

Colsterworth WI Meeting, October 21st 2025

Colsterworth Village Hall looked and smelt like a flower market as the ladies of the WI made their way in for their October meeting. The stage front was resplendent with buckets of foliage and greenery, the floor was covered with flower-filled containers and on the display table there were several pumpkins of various shapes and sizes. The room was set up as ever with tables and chairs, Liz was in her usual place ready to greet members and visitors and the competition tables were prepared. A lot of entries for the 'Flower of the Month' competition, not so many for the 'Item of the Month' competition. This month, to tie in with the speaker's subject, the theme was 'A Buttonhole'

At 2pm Helen, our President, opened the meeting welcoming 24 members and 3 visitors (who by the end of the afternoon had all become members). After presenting Eileen Smith with a birthday card and good wishes, Helen straight away introduced this month's speaker: Jane Hawksworth. As many know, Jane is a busy local flower arranger who, among other things, organises Christmas wreath making workshops at North Witham Village Hall as well as their monthly lunches and breakfasts.

Jane's subject was 'An Autumn Floral Demonstration'. The members warmed to Jane immediately, her relaxed and smiley style of chatting as she demonstrated, made the skill of flower arranging look deceptively easy! She explained that she had decided to produce something fun and light-hearted. Jane had already scooped out a large pumpkin and filled it with florist's foam to which she had added plant food. As Jane worked, she spun the pumpkin round on her turntable ensuring members could view the display from all angles. Reminding the ladies of the florist's golden rule: always work in odd numbers, she ruminated aloud on why some bunches of flowers are sold in 4s or 6s!

Jane had conditioned the flowers she was using by trimming the ends and soaking the stalks in water. She explained that the structure of the arrangement had to be addressed first: height and then width. As Jane worked she mentioned tips and hacks about floral art such as: if stems are cut at an angle they take up water more efficiently, it also helps to stabilise the stalk in the oasis. As she added what she called her key flower she explained that she was thinking 'triangle' The first flower upright, the second at an angle and the next making the third point. The flowers she was using were beautiful orange protea blooms, native of South Africa. As she added more flowers she suggested building up the rear with greenery. Chatting away to members who were absorbed in her demonstration- she paused, spun it round and, pronouncing it complete, showed her audience a stunning arrangement of autumn coloured flowers and foliage sitting proudly in a large pumpkin. It was beautiful.

For her next arrangement Jane chose a smaller scooped out pumpkin to which she had added a yoghurt pot and put clear Sellotape across the top. Chatting as she worked, Jane fixed the lid back on with cocktail sticks and proceeded to fill the pot with chrysanthemums cut down to just a few centimetres. She added roses and greenery to provide contrast and in no time at all another display was complete and spinning gently on the turntable as members applauded appreciatively. Jane answered questions from the ladies and generously donated the two arrangements to this month's raffle. Rosemary Haw gave the vote of thanks and members converged on the table to have a closer look at the displays.

Tea hostesses this month were Christine, Jenny and Heather. As usual, a delectable looking spread awaited the members who enjoyed the cakes, fruit and biscuits along with a cup of tea or coffee.

Jane judged the Item of the Month competition and members put a coin against their favourite bloom in the Flower of the Month competition. After the tea break Helen called the ladies back together for the business section of

the meeting. Dealing quickly with the correspondence received, Helen mentioned that four members were joining the trip to the National Arboretum at the end of October. As expected, the Ely Christmas Market trip also organised by the South Lincs Federation was vastly over-subscribed and only three Colsterworth members had been successful in the ensuing ballot. Mention was made of other forthcoming events, a fund-raising fashion show at Pinchbeck, a wreath making session at Frampton, an exhibition of 'Strictly Come Dancing' costumes at Stamford and a lunch at Belton Golf Club. Such a wide variety of activities on offer, something for every member.

A report on the recent, most enjoyable, visit to Cranwell Aviation Museum was given by Rosemarie Everitt. Members were reminded about the upcoming coffee morning raising funds to be divided between Colsterworth WI and Lincolnshire Bloodbikes. This event will be held at the White Lion pub by kind permission of Phil and Bob. Mention was also made of the 108th Anniversary Lunch which takes place at the same venue on 27th November. Because of this lunch engagement there will be no general meeting in November. The December meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th at 2pm and will be a Social afternoon with entertainment by the InVoice Choir.

The results of the competition were announced. The Item of the Month- a buttonhole was won by Rosemary H with Rosemarie E as runner up and Liz won the Flower of the Month with Shirley and Brenda in second place as they received the same number of votes. The eagerly awaited raffle was called with Pamela and Heather as the lucky winners of the beautiful arrangements so generously donated by the lovely Jane. There were seven other winners. After a most entertaining and instructive meeting, Helen wished members a good afternoon and closed the meeting at 4pm

Colsterworth Women's Institute

Diary dates

16th December – Social Afternoon with entertainment by InVoice choir



Colsterworth & District Parish Council

NORTH WITHAM AND LOBTHORPE

Parish Councillor Casual Vacancy

Parishioners/Residents willing to be co-opted or stand for election to the Parish Council should make application to:

Sue Grant Clerk to Colsterworth and District Parish Council.

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Tel: 01476 861888

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COLSTERWORTH

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Tel: 01476 861888

Christmas Tree Festival

Once again, we will be holding the now traditional Christmas Tree Festival in the Church of St John the Baptist, Colsterworth. The church will be open on Friday the 19th December, from 10am to 4pm to allow people to put their display in and trees will be switched on once they have all been installed later that day. The display will run until 5th January, when the trees will be put away for another year.

This event always receives good support and is a delight for people to come and visit. Trees are welcome from organisations, groups and individuals. Anybody wanting to take part please contact Jackie Taylor on 07535 691136.

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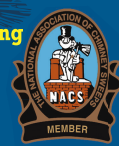
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Date	Opening Hours	Food
Mon 22nd Dec	12 – 9pm 12-3pm	5pm-8pm
Tues 23rd Dec	12 – 11pm	12-3pm, 5pm-8pm
Christmas Eve	12 – 11pm	12 – 6pm
Christmas Day	11am – 2pm	No Food
Dec Boxing Day	12 – 9pm	12 – 6pm
Sat 27th Dec	12 – 11pm	12-3pm, 5pm-9pm
Sunday 28th Dec	12 – 8pm	12 – 4pm
Mon 29th Dec	12 – 9pm	12-3pm, 5pm-8pm
Tues 30th Dec	12 – 9pm	12-3pm, 5pm-8pm
New Years Eve	12 - Late	12-6pm
		8pm – 10pm (pizza only)
Thurs 1st Jan	12 – 9pm	12 – 6pm
Fri 2nd Jan	12 – 11pm	12-3pm, 5pm-9pm
Sat 3rd Jan	12 – 11pm	12-3pm, 5pm-9pm
Sun 4th Jan	12 – 8pm	12 – 4pm
Mon 5th Jan – Sunday 11th Jan	CLOSED	

Winter Opening Hours Starting Mon 12th Jan

Day	Opening Hours	Food
Monday	12 – 11pm	12 -3pm
Tuesday	CLOSED	
Wednesday	12 – 9pm 1	2-3pm, 5pm-8pm
Thursday	12 – 11pm	12-3pm, 5pm-9pm
Friday	12 – 11pm	12-3pm, 5pm-9pm
Saturday	12 – 11pm	12-3pm, 5pm-9pm
Sunday	12-8pm	12 - 4pm

Christmas Fayre Menu

Being Served 1st Dec – 23rd Dec

Booking Required

(see website or leaflet for full details).

Temporary traffic restriction: Colsterworth

Reference: TTRO/TTR013608

Organisation responsible for restriction: Lincolnshire County Council

Reason for restriction: Highways Maintenance

Nature and location of restriction:

Road closure Order - A151 (between A1 Southbound junction and A151 Roundabout)

Period of restriction:

08/12/2025 - 09/12/2025

20:00 - 06:00

Alternative route or access arrangements:

Diversion routes and vehicular or pedestrian access arrangements will be signposted.

This information is also available in map form at

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/roadworks

If you have any queries, or require further information, please contact the LCC Customer Service Centre on **01522 782070**.

Temporary traffic restriction: Colsterworth

Reference: TTRO/TTR013611

Organisation responsible for restriction: Lincolnshire County Council

Reason for restriction: Highways Maintenance

Nature and location of restriction:

Road closure Order - B676 Bourne Road (between Corporation Drive and A1)

Period of restriction:

12/12/2025 - 13/12/2025

20:00 - 06:00

(Restrictions to be implemented for 1 days as and when required during this period, signage detailing accurate dates and times will be displayed on site in advance)

Alternative route or access arrangements:

Diversion routes and vehicular or pedestrian access arrangements will be signposted.

This information is also available in map form at

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/roadworks

If you have any queries, or require further information, please contact the LCC Customer Service Centre on **01522 782070**.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS GRAND SWITCH ON

PLEASE JOIN US AT

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

**6.30pm FRIDAY 5th
DECEMBER 2025**

Official switch on by Sandra
Arnold and her team from the
Colsterworth Co-op.

WITH CHRISTMAS CAROLS FROM
COLSTERWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Colsterworth and District Parish Council

St John the Baptist Church

Colsterworth

Proudly Present



TO SING FOR YOU

7.30pm Saturday 6th December 2025

Tickets £10.00

Call Jackie Taylor 07535 691136 or

Peter Wheatley 07765 126402

THANK YOU!!

A PARISH COUNCIL BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE VOLUNTARY GROUPS, CLUBS, SOCIETIES, INSTITUTIONS THAT MAKE A "VILLAGE A VILLAGE". A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL PARISHIONERS.

COLSTERWORTH METHODIST CHURCH: A big thank you to Helen Scorrer, Pamela Harrison and their team of volunteers who provide the popular twice monthly Wednesday 'Open Door Lunch', 12 noon – 1.30pm and the also popular twice monthly Wednesday 'Games/Craft & Chat' afternoons 2pm – 3.30pm. Everyone is welcome and more volunteers to help would also be welcome.

HELEN'S HELPING HANDS: Continues to support lonely and vulnerable people within our community, thank you to Steve Bill and all HHH's volunteers.

THE WHITE LION; Bob and Phil took over the White Lion in 2022 and continue to make it the hub of village life. We thank them for the generosity of their time and access to space for various fundraising and community gatherings, we wish them and their staff a successful future.

St' JOHN the BAPTIST CHURCH: Thank you to Church Warden Peter Wheatley and the PCC members who ensure that the Holy Communion and Morning Prayer continue. Please contact the PCC if you wish to arrange a remembrance service.

Thank you also to those volunteers who carry out various jobs in the Church such as cutting the grass in the Church Yard, Clock winding, opening and closing the Church and keeping the colourful flower displays in the troughs on the railings watered and tendered.

IN TOUCH: As another year is almost at a close it is time to thank all those involved in the preparation and distribution of the monthly village magazine – 1,000 magazines each month. Thank you to Margaret Winn and husband Colin Russell who co-ordinate and sort the 1,000 In Touch copies delivering them to 20+ loyal volunteer helpers that distribute the village magazine through all kinds of weather. A special thank you to the editor Stuart Whitcombe for compiling the layout of the magazine, Life In Pictures for ensuring timely printing and delivery of the Magazines to Margaret & Colin for distribution to the volunteers and of course to our contributors and many advertisers for their continued support.

VILLAGE GRASS CUTTING & MAINTENANCE: A huge thank you to Dave Warden who has worked hard to and gone over and above to keep the village areas neat and tidy. 2025 saw ideal grass growing conditions with above average growth.

LITTER PICKING: Thank you to our community cleaners Kevin and Mark who help keep our streets free from litter. They also go that extra mile literally to clear litter from village verges discarded by selfish motorists. Please clean up after your dog and if the dog waste bins are full, please take your dog's waste home and deposit in your own bin. Thank you also to Graham Keiley who voluntarily continues to litter pick outside the areas that are not covered by Kevin and Mark.

COLSTERWORTH NATURE TRAIL: Our continued thanks go to Maurice and Jackie Taylor and the team of volunteers who spend many long hours improving access to the Nature Trail. Keep the good work up. Thank you to Pamela and Mark Harrison for hosting the Summer gathering.

COLSTERWORTH FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE (CFoR):

Thank you to the Founders of CFoR, David and Debi Heath French and all the members and supporters of CFoR who arranged this year's Festival. Special thanks to the volunteer road marshals, Graham Kiely and Ellena Waskett-Burt and Paul Cox for transporting the numerous road closure frames and signs to the specific locations.

War memorial Gardens - Thank you to Jackie Taylor who tends the gardens several times a year and. Also, to Mo and Jackie Taylor and Peter Smith for cutting the grass. Thank you also to Ian Haggerty who washes the Tommy bench, planters, Lone Tommy and War Animals figures.

Remembrance Poppies – Thank you to Jackie Taylor and her team of volunteers for decorating St John the Baptist Church with Remembrance Poppies and to the Colsterworth and Woolsthorpe by Colsterworth volunteers who kindly put up the Lamp Post Poppies.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS: Thank you to Chris Smith for-pat testing the lights, again without charge to the Parish Council and to our team of regular volunteers to ensure that the Yew trees in St John the Baptist Church cemetery were adorned with coloured lights. A big thank you to them all.

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE VERNON, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS DAVE BELLAMY AND BEN GREEN: Thank you for all their work representing the Parish Council at County and District level.

COLSTERWORTH AND DISTRICT PARISH COUNCILLORS: Thank you to all of the Parish Councillors who give their time generously and freely for the benefit of the community.

WE ARE LUCKY TO HAVE SUCH FRIENDLY HELPFUL PEOPLE WHO QUIETLY HELP OUR COMMUNITY. THIS IS A THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE THAT HAVE NOT BEEN MENTIONED.

Sue Grant Clerk to Colsterworth and District Parish Council. Tel **01476 861888** Email: clerk@colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk

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Contacts: Rector In Vacancy
Church Warden Peter Wheatley 07765 126402
Treasurer Carol Wheatley 07936 437018
Secretary Peter Baldock 860293
PCC Members Jan Sweetland 07969 666525

Services for December at St John the Baptist Church:

7 th December	11:00am Morning Prayer	Angela Grimwood ALM
14 th December	11:00am Morning Prayer	Peter Wheatley Churchwarden
21 st December	11:00am Holy Communion	Revd Jill Potts
24 th December	11:30pm Midnight Mass	Revd Jill Potts
28 th December	11:00am Morning Prayer	Steve Potts Reader

Carol Service - Date and time not yet finalised – to be advertised on Notice Boards and social media in due course.

OTHER EVENTS

Church Concert: 6th December 7:30pm Carpe Diem
See separate advertising on Notice Boards and In Touch

Church Cleaning: 9th December 9:30am with coffee and chat after

As we are without a resident vicar, our services are led by visiting clergy or lay volunteers, with tea, coffee and biscuits after each service. Wedding, Baptism or Funeral Services can be arranged, please contact Peter, Churchwarden.

For more information on services, or the church, please see social media, our website www.achurchnearyou.com/St-John-the-Baptist-Colsterworth or Peter, Churchwarden.

Minister: Rev'd Neil Maynard,
142 Princess Drive,
Grantham, NG31 9PY
Tel: 01476 564191
Email: neil.maynard@methodist.org.uk
Village Contact :
Pamela Harrison – 07716 427995



COLSTERWORTH METHODIST CHURCH December 2025

Our services will be in the church, however we will also be zooming 2 services a month from the building internet permitting. If you are interested in joining our services by zoom, please email helenscorror@outlook.com or phone 07921 914461 for more details.

Date	Time	Service	Preacher	Flowers
7 th	10:30am	Morning Worship	Rev'd Dawn Brown	Advent Candles
14 th	10:30am	Morning Worship	Rev'd Peter Sulston	Advent Candles
21 st	10:30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Neil Maynard	Advent Candles
24 th	6:00pm	Carols by Candlelight		Advent Candles
28 th	11:00am	Service at Parish Church		

Christmas Eve - Carols by Candlelight 6pm

All welcome to our service of readings, carols, poems and songs.

Open Door Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 3rd December 12 Noon – 1:30pm.

For regular attendees of our Open Door lunches, all places already pre-booked.
Our regular Open Door sessions recommence on 14th January.

Games/Craft & Chat Group – Wednesday 10th & 17th December – 2:00-3:30pm.

Bring your own craft along and join our group for a cuppa, a chat and maybe an opportunity to learn new skills.
Or alternatively come and have a chat over a game of dominoes. Everyone welcome.

Used Postage Stamps

We are collecting used postage stamps for the RNIB Open Christmas Stamp Appeal. Please contact Helen to arrange collection.

Remembrance Service Collection

Thanks to those who attended the Remembrance service. The collection raised £130.16 which we have sent to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Villages Diary December 2025

Wed 3 rd 12 noon-1:30pm	Open Door Lunch	Methodist Church Hall
Wed 10 th 2-3:30pm	Games/Craft & Chat	Methodist Church Hall
Thu 4 th 12-12:30pm	Mobile Library	Colster Way
Mon 8 th 7:30pm	Garden Club	Colsterworth Village Hall
Wed 17 th 2-3:30pm	Games/Craft & Chat	Methodist Church Hall
Tue 16 th 2pm	Women's Institute	Colsterworth Village Hall

Weekly

Mondays	10am-noon	FOCUS Kurling	Village Hall
	12:30pm	Merry Widow(er)s (1 st Monday)	White Lion
	6:30pm-7:30pm	Pilates	North Witham Village Hall
Tuesdays		Dementia Singing Group (1 st Tuesday)	South Witham Village Hall
	6pm-7pm	Yoga	Methodist Church
	6pm-7pm	Beavers (Term time)	Village Hall
Wednesdays	11:45am - 1:30pm	Open Door (2 nd & 4 th Weeks)	Methodist Church
	12:30pm	Lunch (3 rd Wednesday)	North Witham Village Hall
	6:30pm - 7:30pm	Pilates	Methodist Church
	2pm-3:30pm	Craft & Chat (1 st & 3 rd Weeks)	Methodist Church
Thursdays	10am-noon	Rolling Stones Kurling	Village Hall
	1pm	Free Chair Yoga (2 nd Thursday)	Methodist Church
	6pm - 7:15pm	Cubs (Term time)	Village Hall
	6:30pm-7:30pm	Pilates	North Witham Village Hall
	7:30pm-8:45pm	Scouts (Term time)	Village Hall
Fridays	7:30pm-9:30pm	Weekly Bingo	Sports & Social Club
Saturdays	10am-12noon	Football Coaching	Sports Field
	10am-11am	Breakfast (1 st Sunday)	North Witham Village Hall

Copy for next month's issue of In Touch must arrive by noon on Monday 8th December 2025

Email contributions to InTouchCopy@gmail.com

The deadline date is final and copy may not be included if there is a shortage of space.
Please submit your copy as early as possible.

Images and/or artwork submitted in digital formats **MUST** be at a resolution of 300dpi.

Ensure that you put your contact details on any submission.

Send or deliver hard copy to **5 Stephenson Close, Colsterworth NG33 5GP (Tel: 07773 230815).**

Remember to give dates of future meetings if you want them to appear in the Villages' Diary.
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