

Hoxne Benefice Newsletter

* Athelington * Denham * Horham * Hoxne
* Redlingfield * Syleham * Wingfield

April 2015

Most of our parish churches have annual meetings in April. Everyone's very welcome to attend and details are displayed in each church. Parish churches are effectively small charities, so it is quite right that their affairs are regulated and scrutinised with church wardens, PCC members, secretaries and treasurers all being chosen during the course of the meeting.

Even though annual meetings provide a chance to review and reflect upon what has happened in the past year and to start to see where God might be at work in the future, there is often a lingering thought that they are dull and life-sapping. Why then do they always seem to happen so near to Easter, the time when we celebrate the life that we have in Christ and the joy of the resurrection?

One of the striking things about St John's gospel is that for all its drama, and remember this is the gospel we hear at Christmas with its powerful opening, 'In the beginning was the Word...', is how 'mundane' the resurrection appearances are. Jesus appears to the disciples in a room, or at the end of a fishing trip or takes Peter for a walk. And St John is not alone. In St Luke; Jesus appears on the dusty Emmaus road. It would seem that we are more likely to meet Christ in the ordinary than the extraordinary: one of the prayers we often use in church asks God to help us look for the signs of the coming of his kingdom - it is quite possible that we could see those signs in something as routine as an annual meeting!

Rev Michael's rest days/holidays: Weds 8, Thurs 9, Thurs 16 to Weds 22, Thurs 30 April.

Revd Michael Womack. St Andrew's House, Vicarage Road, Wingfield, Suffolk IP21 5RB.
01379 388889, hoxnebenefice@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Athelington: St Peter. Evelyn Adey 01728 628428, John Davy 01379 742878

Denham: St John the Baptist. Michael Reeves 01379 668179

Hoxne: St Peter & St Paul. Brian Chester 01379 669157, Guy McGregor 01379 668434

Horham: St Mary. David Spall 01379 384239, Daphne Harvey 01379 384216

Redlingfield: St Andrew. Hazel Abbott 01379 678217

Syleham: St Margaret. Mary Lewis 01379 669258, John Leader 01379 668205

Wingfield: St Andrew. John McCracken 01379 384181, Michael Harvey 01379 586355

April 2015	Sun 5 April Easter Day	Sun 12 April 2 nd Sunday of Easter	Sun 19 April 3 rd Sunday of Easter	Sun 26 April 4 th Sunday of Easter
Athelington			9.30am Holy Communion	
Denham				11.15am Family Service
Horham	11.15am Holy Communion	9.30am BCP Communion		11.15am Family Service
Hoxne	11.15am Family Service followed by Communion	11.15am BCP Matins	8.30am BCP Communion 11.15am Service for Gardeners	10.00am Family Service
Redlingfield	9.30am Holy Communion			10.00am Morning Prayer
Syleham	10.00am Celebration of Easter and the bell tower work 4.00pm Messy Church		11.15am BCP Matins	9.30am Holy Communion
Wingfield	8.30am BCP Communion 10.00am Family Service	11.00am Holy Communion	10.00am Family Service	6.30am 'Tudor' Evensong

Wingfield Barns - Tel: 01379 384505

* Community Art Exhibition in Gallery 1 from 28 March - 11 April

* Friday 15 May, 7.30pm, Open Space Theatre presents *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Tickets £10 and £8.50 (concs). A maximum of 50 tickets is available for this performance. Phone box office or email enquiries@wingfieldbarns.co.uk

Wingfield College - Invitation to View

Thursday 21 May, Saturday 7 June, Friday 11 September. Advance bookings on 01206 573948. www.mercurytheatre.co.uk

Extra cleaning of Wingfield church

Fri 24 April, 11am, and then recover in the De La Pole Arms.

There will be a garden party at the home of Richard and Alison Thurlow, Green Farm, Syleham IP21 4LT on Saturday 30 May, 2 - 5pm with afternoon teas (and fizz!). Stalls will include a bumper raffle, cakes and traditional fete games etc. Proceeds will be shared between Nelson's Journey (a local charity that supports bereaved children) and the Gissing Ward, Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital.

The joint annual meeting of the Hoxne Parochial Church Council and the Friends of the Church will be held on Wednesday 15 April at 7pm in St Edmund's Hall.

Please 'like' our facebook pages. Hoxne, Athelington and Horham churches now have active facebook pages. Please find them, 'like' them and you will be updated regularly with their news.

The Hoxne Benefice Newsletter is found in all 7 churches, but you can get it early by receiving it by email.

**To be on the email list, (bcc to hide addresses), please send an email to hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com
Deadline for May HBN is 19 April.**



Services for Holy Week

Tuesday 31 March

Taize at **Denham** 7.30pm, a service of simple chants and songs, readings and silence.

Wednesday 1 April

Lectio Divina at **Athelington**, 7.30pm - Don't be put off by the Latin! A very old practice of listening to a slow reading from the Bible paying particularly attention to a word that 'speaks' to us.

Maundy Thursday, 2 April

We will gather as a benefice for Maundy Thursday at **Syleham**, 7.30pm, where we will celebrate Communion, including the unique and poignant line, 'on the night that he was betrayed, that is this night'.

Good Friday, 3 April

at **Hoxne**, 9.30am and **Wingfield** at noon: services of reading and meditation and from 7.30pm the stories around Jesus' death will be read in **Horham**.

Easter Eve, 4 April

7.30pm in **Wingfield** church as we celebrate Easter with a service of light, renewal of baptism vows and the first Communion service of Easter.

Evening communion at Denham

Tues 14 April, 7.30pm, a gentle, meditative communion for a spring evening.

Syleham Soup and Walk Saturday 25

April. Home-made soups, bread and cheese served at the village hall from 12 noon to approximately 2pm. Footpath maps with walk suggestions, and a children's trail, will be available from 11.30am and there will be the option of one group walk of just under 4 miles, leaving the hall with a leader at 11.45am. Well-behaved dogs on leads welcome. £5 adult, £2 child. Proceeds will help to complete payment for tower repairs. Advance notice: Thursday 25 June, **Syleham** church history talk with Roy Tricker and architect Matthew Thomas.

Redlingfield PCC will be hosting another one of their very popular quizzes in The Old School Hall, Horham: Sat 18 April 7 for 7.30pm. Bar open, food at the break and lots of fun. For further details please contact Hazel Abbott 01379 678217 or Chrissie Sandford 01728 628474.

As in previous years we will be going to **Walpole St Peter Flower Festival**, known as the Cathedral of the Fens. This will be on Monday 1st June, picking up in Hoxne and Dickleburgh. (Time tba). After lunch we go on to Sandringham. The coach, lunch and driver's tip is included in the price of £18 pp. Lunch consists of ham or cheese salad, roll and butter, pudding, tea or coffee.

There will be lots of stalls in the church grounds for you to peruse, and also a marquee selling refreshments when we arrive. 42 seats are already booked so if you would like come, please book soon. Call me, John Chapman, on 01379 740821. Any profit made will go to my bone marrow cancer group (Myeloma) at the Big C, NNUH.

Plenty of coffee to drink!

*Every Wednesday morning from 10am there is coffee, cookies, cakes and chatter in the Old School Hall in Horham.

*The Rural Coffee Caravan comes out of hibernation after Easter! Weds 1 April at Redlingfield, Tues 21 April at Wingfield, with news of what's happening around and about us. Coffee and biscuits. Donations welcome.

*Friends of Hoxne Church coffee morning, Sat 25 April.

Taize at Denham

Tues 31 March. The service is at 7.30pm with a rehearsal at 6.30pm. Singers and instrumentalists most welcome.

Messy church

Easter Day, 4pm, Syleham Village Hall, with the famous scrummy tea.

Thank you to all who came to Athelington's Mothering Sunday service. A special thanks to the children who made posies. We all enjoyed the home baked refreshments.

Wingfield Safari Supper

Saturday 16 May, 7pm. £12 per head. Contact Sharon Alldis for more info. 01379 384854.

Wingfield Tudor Evensong

For the start of this summer's evensongs in Wingfield, we're having a real treat: a medieval evensong (Sunday 26 April, 6.30pm). The Wingfield organ will be used and our Archdeacon (and very musical) the Ven Ian Morgan will officiate.

Events planner

Please send all dates and details of any events around the benefice this year to hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com