

Hoxne Benefice Newsletter

Athelington * Denham * Horham

* Hoxne * Redlingfield * Syleham * Wingfield

April 2018

April 2018	1 April Easter Day	8 April Easter 1	15 April Easter 2	22 April Easter 3	29 April
Athel'ton			9.30am* Holy Communion		11.15am Benefice Communion in Athelington
Denham				11.15am* Family Service	
Horham		9.30am* BCP Communion		11.15am Family Service	
Hoxne	11.15am* Holy Communion	11.15am BCP Matins	8.30am BCP Communion*	10am Family Service	
Redl'field	9.30am + Holy Communion			10am Morning Prayer	
Syleham	9.30am BCP* Communion 4pm ~ Messy Church		10am Village Praise	9.30am+ BCP Holy Communion	
Wingfield	11.15am+ Holy Communion	11am * Holy Communion		6.30pm# Evensong	

Tuesday 10 April, 7.30pm midweek Communion at St John's Denham+. This gentle, reflective service continues on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, but with the longer, and hopefully warmer evenings, is back in the church building.

Key
*with Rev Michael, +with Rev Eleanor, ~ with Rev Michael and Rev Eleanor, # TBA

Easter meditation and champagne breakfast Easter Day, 7.45am at Sarah Buckley's, Gate House Farm, Syleham. IP21 5BZ

'I find that as I get older, I believe more and more in less and less, more and more'. A long-serving parish priest, previously a missionary in a remote area of Latin America, told me this and his words came back as I was talking with someone about how our faith grows and changes.

What the priest meant was that as time has gone by, his faith had been distilled down into a very small piece. This was the less and less, in the middle; things that had seemed so passionately important when he was younger had gradually fallen by the wayside and become distractions. However, the result of this distillation, was that the parts that he was left with, were so intensely important (2nd more and more) that he couldn't trade or negotiate on these points.

Not that he was the first person to have gone through such a development. There is a tale that when St John was an old man, the local Christians having grown tired of him saying how God was love and to love one another, kept pestering him for something new. Eventually, in his exasperation with this, he announced that he would give them a new commandment; they held their breath and waited, until he finally declared, 'A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so also you must love one another.'

This we will recognise from Jesus on Maundy Thursday and the message of Easter. More and more, I can confidently tell you less and less about Easter, but more and more I'm sure it's how God proclaims his total love for all creation - Happy Easter!

Reverend Michael

Rev Michael's rest days and days away from the benefice in April:
Mon 2, Tues 3, Weds 4, Tues 10, Thurs 19, Thurs 26 April.

St Andrew's House, Vicarage Road, Wingfield, Diss, IP21 5RB. 01379 388889, hoxnebenefice@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Athelington: St Peter. Evelyn Adey 01728 628428

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

Wingfield: St Andrew. John McCracken 01379 384181



Prayer breakfasts

Monday mornings - breakfast and prayers. We meet at 7.45am for breakfast; prayers start at 8.30am, using a Celtic pattern. We are always finished by 9am. Contact Rev Michael for the venue, as it changes.

Wingfield Poetry is back! A few years ago we ran a couple of very enjoyable poetry evenings at Wingfield Church.

Wingfield Poetry Evening is now back! Why not join in? - 7.30pm, Saturday 21 April, St Andrew's Church, Wingfield.

Read a favourite poem or piece of prose on the theme from darkness into light (interpret just as you like) or just come along to listen and enjoy. Entry free. Refreshments in the interval. Please contact Revd Eleanor Goodison to book your slot for reading on 07876 143579, eleanor.goodison@gmail.com.

Hoxne During the summer, new thinking will be given to the format of the 4th Sunday Family Service at Hoxne church. Our regular organist for the service, Tessa Bevan, can no longer visit Hoxne on that Sunday. Tessa and her family have joined in this worship for many years and will be much missed. **To allow space for this to happen, family worship will be suspended temporarily.** However, our neighbouring parish Denham holds its Family Service on that day and always welcomes additions to the congregation.

Visit easyfundraising.org.uk and enter Churches of the Hoxne benefice to help raise money for our churches when you shop online – at no extra cost to you.

There are paper copies of this newsletter in each church. Please email hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

Messy Easter for the benefice

Sunday 1 April, Easter Day, at Syleham village hall, 4pm. Come and join our growing group for lots of fun and a scrummy tea.

Redlingfield Quiz - Saturday 7 April, Horham Community Centre 7 for 7.30pm. A very enjoyable evening in a light-hearted atmosphere. Further details from Chrissie Stanford on 01728 628474, chrismstanford@icloud.com

The coffee caravan is back for the summer....

Redlingfield - on Wednesday 4 April from 10am until 12 noon. The caravan is a great source of local information as well as a chance for a chat over a drink and delicious cake with great company. Just come along and see for yourself... **also at Wingfield's** Castle Green on Tuesday 17 April, also 10am to 12 noon.

Coffee and internet café in the Old School Hall in Horham every Wednesday morning, 10.30am to 12 noon for delicious coffee and cake, good company and computer support.

A house group for the benefice is being launched on Thursday 12 April, meeting at 2pm at Barbara's home (Reading Hall, Denham). Our first study will be a six-session series *Surprised by Hope*, led via a DVD by Tom Wright, a former bishop of Durham: it should be engaging and thought-provoking! Sessions expected to be fortnightly but we will discuss future direction (time, venue and style) after this first series. All welcome; please contact Barbara Irwin, 01379 870500, cobowner@gmail.com or Mary Lewis, 01379 669258, mary.lewis43@icloud.com with queries.

Midweek Communion at St John's Denham, Tuesday 10 April, 7.30pm.

Easter Morning Meditation and

Breakfast 7.45am at the home of Sarah Buckley, Gate House Farm, Syleham Road Hoxne, Eye, IP21 5BZ.

Sarah's house is on the boundary of Syleham and Hoxne, so what better place to reflect on the boundary between life and death and night and day?

At the end of the meditation, breakfast will be served with sparkling drinks and the toast will be, as always, 'Alleluia! Christ is risen: he is risen indeed. Alleluia!'

Hoxne benefice Mothers' Union

The next meeting is Monday 16 April, 2.30pm at Time House, Low Street, Hoxne.

Friends of Hoxne church coffee morning in the church on 21 April, 10.30am to 12.

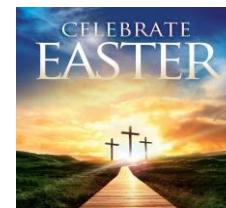
Film night Prince of Egypt, Friday 20 April, 7.30pm, Reading Hall, Denham. Please contact Barbara Irwin on 01379 870500 or cobowner@gmail.com.

Summer will come and with it Syleham's Garden Lunch, on Sunday 13 May. This year our generous hosts are Jim and Liz Woodger at Kindling, The Cross, Syleham IP21 4LN and we hope parking will be in the field opposite. Lunch 12.30 - 2pm, £12.50 per person (Under 5s free, older children £5). Select raffle and one or two stalls. All proceeds to Syleham Church Fabric Fund for our re-decoration project.

Hoxne Village Fete (for church funds) Saturday 23 May at Abbey Farm.

Sponsored Swim

We have booked an hour at Stradbroke Pool for a sponsored swim on the afternoon of Sunday 8 July, to help fund this year's internal re-decoration of Syleham church. Any keen swimmers like to join us? Minimum distance at least one length of the pool (20 metres) - otherwise, it is up to the swimmer - or to how many participants we get. Sponsor forms coming.



Maundy Thursday

Wingfield, 7.30pm Foot washing and Holy Communion

Good Friday

Hoxne, 9.30am Meditation
Wingfield, 12 noon Hymns and meditations
Horham, from 7pm Passion accounts and silent prayer

Easter Eve (Sat 31)

Denham, 7.30pm Service of Light

Easter Day

Gate House Farm, Syleham, 7.45am Meditation / breakfast
Redlingfield, 9.30am Holy Communion
Syleham, 9.30am BCP Communion
Hoxne, 11.15am Holy Communion
Wingfield, 11.15am Holy Communion
Syleham village hall, 4pm, Messy Church

Denham quiz

Despite dreadful weather, 100 people turned out to support the quiz held on the 17 March in aid of St John's Denham. Our Quiz 'Master' Jenny Hall set challenging but entertaining questions. Table fees and a raffle resulted in £600 being raised towards church funds. Our thanks for all their hard work go to Jenny Hall and Sharon Knights.

Syleham Call my Bluff (wine) was huge fun. Tasting wines were served with each course: bottles were not labelled and we had to guess which of the three 'wine-masters' was bluffing in the high-flown descriptions given. There was great hilarity when it transpired that the 'clergy table' had won hands down! The evening included an excellent supper and a persuasive raffle ticket seller, and raised £670.

Well done everyone! Superb results.

