turn 3. 15-hour and 30-hour codes can be used. Nursery places are managed by the school. If you are interested, please feel free to phone **01777838615** or email [office@elkesley.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@elkesley.notts.sch.uk) for more information. Our Early Year's lead is Mrs Griffiths who would love to show you around our setting!

Our children develop our school values throughout their learning and are: happy, welcoming, compassionate, resilient, talented achievers. They show a good understanding and application of the Fundamental British Values too: Democracy, Individual liberty, Respect/Tolerance and Rule of Law.

Remember to check out our Instagram: [@elkesleyprimary](https://www.instagram.com/elkesleyprimary) and/or our FaceBook: [facebook.com/ElkesleyPrimary](https://www.facebook.com/ElkesleyPrimary). For everything else, check out the website: <https://www.elkesley.notts.sch.uk/>



## All Saints Eaton News

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas activities and events including our coffee morning, carol service, Christingle, Christmas Day service and village carol singing. It was wonderful to welcome so many people to All Saints and we were also grateful to everyone who donated so generously towards our fund to improve our heating and lighting. We hope to have raised enough funds to be able to start work on this in March.

We were also pleased to be able to continue our charity donations this year. We donated £90 from our Remembrance Service to the Royal British Legion, £50 from our Christingle to The Children's Society, £82.50 to the Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust from Ride & Stride and £65 from our Harvest Festival to Tearfund, a charity which tackles poverty and injustice in the world's poorest countries. We were also grateful for your generous support which enabled us to make several donations of items to the Bassetlaw Foodbank from our Harvest Festival, our 'Reverse Advent Calendar' and throughout the year. We will continue to have a Foodbank collection box in the church porch for donations.

A box is also available in the porch for donations of used stamps to raise funds for RNIB. When saving your stamps, trim carefully around them, leaving approximately 1cm of paper around the edge. Please also separate them into British and Overseas (Channel Islands and Isle of Man count as foreign). As part of our journey to become an Eco Church, we also have boxes in the porch for recycling inkjet printer cartridges (to raise funds for Gamston St Peter's CofE Primary School), blister packs and pens.

We look forward to welcoming you to All Saints in 2025. As well as our regular services of Holy Communion and Evening Worship, we will continue to hold our popular coffee mornings from 10am until noon on the third Saturday of the month. Our Spring and Christmas Fayres will also be returning on 17th May and 16th November.

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## **Gamston St Peter's CofE Primary School News - January 2025**

Happy New Year to all from the staff, pupils, and families of Gamston St Peter's CofE Primary School!

As we step into 2025, it's a perfect time for reflection. Inspired by the poignant lyrics from "Seasons of Love," we are reminded that life is measured not just in minutes, but in moments of love, kindness, and connection. Over the past year, we have experienced countless moments that have enriched our school community, reminding us of the importance of cherishing each day and making a positive impact on one another's lives. As we embark on this new year, let us continue to fill our minutes with meaningful experiences that embody our values of Kindness, Hope, and Resilience.

We have kicked off 2025 with enthusiasm and excitement, and there are many wonderful activities on the horizon!

As we begin this new year, our Year 6 pupils recently returned from an exhilarating experience at the Sportshall Athletics event held at Retford Oaks Academy. The children showcased their talents in various field events, including the triple jump, javelin, wall jump, and standing jump, achieving some remarkable performances. They also participated in the sprint and relay races, demonstrating fantastic effort and exemplary behaviour throughout the day. We are thrilled to announce that their hard work has earned them a spot in the finals later this month!

In school, we are constantly revisiting our core values of Kindness, Hope, and Resilience – particularly through collective worship sessions. As we enter a new year, we reflect on the theme of hope—believing in the possibility of good outcomes and our ability to contribute to them. At the start of 2025, we hold in our thoughts the communities around the world facing challenges and uncertainty. We firmly believe that with steadfast hope amidst despair, resolute resilience when faced with adversity, and unwavering kindness in a world that sometimes lacks compassion, we can truly make a difference.

While we recognise the benefits of using social media to engage with our community, we are also committed to ensuring that our communication channels reflect our values. For this reason, we have taken the decision to deactivate our school X (Twitter) account - *@GamstonStPeters*. As always, we encourage you to stay connected and to keep up with all the exciting happenings at our school by visiting our school website [www.gamstonschool.co.uk](http://www.gamstonschool.co.uk)

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## **Elkesley Parish Council meeting 16 January 2025**

The meeting was Chaired by Cllr John Skelton, and with Cllrs O'Brien and Ashley in attendance was quorate. Apologies were accepted by the three unable to attend. District Councillor Adams was in attendance, but apologies were received from County Councillor Turner.

The Chair's report contained issues including efforts to retrieve the defibrillator from East Midlands Ambulance Service after its use in December, and work arranged by PCSO Holly Marsh at Crookford to deter off-road-ers. It is hoped that further plans can be discussed with Cllr Turner at next month's meeting.

Councillor Adams reported on a change in head of planning at the district council; Alastair Curran would now be overseeing the Brough Lane case. He also reported delays with the neighbourhood plan review, but promised

an update to circulate in due course. It is hoped to discuss the option to install district council CCTV in the village at the meeting next month.

As no members of the public attended, there was no open session held.

Planning application 24/01369/HSE was discussed, with no objections raised. The possible breach of planning conditions on Jockey Lane will be discussed at February's meeting.

December's minutes and January's financial reports were all approved, and are available to view on [www.elkesleyvillage.org.uk](http://www.elkesleyvillage.org.uk) along with other parish council information.

A Scheme of Delegation was adopted for the clerk, and plans were made to create a flag for the village flagpole to be situated near the shop.

A new area for the burial of ashes in the cemetery will be confirmed in February, and site visits are booked to consider an all-weather tennis court on the old BMX track.

The usual reports of debris on the roads and broken streetlights had been reported to district and county councils. Residents are reminded that they can report any issues themselves directly online to Bassetlaw District Council <https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/report-a-problem> and Nottinghamshire County Council <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/highways-hub>

Two training sessions from Retford Lions for CPR/defibrillator use are to be arranged for 26 February and 3 March. Full details will be made available on EPC website and on Facebook once confirmed.

A community 'Spring Clean' for June will be discussed at April's meeting.

February's meeting will be held on Thursday 13 February at 6pm. Residents are reminded they are welcome to attend and will be given chance to talk to the parish council about any issues they wish to raise.

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