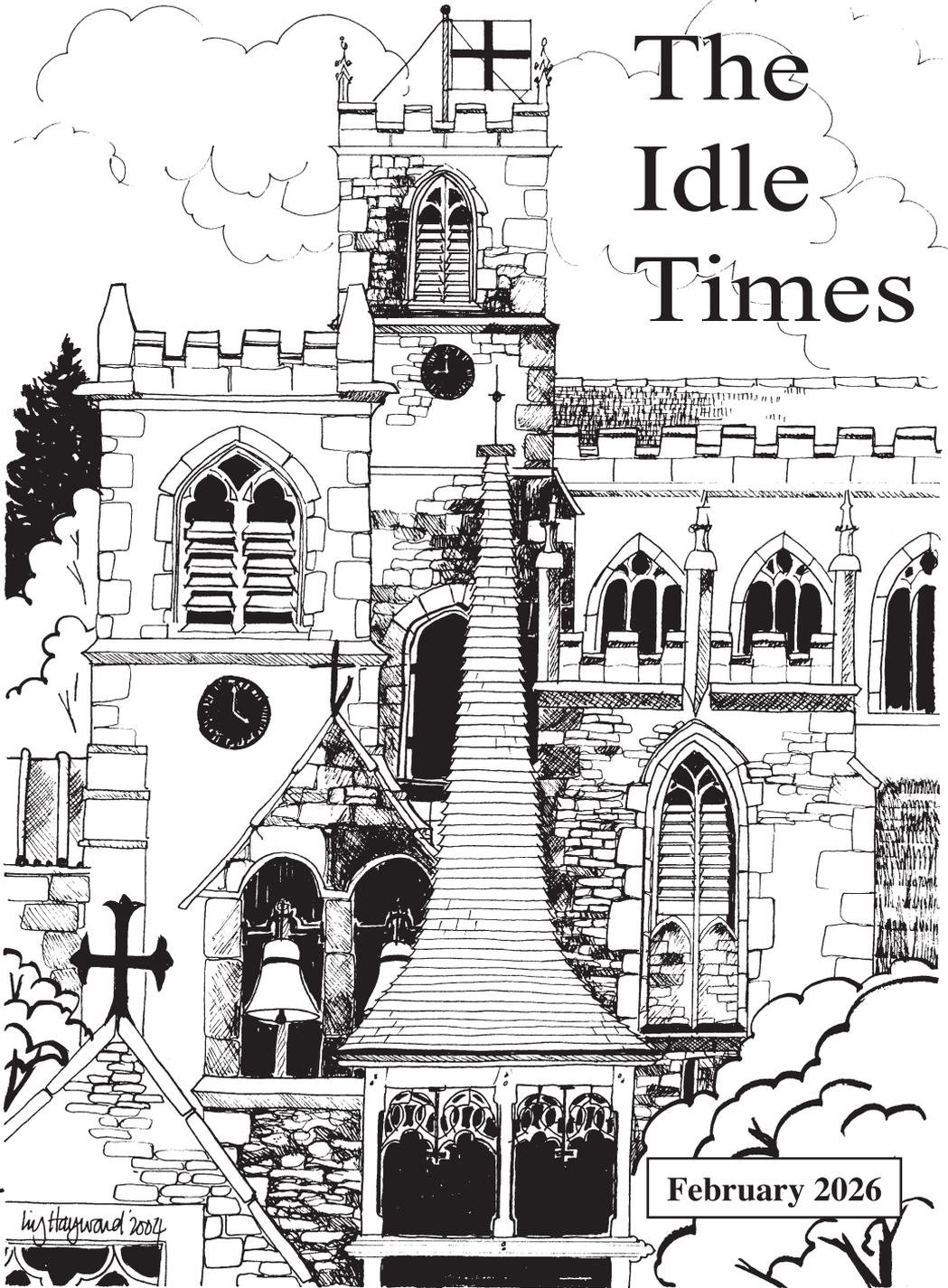


The Idle Times



February 2026

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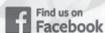
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Church Diary for February

<i>February</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Venue</i>
Sunday 1	9.00am 9.30am	Holy Communion Candlemass Service	Scofton Sutton-cum-Lound
Sunday 8	9.15am 9.30am 11.00am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Songs of Praise Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	West Drayton Sutton-cum-Lound Babworth Eaton & Gamston
Sunday 15	9.30am 10.45am 11.00am	Worship for All Family Service Holy Communion	Sutton-cum-Lound Elkesley Babworth
Wednesday 18	6.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service	Eaton & Gamston
Sunday 22	9.15am 9.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion Family Service Morning Worship	Bothamsall Sutton-cum-Lound West Drayton

**Idle
Times
Copy
Date**



Please will you send any articles for the March 2026 edition of *The Idle Times* to **Francis Waite**, preferably by email to fagrouting@tiscali.co.uk by 21st February 2026.

The postal address for Francis and Alison Waite is: **6 Main Street, Bothamsall, Retford, DN22 8DT**
Telephone: **01623 861579**



ELKESLEY
MEMORIAL
HALL

The New Year Eve party was fabulous - thanks to those who organised it.
Do you have any time to spare? We are always keen for help with:

- Organising or assisting with events
- Helping behind the bar
- Supporting Chatty Friday
- Cleaning
- Fund raising
- Maintenance
- Gardening
- Advertising/marketing

Monday:	Brownies	5.00 – 7.30pm
Tuesday:	Post Office	3.15 – 4.45pm (in the car park)
Wednesday:	Village Singers	7.30 – 8.30pm
Thursday:	Post Office	9.00 – 10am
Friday:	Chatty Friday	12 noon Bar open, 6.30 – close

Come in for a chat, a game of pool, darts, dominoes etc.

We serve draught lager, bitter and cider as well as spirits and all the usual soft drinks.

Under 14 pool competition on Friday 13th – starting at 6.30 (practice on Friday 6th Feb).

Please register your interest on our Facebook page.

Yorkshire Wraps and Tats are coming back to the Hall on Friday March 6th

Contact: elkeslymemhall@outlook.com & info on Elkesley Memorial Hall Facebook Page

Gamston St Peter's CofE Primary School News

'Be the best you can be!'
Kindness – Resilience – Hope

Happy New Year from all of us at Gamston St Peter's CofE Primary School!

As we welcome 2026, it's a wonderful moment to pause and reflect. Inspired by the heartfelt lyrics of Seasons of Love, we are reminded that life is measured not just in minutes, but in moments filled with love, kindness, and connection. Over the past year, our school community has shared countless such moments, enriching us all and underscoring the importance of cherishing each day and making a positive impact on one another.

Looking ahead, let us continue to fill our minutes with meaningful experiences that reflect our core values of Kindness, Hope, and Resilience.

To kick off the year with great energy, a determined team of 13 Year 5 and 6 pupils recently represented us at the Sportshall Athletics Finals at Retford Oaks. They competed across a variety of track and field events designed to challenge different skills. The field events included foam javelin throws, standing long jumps, and speed bounce, while the track events featured sprint and relay obstacle races. This team competition relies on every point, and our pupils performed brilliantly, competing against much larger schools from across Bassetlaw (some with over 500 pupils).

Within school, our core values continue to be a central focus, especially during collective worship sessions. As we start this new year, we reflect deeply on the theme of hope; believing in positive outcomes and our power to help bring them about. Our thoughts are with communities worldwide facing challenges and uncertainty. We firmly believe that with steadfast hope in difficult times, resilient determination in adversity, and kindness in a world that sometimes feels harsh, we can truly make a difference.

We warmly invite you to stay connected and keep up with all the exciting events and news by visiting our school website: www.gamstonschool.co.uk.

Here's to a hopeful and inspiring 2026 for all!



Thank You

If you drove through Gamston during late November and December you would have seen the Churchyard lit up by our **Christmas Star Appeal**.

This year a massive £570 was raised towards the ongoing maintenance of our churchyard.

Thank you from the Churchwardens of the Parish of All Saints, Eaton & Gamston.

Life at St. Peter's in Gamston

The Friends Group would like to thank everyone who attended Gamston village events at St. Peter's during December. Also acknowledgement to the members of the friend's group who decorated the Church for Christmas.

We had a very successful Foodie Friday on 5th December with our biggest turnout yet, over 30 people enjoyed the shared festive food and drink late into the evening.

On the evening of Thursday 18th December we had another excellent turnout for Carols by Candlelight which this year was followed by mulled wine and mince pies, etc. giving everyone time to chat and pass in seasonal greetings.

On Friday 19th December St. Peter's was again packed with nearly 200 people for the School end of term and Christmas Service. Thank you to the pupils, staff and family members who attended which made for a wonderful end to the school term, but also a fantastic start to Christmas.

Look out for 2026 dates coming soon



Elkesley School News

Wow! What a fantastic start to 2026!

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 – with recent additions of whole-class sets of Djembe Drums and xylophones! Every child receives 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!

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 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, Mutual Respect/ Tolerance and Rule of Law.

Our PTA have also run some fantastic events for the whole school community and have raised money to buy some amazing additional resources for school.

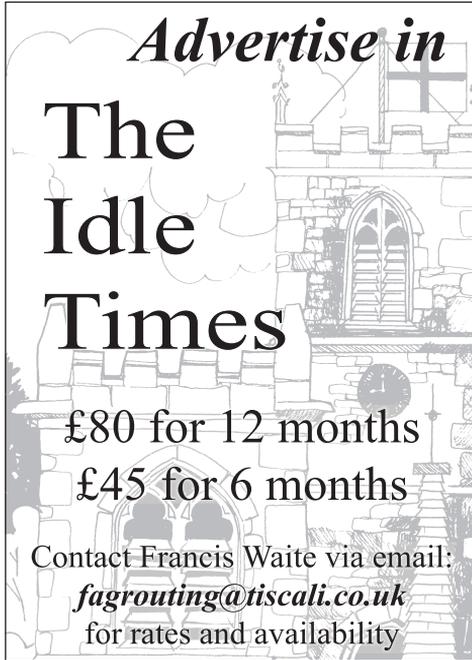
Remember to check out our Instagram: [@elkesleyprimary](https://www.instagram.com/elkesleyprimary) and/or our FaceBook: [facebook.com/ElkesleyPrimary](https://www.facebook.com/ElkesleyPrimary). For everything else, check out the website: <https://www.elkesley.notts.sch.uk/>

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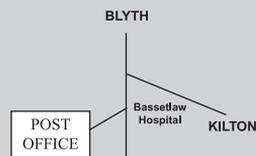
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