



Hoxne Benefice Newsletter

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



December 2018

DEC 2018	2 Dec Advent and St Andrew	9 Dec 2 nd Advent	16 Dec 3 rd Advent	23 Dec 4 th Advent	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
Athel'ton	4.30pm* Advent Service		9.30am* Village Carol Service			
Denham		11.15am~ Benefice family @church service	3pm Carol Service*	11.15am* Holy Communion	2.30pm~ Live Nativity	
Horham		9.30am * BCP Holy Communion	4.30pm Carols by Candlelight	11.15am Family Service	11.30pm Midnight Mass+	
Hoxne	8.30am BCP Holy Communion+		11.15am * Holy Communion			11.15am* Family Communion
Redl'field	9.30am + Holy Communion					9.30am+ Family Communion
Syleham	3pm + Benefice Messy Church party		11.15am Christmas with the Amici Singers+			9.30am* BCP Holy Communion
Wingfield	11.15am+ Holy Communion	2pm Baptism~	4.30pm + Carols by Candlelight			11.15am+ Family Communion

Central to the Christmas story is a baby in a manger; a baby is such a potent symbol of life, growing, changing and developing. But, this hope and life is in the wrong place! It's not in a warm and safe room, rather the baby is in a manger. Not a good place to be a baby! But it is here that the new life has come and it is here that there is growth, potential and hope. It's certainly a very inconvenient place for the cattle who no doubt had plans (I assume cattle make plans) for a late night snack; perhaps that's why 'the cattle are lowing' in the famous carol. But they adjust and make room for the baby.

This month sees the biggest change in our service pattern across the benefice in five years. If you usually worship in Denham, Hoxne or Wingfield, please pay extra attention to the service list, of course everyone should do so with all the changes for the carol services. Why all this change and upheaval? Simply, to accommodate the new life, hope and potential of the younger families who are coming along to services such as Messy Church, hence the launch of family@church on 9 December, 11.15am in Denham (I'll leave you to decide if Denham equates to the manger or whether that is over-working the metaphor!!).

Christmas is about growth, growth is about change; this Christmastide, do we want to be the cattle making room for the new arrival, or will we side with the notorious dog in the manger and begrudge change and all the potential that comes with it? **Reverend Michael**

My rest days and days teaching in December are:

Sun 2 (but back for the Athelington Advent Service), Thurs 6, Thurs 13, Thurs 20, Weds 26, Thurs 27 and Sat 29 December.

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

and
Sunday 30 December, a benefice Communion Service at Wingfield at 11.15am, followed by refreshments.

* with Rev Michael + with Rev Eleanor
~with Rev Michael and Rev Eleanor

Church contacts:

Athelington: St Peter.
Denham: St John the Baptist.
Hoxne: St Peter & St Paul.
Horham: St Mary.
Redlingfield: St Andrew.
Syleham: St Margaret.
Wingfield: St Andrew.

Colin Palmer 01728 628747
Rev Michael
Guy McGregor 01379 668434, Wilf White 01379 668046
David Spall 01379 384239, Daphne Harvey 01379 384216
Hazel Abbott 01379 678217
Mary Lewis 01379 669258
Rev Michael



Saturday 1

Hoxne Christmas Fayre, 12noon at St Edmund's hall. Proceeds to Hoxne church.

Wednesday 5

Redlingfield village Christmas lunch, 1pm at Thorndon Black Horse. No coffee morning this month.

Also

Horham Coffee Morning at the School Hall in Horham and every Weds morning, 10.30 to 12 noon up to Christmas, with mulled wine on the 19 December. No coffee morning on the 26 December. Back in January – date to be confirmed.

Thursday 6

Home Group 4th session on the Gospel of Luke. Alternate Thursdays, 7.30 to 9pm at Barbara Irwin's home. Restarts 3 Jan. Contacts: Barbara Irwin cobowner@gmail.com or Mary Lewis mary.lewis43@icloud.com, 01379 669258.

Friday 7

Rectory Open House Everyone is warmly invited to the Rectory, St. Andrew's, Vicarage Rd, Wingfield IP21 5RB for this year's drinks and nibbles, from 3 to 5pm.

Wednesday 12

Carol Service at the Red Feather Club Horham with Diss Salvation Army brass band, 7.30pm. Singing round the flagpole, so wrap up warm. Followed by refreshments. (Location Denham IP21 5DG)

Saturday 15

Friends of Hoxne church

Coffee morning in church, 10.30am.

Christmas celebrations (other services on rota) in the churches of the Hoxne benefice this December; we look forward to welcoming you...

Sat 1 Dec	Hoxne	12noon	Hoxne Christmas Fayre, St Edmund's hall
Sun 2 Dec	Athelington	4.30pm	Advent Carols with mulled wine/mince pies
	Syleham Vill Hall	3.00pm	Messy Church Christmas party
Fri 7 Dec	Wingfield	3-5pm	Rectory open house
Weds 12 Dec	Horham	7.30pm	Carol Service at Red Feather Club, Horham
Sun 16 Dec	Syleham	11.15am	Carol Service with the Amici Singers
	Denham	3.00pm	Carol Serv followed by mulled wine/mince pies
	Wingfield	4.30pm	Carols by Candlelight
	Horham	4.30pm	Carols by Candlelight
Mon 17 Dec	Wingfield	6.00pm	Carols on the Castle Green. Food available
	Hoxne	6.00pm	St Edmunds Primary School, carol service
Weds 19 Dec	Horham	7.30pm	Beer and Carols, Community Centre
Thurs 20 Dec	Syleham/Wingfield	6.00pm	Carol singers out and about in the villages
	Hoxne	7.00pm	Hoxne Village Carol Service
Friday 21 Dec	Redlingfield	6.30pm	Village Carol Service
Christmas Eve	Denham	2.30pm	Live Nativity
	Horham	11.30pm	Midnight Mass
Christmas Day	Syleham	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion
	Redlingfield	9.30am	Family Communion
	Hoxne	11.15am	Family Communion
	Wingfield	11.15am	Family Communion

Monday 17

Wingfield Carols on the Green Castle Crescent. Christmas starts here. Join us to sing your favourite carols with friends and neighbours. Burgers and mulled wine available. From 6pm.

Tuesday 18

Winter coffee morning in Wingfield Barns, 10am to 12noon.

Sunday 30

Benefice Holy Communion,

11.15am at St Andrew's Wingfield.

Prayer breakfasts Monday mornings - breakfast and prayers. 7.45am for breakfast; prayers start 8.30am, using a Celtic pattern. Finished by 9am. Contact Rev Michael for where we will be, as we rotate venues.

*Wishing you all a joyful
Christmas and a healthy and
peaceful 2019*



Syleham has its Carol Service, with Amici, on Sunday 16 December at 11.15am. Once again, the village carol singers will be out and about (Syleham & Wingfield) on the evening of Thurs 20 December, from 6pm, in aid of EACH. Anyone wishing to join them or invite a visit should contact Adrian Knott on 669320.

Messy Church for the benefice will be holding a Christmas party on Sunday 3 December, 3 - 5pm in Syleham village hall. Contact Sarah Hawes, 01379 668038.

Hoxne Benefice Mothers' Union

No meeting in December. Next meeting is the AGM, Monday 21 Jan, 2.30 Time House Low Street.

It is not too late to register to support <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hoxnebenefice> to raise free donations for our churches from your Christmas shopping. **Total raised to date, £330.**

From the rector.....

Thank you to everyone who came and contributed at last month's meeting about the future of the benefice; there were lots of very helpful comments and participation. The next meeting will probably be on **Saturday 26 January** but both the time and venue are still to be confirmed, for more details please contact Rev Michael.

This newsletter is found in all our churches but if you would prefer to receive yours by email, please send your details to hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

