

You will be warmly welcomed at all our services around the benefice

February 2015	Sun 1st Feb Candlemas	Sun 8th Feb 2nd before Lent	Sun 15th Feb Sun before Lent	Sun 22nd Feb 1st Sun of Lent
Athelington			9.30am Holy Communion	
Denham				11.15am Family Service with baptism
Horham		9.30am Holy Communion	11.15am Family Service	11.15am Family Service
Hoxne	11.15am Holy Communion	11.15am BCP Matins	8.30am BCP Holy Communion 11.15am Our Heritage	10.00am Family Service
Redlingfield	9.30am Holy Communion			10.00am Morning Prayer
Syleham	4.00pm Messy Church		11.15am BCP Matins	9.30am Holy Communion
Wingfield	10.00am Morning Prayer	11.00am Holy Communion	10.00am Family Service	10.00am BCP Matins

Hoxne Benefice Newsletter

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

February 2015

As Bishop David's time with us comes to an end, I thought I'd give him a guest editorial! Bishop David recently wrote a letter to all his clergy with advice for Lent, advice that strikes me as being far too sensible to be restricted to clergy alone.

Body, mind and spirit. One way of looking at Lent is to try and do something for each of them. That is what I said last year and it's still a good motto. I'm linking my own thing to the old Green Cross Code: Stop, Look and Listen.

Stop. Dare to get off the treadmill. Let yourself relax, and as the weather improves get out too and enjoy spring. Wonder as you wander. ... I think my own aim is to get the wellies out and go exploring and photographing or drawing.

Look. Re-awaken your curiosity about the faith and the Scriptures. Read something that sets you thinking, and see where the Spirit leads you.

Listen. Then take it all into the presence of God, in your daily routine of course and, if you can, with a night or two away.

Whether you go for Body, Mind and Spirit or Stop, Look and Listen or devise a Lenten discipline of your own may we all have a very blessed season of Lent.

Rev Michael's days off in February: Sat 7th, Fri 13th, Thurs 19th, Fri 20th, Fri 27th Feb

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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

Do you know your Facebook from your Twitter or even how to use Whatsapp? Not a foreign language but the world of social media and how to spread more effectively news about what is happening in our churches. If you are able to help us, please don't be shy as we desperately need your help. In the first instance, please contact Virginia Skoyles on hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com. Thanks.

Learning Together is a quarterly bulletin from the Diocese of local learning opportunities. This is a re-vamped version of what used to be called the 'CME Bulletin', and it includes a wide range of extremely good events and courses, many of which are open to anyone, not just authorised ministers. To read it, search google for *St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Learning Together*.

Wingfield Barns - Tel: 01379 384505
Community Art Exhibition in Gallery 1 from 28th March - 11th April. Wingfield Barns invites amateur artists to submit work. No entry fee. Email volunteer.staff@wingfieldbarns.co.uk for further details and an application form. Completed forms by 9th February please.

Wingfield College - Invitation to View
Thur 21st May, Sat 27th June, Fri 11th September. Advance bookings on 01206 573948. www.mercurytheatre.co.uk

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 March HBN is 23rd Feb.

Horham coffee mornings every Wednesday, 10.30am at the Old School - coffee, cakes, chat and good company. Free admission, donations welcome.

Learn about Antiques

The Friends of Hoxne Church have invited Elizabeth Talbot to give a lecture on antiques at the Hoxne Village Hall (plenty of parking) on Tues 17th February at 7.30pm. Elizabeth is an expert and a partner in Gaze' auction house in Diss. She also appears on television in many antique programmes. This will not be a valuation evening, just an opportunity to learn more about all sorts of antiques. Tickets £7.50 if pre-booked from Margaret Brawn, Friends' Secretary on 01379 668352, or £8.50 on the door. Refreshments, including a glass of wine, included in ticket price.

The Friends have also organised a Brunch Lunch on 19th July and an impressive Harvest and Flower Festival on 4th October.

Lent Groups

This year our Lent groups will focus on the practice of prayer. The catholic hermit Sara Maitland has written recently that prayer is the unique feature of religion and yet we are remarkably bad at reflecting on it. Hopefully these evenings will help put that right. Each one will start with a talk about a prayer technique then plenty of time to practice it and a chance to reflect and share our thoughts. They will be on Weds evenings at the Rectory (St Andrew's House, Wingfield) from 7.30pm to 9.00pm.
25th Feb-The examen (holding on to what gives us life), 4th Mar- Imaginative mediation with the Bible, 11th Mar-Silence, 18th Mar- Using hymns as prayer, 25th Mar- Art and creativity as prayer.

Coffee, chat and choose

Barbara's lending library night on the first Weds of each month at Reading Hall, Denham, has been suspended until further notice but you can still borrow the books. Contact Barbara on 01379 870500.

Messy church

Sunday 1st Feb in Syleham Village Hall, with the famous scrummy tea and thinking about Jesus as the light of the world.

Ash Wednesday – 18th February

There are two services on Ash Wednesday this year.....

11am, Depperhaugh Nursing Home a very simple service with a couple of hymns (for which singers are *most* welcome) and the opportunity to be anointed with oil. The Depperhaugh provides refreshments but don't let that stop you giving up coffee or biscuits for Lent!

7.30pm, St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne following the success of last year's deanery service at Laxfield, this year we are hosting proceedings at Hoxne. Imposition of ashes and communion, with Rev Michael presiding and Rev David preaching.

Sharing your faith. Two dates for your diaries: 21st February and 7th March, 9.30am – 12 noon, Dave Gardner, the director of mission for the diocese, is coming along with a lay evangelist to run two consecutive sessions on sharing your faith. At a meeting some time ago, people were saying that we lacked confidence in sharing our faith simply to others. These sessions should help.

Events planner We are keeping a year planner of all events in the deanery, to publicise them more and in case anyone wants to check dates before they plan their events. Please send all dates and details to hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

Redlingfield and Wingfield

Coffee mornings, 10am to 12 noon, to replace the coffee caravan for the winter months, to March. At Redlingfield on Wednesday 4th February 2015 at the home of Pauline and Herbert Abbott, Rookery Farm.....
and in Wingfield, Tuesday 17th Feb, in the foyer at Wingfield Barns. Come for a chat, good company, coffee, tea and biscuits. Donations welcome.

Evening Communion at Denham

Denham's mid-week Communion is back on February 10th at 7.30pm. Everybody welcome.

Hoxne special services

Heritage Sunday (February, see rota), Mothering Sunday (March), Gardeners' Sunday (April), The Phoenix Group (May) and a Civic Service (June).

Friends of Hoxne Church

coffee morning, Saturday 28th Feb, 10-11.30am in the church.

Taize at Denham

As part of our Holy Week reflections, there will be a Taize service at Denham (Tues 31st March). If you can help to lead the singing with this, or indeed play an instrument, please let Rev Michael know and he will make sure he gets the words and music to you for practising. To help us all this, the mid-week communion services at Denham for February and March will include some simple Taize chants. If you're unfamiliar with Taize, a quick search on You Tube should be enough to give you a taste of it.

Compline for Lent

As in previous years, compline will be said at St Andrew's, Wingfield on Friday evenings in Lent at 6pm. All very welcome to one of the gentlest pieces of liturgy in the Church of England.