Issue 623 November 2026



News for the villages of Colsterworth, Woolsthorpe, Stainby, Gunby, North Witham and Lobthorpe

Edited by Stuart Whitcombe 5 Stephenson Close, NG33 5GP 0777 323 0815 InTouchCopy@gmail.com



Kirton Brass Band Concert

A fabulous evening in September where the villagers were royally entertained by the Kirton Brass Band. It was a very successful evening, the music was first class, as was the banter between Andy the Bandmaster and the audience. The event was organised to raise money for the Church of St John the Baptist and the village hall provided a magnificent venue for the event - almost identical to the church, apart from the heating, comfy chairs, food, toilets and bar!

Many thanks to the Colsterworth Sports and Social Club committee members who helped to make the event a success.

The next concert will be held on **Saturday 5th of December at 19:00 hrs** in the church, where you'll be entertained by the singing duo of Carolina and Emma. It's going to be a great night. See you there.
Tickets will be available in November from Jackie on **07535 691136** and Peter on **07765 126405**. Definitely one not to be missed.

Thanks to everyone, from Jackie and Peter.

White Lion
High Street, Colsterworth
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www.whitelioncolsterworth.co.uk/

See page six for opening hours

N.B. Last food orders taken 30 mins before the end of service

Quiz Night - Thursdays 8pm
Senior Citizens Meals - Mondays 12-3pm
(Excluding Bank Holidays)

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Parish Council Report

Parish Clerk - 01476 861888
clerk@colsterworthanddist-pc.gov.uk

Your headlines from the Parish Council (PC) Meeting 6th October 2026

Full minutes and reports are available on the Colsterworth and District Website
(Search 'Colsterworth and District Parish Council' and find the agendas and minutes under 'Council Business': **https://colsterworth.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/council-business**

Public Forum
One member of the public attended to request a one-off grant for a community project and was referred to the Parish Council Grants Application scheme.

Chair's Remarks
Cllr E. O'Neill (Chair) thanked everyone for coming and noted that the clerks' handover, from locum back to permanent clerk, will take place prior to the next meeting. Eleanor is ready to return, and it is hoped that both clerks will attend the meeting in November to complete the transition. He reminded attendees that the meeting is recorded for the purpose of accurate minutes. The recordings are destroyed when the minutes are agreed.

Lincolnshire County Council and South Kesteven District Councillors Report
SKDC Cllr B. Green reported: -

1. Confirmation from County Council has finally been received about addressing the drainage issue between High Dyke and the A1 (TTRO 017626). The road will be closed for 2 weeks from the 9th November. A query was raised about where the diversion will be taking traffic, so **CSCHighways@lincolnshire.gov.uk** will be contacted to find out.
2. The budget for the South Kesteven Community Fund has doubled in size to £200,000 and this is open for applications at any time.
3. No progress has been made on the kerbside battery collection.
4. The leader of Council survived a vote of no confidence. This decision cannot be revisited for 6 months.

SKDC Cllr D. Bellamy reported: -

1. Local Government Reorganisation for Lincolnshire has been postponed. It has been scrapped for 4 other counties. It means that there will be District elections in May 2027, but the length of term of office is unknown – it could be the full 4-years or it could be one year.
2. Official notification of the Stage 2 consultation period for the Western Marsh Grid upgrade has been circulated to Councillors. He attended the South Witham consultation event on Friday 2nd October. There is another event on the 17th October in Corby Glen. There were detailed diagrams on show. The main effect will be at Honey Pot Lane and across the A1 at that point. A substation/supply depot is due to be constructed on the southbound side and also a second one on the South Witham Road, close to a pill box and across a ridge and furrow field, which is of concern as the field will be destroyed. An access road will follow the entire length of the pylon line during construction and for future maintenance. The nature of the access road is unknown: track, gravel or tarmac. Each substation will also need balancing ponds built adjacent for drainage which also may cause an issue. Renewable energy projects are likely to also be built, especially close to the substations as these can link them to the system. It was felt that it is unlikely that this project will not get the go-ahead. DB will create a Council response to the consultation for PC approval. Closure date is 11:59pm 3rd November.
3. South Kesteven do not want any comments on this project unless they address specific issues. The long-term prospect is not for discussion.
4. The Local Plan review has stopped, and the department moved to a new system. A new timetable needs to be set up which has a 30-month timeframe. Some information can be transferred, but additional information will need to be sought. This means that there may be a rise in indiscriminate applications.
5. Nothing can be called in to a planning committee anymore. Comments can be submitted through invited consultation only.

Co-Option of a new Councillor for Colsterworth
it was unanimously agreed that the candidate be co-opted onto the Parish Council as a Councillor for Colsterworth. After co-option, Cllr Emma Rice joined the meeting.

New Defibrillators for Colsterworth and District
It was resolved to replace all the units with those recommended by LiveisLife. Funding options are to be explored so the units can be replaced on a rolling programme.

Tree Survey for the Parish
It was resolved to accept the quotes submitted for the tree survey and that this will now cover the whole of the Nature Trail.

Finance
The external auditor's report for accounts 2025/2026 and the Notice of Conclusion of Audit 2025/2026 were approved. Accounts for payment were approved by Council.

Updates for Council Administration
Policies:- CAD Grants Allocation, CAD Training and Development Policy, CAD Employment Policy, CAD Volunteer Policy, CAD Grants Application Policy, CAD Nature Trail Constitution, CAD Financial Reserves Policy, CAD IT and Email Policy, CAD Grant Application Policy, CAD Equal Opportunities Policy and CAD Publications Scheme were all renewed.

Clerk's Report & Day to Day Business
Summary below – Full details can be found on the Parish Council Website **https://colsterworth.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/council-business**

1. The Parish Council has withdrawn their application to establish the Village Hall as an Asset of Community Value for the time being.
2. The annual play park inspections will take place in November.
3. Play Park equipment has been repaired and benches

refurbished at Old Post Lane.

1. The rabbit population has been causing damage at the Stamford Road Allotments and surrounding fields.
2. A picnic table with plaque has been ordered for the Nature Trail.

Correspondence Received
Summary below: - Full details can be found on the Parish Council Website **https://colsterworth.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/council-business**

Council received details of correspondence relating to dog waste, the Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire Grid Upgrade Stage 2 Consultation, boundary concerns, speeding issues and planning applications.

To contact the acting temporary clerk, please email **clerk@colsterworthanddist-pc.gov.uk** or call **01476 861888** and leave a voicemail.

Highways & Footpaths Working Group Report
A major traffic issue was reported on the Bourne Road on Monday 21st Sept at 21.49.

TTRO 017626
Organisation responsible for restriction: Lincolnshire County Council
Reason for restriction: Drainage
Nature and location of restriction:
Road closure Order - B6403 Bridge End (Between A1 & a point 150m South)
Period of restriction:
09/11/2026 - 21/11/2026

All Fix My Street (FMS) Reports can be found at **https://fixmystreet.lincolnshire.gov.uk/**

SKDC Planning

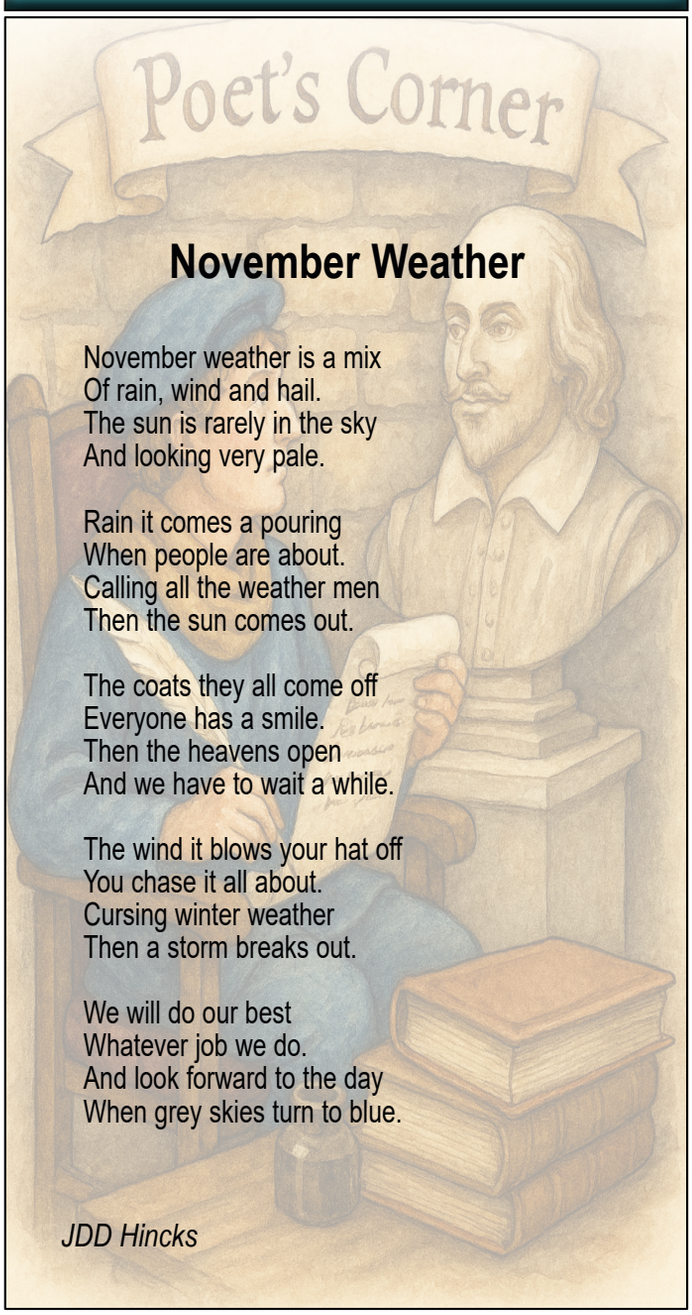
SKDC Planning Applications
S26/1677 - Regulation 5 notice of intention to install fixed line broadband apparatus - Bridge End, Colsterworth NG33 5NZ
S26/1676 - Regulation 5 notice of intention to install fixed line broadband apparatus - Bridge End, Colsterworth NG33 5NZ
S26/1592 - Two storey side extension, associated internal alterations, demolition of existing garage, and replacement windows - 32 Bourne Road, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, NG33 5JE
S25/1979 - Discharge of Conditions of planning permission S25/1979.
S26/1688 – Proposed extensions to rear of an existing detached dormer bungalow - 9 Bourne Road, Colsterworth NG33 9DJ

SKDC Planning Permission Granted
S26/1248 – Reinstatement of weighbridge and wheel cleaning facility – Colsterworth Triangle, Crabtree Road, Colsterworth.
S26/1340 – Construction management plan for 18no fixed self-storage units – Great North Road, Colsterworth
S26/1677 – regulation 5 notice for installation of broadband equipment – Bridge End, Colsterworth

Matters Requiring Attention
The issue of dog waste on the verges in Stainby needs to be addressed.

Date of the next Parish Council meeting is
Tuesday 3rd November 2026.
Methodist Church Hall,
Back Lane, Colsterworth.

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November Weather

November weather is a mix
Of rain, wind and hail.
The sun is rarely in the sky
And looking very pale.

Rain it comes a pouring
When people are about.
Calling all the weather men
Then the sun comes out.

The coats they all come off
Everyone has a smile.
Then the heavens open
And we have to wait a while.

The wind it blows your hat off
You chase it all about.
Cursing winter weather
Then a storm breaks out.

We will do our best
Whatever job we do.
And look forward to the day
When grey skies turn to blue.

JDD Hincks

Colsterworth WI meeting
Tuesday, 15th September 2026

It's the message no member of a WI Bookings Sub-Committee wants to pick up; but on Tuesday, 15th September at 7:30am, the morning of the meeting of Colsterworth WI, Gillian opened her e-mails and there it was. The speaker who had been booked for that afternoon was indisposed and unable to attend.

To add insult to injury the material needed for the contingency activities were safely locked away at a committee member's house while she was enjoying herself on holiday! What now! Any ideas was the cry?! As ever, the wonderful, resourceful President, Helen, came up trumps. Realising it was WI Day the following day, she suggested that members could acknowledge this day by taking part in a quiz about the history of the WI Movement and then enjoy a social afternoon with board games and chat. Ladies had already been e-mailed reminding them to wear purple. (Shades of that wonderful poem by Jenny Joseph spring to mind)

Accordingly, at 2pm 26 members and 1 visitor were welcomed to an unusually set out hall. After her introduction, Helen explained the reason for the change and outlined the afternoon's agenda. She then presented birthday cards and good wishes to Heather, Peggy, Rona and Margaret L.

Members divided into 3s for the quiz. Quizzes are always popular, it is interesting to see how much or how little is known about a particular subject. Surely a quiz on the history of the WI would pour forth knowledge and wisdom from all corners of the room, or maybe not. The 1st question was probably designed to lull members into a false sense of security. In which country was the WI movement started? Every group scored on that - of course all knew it was Canada. Sadly, after that matters went slightly downhill.

In 1921, WI member Margaret Winteringham became the 1st English woman to do what?

What was the subject of the 1922 resolution passed at that year's AGM?

In the 1950s, the WI was instrumental in setting up which organisation?

In which decade was the 1st resolution passed on water quality?

Guesses, educated, wild and otherwise abounded as the 10 questions were read out. Lots of talk, lots of discussion and quite a bit of laughter as members attempted each question. When Helen read the answers out groans, exclamations and more laughter ensued. Two teams managed 6 out of 10, 1 team managed 0 out of 10 with the rest somewhere in between. Helen then held up three books on the history of the WI and, with a twinkle in her eye, recommended that members should borrow and read them!

The answers for those who are interested are: be elected an MP, venereal disease, Keep Britain Tidy and the 1930s.

Already in groups the ladies selected a board game and settled down to a relaxing afternoon. Dominoes, scrabble and Uno seemed to be popular with lots of chatter thrown in. The refreshment break was announced with a reminder to vote in both competitions this month. Hostesses Jenny, Chris and Jil (with Gill as her runner) had provided an array of goodies for members to taste.

Helen called the meeting back together for the business section. Correspondence was dealt with, members being directed to the notice board where more details of the activities on offer were displayed. Chris gave a report on the September outing of the Walking Group. Another lovely day with an enjoyable walk along the canal followed by refreshments at the Duck pub. Rosemarie followed with a report on the recent Village Gala. This was a superbly organised event, blessed by fine weather and well supported by visitors. The WI tea and cake stall made £191, thanks to the members' generous donations of cakes, biscuits and scones. Half the proceeds will be donated to LEBBs with the remaining half to WI funds. The Colsterworth WI Anniversary Lunch is to be held at the White Lion pub on Thursday, 12th November. Menus will be available at the next meeting. Helen announced a proposed outing to Doddington Hall to see the Christmas decorations and visit the shops. There was quite a bit of interest in this and details will be finalised at the October meeting.

The results of the competitions were announced with Gillian B winning the 'Flower of the Month' competition and Sonia the 'Item of the Month' which was a Lincolnshire item to tie in with the booked speaker's subject. The raffle was called.

Helen thanked members for attending, announced our next meeting on October 20th, with the "Wild Woolers Sheep to Socks", and wishing everyone a good afternoon, closed the meeting at 4pm.

Colsterworth Women's Institute

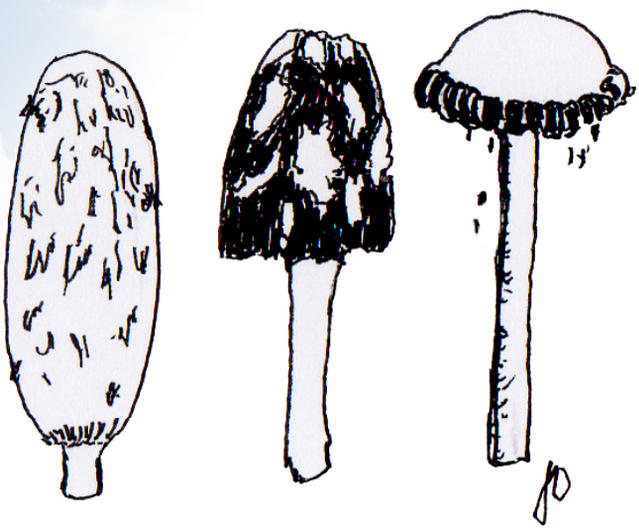
Diary Dates

Thursday 12th November
WI Lunch
The White Lion Colsterworth
12 for 12:30

Tuesday 15th December
Christmas Social,
Colsterworth Village Hall
2pm

Natural History Bulletin

November 2026

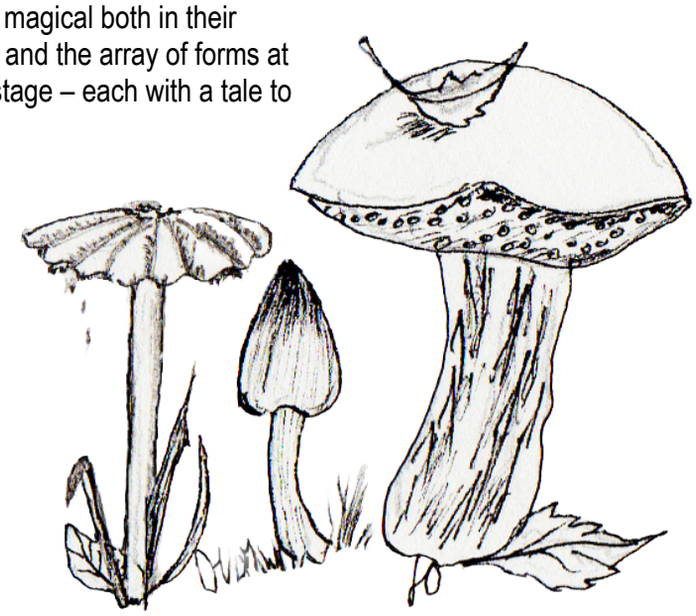


Since the first natural history bulletin in October 2006 “mushrooms and toadstools” have featured in autumn editions. Unable this year to go out and search the woods it was good to see one of the fungi with a cap and gills raised on a stem, which we refer to by these names. It was entirely white with a ring which could freely move up and down which helped to identify it as a “Parasol“ – and so separated it from other small white but deadly toadstools.



Parasol Mushrooms

Fungi seem magical both in their hidden lives and the array of forms at the fruiting stage – each with a tale to tell



Fungi are neither plants nor animals. Different right down to the structure and chemistry of their cells, they are separated into a third Kingdom. They spend most of their lives hidden underground as long, extremely fine threads (mycelia). What we see is their fruiting structures which disperse their spores. Known to live in mutual advantage with trees we are now learning their influence is in a vast mycorrhizal network in a wider web of support.

They transport chemical messages. They lock in huge amounts of carbon. They fix nitrogen into fertilising nitrates. A ‘fairy ring’ is left by some species where a circle of mushrooms has caused the grass to grow greener.

It has been a good year for butterflies and moths. Some are spreading north to us. Most have led a sunny adult life. The future for caterpillars is less certain. In September Great Mullein moths in large numbers, strikingly striped, were on their food plant ready to go underground to pupate and hatch in spring. In September I was brought a purple emperor butterfly found locally in a car, possibly retreating from the extreme heat. As I turned it in my hand, the purple on its upper wings refracted the light of the scales. What a wonderful adaptation to attract females as the males dance en masse above tall trees. At one time these butterflies, so hidden above in the trees were only discovered by tempting them down with rotten material (bananas a favourite) from which they lapped sweet juices. More recent discoveries have found they lay eggs on just two species of willow – being most exact in choice of site and securing the eggs. I wonder how long they have lived almost at eye level whilst we have been searching tall trees?

Jane Ostler

Dog waste bins provided by the Parish Council which are situated in the following locations.

Old Post Lane junction Water Lane

West End of the Nature Trail

The Nature Trail behind Woolsthorpe Play Area

Footpath 18 near river

Stamford Road near allotment

School Lane where it meets footpath 20



If the Parish Council Dog waste bins are full you can use an SKDC litter bin with the dog waste accepted logo.

The White Lion

Day	Opening Hours	Food
Monday	12 – 11pm	12 -3pm
Tuesday	CLOSED	
Wednesday	12 – 9pm	12-3pm, 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

USEFUL NUMBERS

Anti-Social Behaviour Reporting		08001 830279
Beavers, Cubs, Scouts	Dawn Prentice	07960 036477
Book Club	Anne Prothero	01476 860952
Bootcamp	John Crewe	01780 460017
Buckminster Primary School & Pre-school		01476 860315
Colsterworth Festival of Performing Arts	Julia Kerby	01476 860329
Colsterworth and District Parish Council	Eleanor Parfitt	01476 861888
Council - Lincolnshire C.C.		01522 552222
Council South Kesteven District		01476 406080
Councillor SKDC & LCC	Charlotte Vernon	07887 558015
Councillor SKDC	Dave Bellamy	07890 313561
Councillor SKDC	Ben Green	07471 838698
Doctor's Surgery Back Lane Colsterworth		01476 860243
Doctor's Surgery Bourne Road Corby Glen		01476 550056
Doctor's Surgery St John's Close Corby Glen		01476 550251
Floodline		03459 88188
FOCUS	Brian Ostler	01476 860465
Football and Coaching	Carl Adams	07521 148726
Gas Emergencies		0800 111999
Highways, Lincolnshire C.C.		01522782070
Ingle Charity Correspondent	Margaret Winn	01476860404
Little Legs Nursery	Sarah Moore	01476 860053
Luncheon Club	June Jessop	01476 861400
Mobile Post Office	Andy	01778 570221
Neighbourhood Watch	Steve Bill	01476 861399
Newton's Players	Paul Cope	07445 800163
Police Non-Emergency		101
Rolling Stones New Age Kurling	Sally Ogborne	07941532692
School, Colsteworth C of E Primary		01476 860569
School, Colsterworth PTFA		01476 860569
South Witham Children's Centre	Claire Hilliam	01572768876
Sports and Social Club		01476 860279
Village Archive Group	Margaret Winn	01476 860404
Village Hall, Colsterworth	Sandra Cox	07748090655
Village Hall, North Witham	Jane Clark	07762 851265
White Lion, Colsterworth	Bob Prentice	01476 861466
Women's Institute (Secretary)	Rachel Popham	01476 860312
Woolsthorpe Manor		01476 860338



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Our little café (inside and out) serves homemade food and cakes and afternoon teas, as well as our own blend of roasted coffee beans. These can be booked in advance if required on 550462 or through our Facebook page.

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Sat: 6.00am-1pm
Sun: 6.30am-1pm

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COLSTERWORTH

Festival of Remembrance

Military Plaques Required

Have you ever served in the Armed Forces or have a family member that has in the past? If so then we would love your contributions to our military wall within the White Lion.

If you have any Unit, Division, Corps or Single Service plaque then we would love to see them placed on the village military wall.

Any donations to Bob Prentice

This is in support of the Colsterworth Festival of Remembrance (CFoR).

Any questions to David Heath French at davidheathfrench@gmail.com

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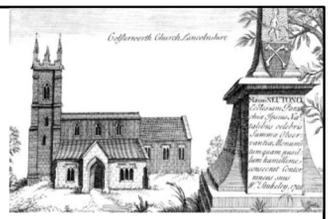
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Colsterworth, Grantham NG33 5NF
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Our church has been part of our community for more than 1000 years, with a tower added 700 years ago. Today it is part of a group of 7 rural parishes along A1 south of Grantham. For enquiries please contact Peter Wheatley, Church Warden



Contacts:	Rector	In Vacancy	
	Churchwarden	Peter Wheatley	07765 126402
	Treasurer	Carol Wheatley	07936 437018
	Secretary	Peter Baldock	01476 860293
	PCC Member	Christine Baldock	01476 860293

Services for November at St John the Baptist Church unless otherwise stated:

1st Nov	11:00am Morning Prayer	Angela Grimwood ALM
8th Nov	10:30am War Memorial Service then church Remembrance Service	Rev'd Neil Maynard Rev'd Sandra Elllison
15th Nov	11:00am Holy Communion	Rev'd Jill Potts
22nd Nov	11:00am Morning Prayer	Angela Grimwood ALM
29th Nov	10:30am Joint Service	**Methodist Church**

OTHER EVENTS

Church Cleaning: 10th Nov at 9:30am with coffee and chat after

Church Open: Daily 10:00am – 4:00pm

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 websi **www.achurchnearyou.com/St-John-the-Baptist-Colsterworth** or Peter, Churchwarden.

Mobile Post Office

Stopping by Colsterworth Bowls Club

Mon 0900 - 1100
Wed 1345 - 1545
Fri 0900 - 1100

Tel: 0159 240201



NORTH WITHAM VILLAGE HALL

Contact Jane Clark on **07762 851265**, **north.witham@gmail.com** for Village Hall matters and bookings

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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
November 2026

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 **07921914461** for more details.

Our services for November are:

Date	Time	Service	Preacher	Flowers
1st	10:30am	Morning Worship	Elaine Robinson	Gill Senescall
8th	10:45am	Remembrance Service – at War Memorial followed by service in the Parish Church		
15th	10:30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Christine Fox	Margaret Winn
22nd	10:30am	Morning Worship	Ian Thacker	Lynne Lewis
29th	10:30am	United Service	Rev'd Ray Hinch	Advent Candles

Open Door Lunch –Wednesday 11th & 25th November 11:45am – 1:30pm.
During the Winter months we will be opening over lunchtime and serving soup and a roll followed by either a hot pudding or cake plus of course offering lots of chat. We welcome people of all and no faith to join us and of all ages. Our book and jigsaw library will be available for you to browse and borrow from.

Games/Craft & Chat Group – Wednesday 4th & 18th November – 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.

Do you play a musical instrument?
Would you like to join our small group of musicians to play at the Christmas Eve Village Carols by Candlelight Service at 6pm?
For more information, contact Pamela Harrison on **07716 427995**.

Villages Diary November 2026

Wed 4th	2-3:30pm	Games/Craft & Chat	Methodist Church Hall
Thu 5th	12noon-12:30pm	Mobile Library	Colster Way
Wed 11th	11:45 -1:30pm	Open Door Lunch	Methodist Church Hall
Thu 12th	12 for 12:30pm	WI Lunch	The White Lion
Wed 18th	2-3:30pm	Games/Craft & Chat	Methodist Church Hall
Wed 25th	11:45 -1:30pm	Open Door Lunch	Methodist Church Hall
		December	
Tue 15th	2pm	WI Christmas Social	C'worth Village Hall

Weekly

Mondays	10am-noon	**FOCUS Kurling**	Village Hall
	12:30pm	**Merry Widow(er)s** *(1st Monday)*	White Lion
	6:30pm-7:30pm	**Pilates**	North Witham Village Hall
	7pm - 8pm	**Tigers Dance Class** Alternate Mondays, not term time.	Village Hall
Tuesdays		**Dementia Singing Group** *(1st Tuesday)*	South Witham Village Hall
	1pm	**Free Chair Yoga** *(2nd Tuesday)*	Methodist Church
	6pm-7pm	**Yoga**	Methodist Church
	6pm-7pm	**Beavers** *(Term time)*	Village Hall
Wednesdays	**11:45am -1:30pm**	**Open Door** ***(2nd & 4th Weeks)***	**Methodist Church**
	12:30pm	**Lunch** *(3rd Wednesday)*	North Witham Village Hall
	6:30pm -7:30pm	**Pilates**	Methodist Church
	2pm-3:30pm	**Craft & Chat** *(1st & 3rd Weeks)*	Methodist Church
Thursdays	10am-noon	**Rolling Stones Kurling**	Village Hall
	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			
Saturdays	10am-12noon	**Football Coaching**	Sports Field
	10am-11am	**Breakfast** *(1st Sunday)*	North Witham Village Hall

Copy for next month's issue of In Touch must arrive by noon on
Tuesday 10th November 2026
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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