

Hoxne Benefice Newsletter

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

July 2017

July 2017	2 July Trinity 3	9 July Trinity 4	16 July Trinity 5	23 July Trinity 6	30 July Trinity 7
Athel'ton	11am Songs of Praise for St Peter*		9.30am Holy Communion *		11.15am Benefice Comm at Hoxne #
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 * 11.15am Family Service*	10am Family Service	
Redl'field	9.30am Holy Communion *			10am Baptism*	
Syleham	4pm Messy Church *		10am Village Praise	9.30am BCP Holy Communion +	
Wingfield	10am Morning Prayer	11.15am Holy Communion *		6.30pm BCP Evensong ~	

There is no mid-week Communion at Denham this month because everyone is invited to the licensing of Rev Eleanor Goodison (with Communion) on Wednesday 12th July, 7.30pm at Hoxne, where the preacher and celebrant will be the Venerable Ian Morgan, Archdeacon of Suffolk.

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

with Rev Eleanor and Rev Michael
^ with Rev Richard

What does summer mean to you? This apparently simple question was underneath Redlingfield church's recent Scenes of Summer weekend. Summer is well and truly here, with cream teas, car boot sales, open gardens and fêtes all happening.

The fascinating thing was just how many answers to the question, 'what does summer mean to you?' were displayed; lovely flower arrangements, a most intricate Green Man on the pulpit crafted from paper and a Lego village green on the window next to it, as well as seaside scenes.

Such diversity brought me back to one of my perennial questions, where does God live? Where are the places and things that give us the best chance of encountering God? Just as God is boundless, so is the answer to this question; ultimately we can encounter God anywhere and in anyone, as one of the prayers in the Book of Common Prayer Communion challenges us, 'Almighty God...who has taught us... to give thanks for *all men...*' Even so, it seems to me that there must be places that increase our possibility of encountering the divine, of finding where God lives and being able to knock on the door, as it were.

This month we have an incredible diversity of ways to encounter God, the simplicity of breakfast together in the Celtic prayers, the joy of Songs of Praise for St Peter in Athelington and Anglican worship that borders on the cathedralesque as we welcome Eleanor as our associate priest. And then, in almost complete contrast the chance to make and mediate using a labyrinth made from grain and seed in Syleham churchyard. As the magazine covers say, full details inside!

Rev Michael

Rev Michael's days off in July: Thurs 6, Thurs 13, Thurs 20, Tues 25 and Thurs 27 July.
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

Ride and Stride, the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust sponsored cycle ride,

Sat 9 Sept. Most of you are fully aware of the Ride + Stride - a sponsored bike ride or walk in which people all over England walk or cycle between churches, from Cornwall to Northumberland.

All churches in the benefice are participating and need your help.

Families or a group of friends can make this a great day out and the dog walkers amongst you could incorporate the church in your necessary daily exercise perhaps!

If you are not able to cycle or walk, then could you be one of the recorders? This involves sitting peacefully in the church or its grounds and welcoming in the riders and filling in a couple of bits of paper. Most of the churches have a rota of folk so please do speak to your local organiser. Your local organiser will also be able to put you in touch with someone who is riding/walking and would welcome your sponsorship.

As well as raising money for your local church, 50% goes to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust which has already helped to keep several of our local churches open; so in lots of ways this is a really worthwhile venture. Be part of it and join in the fun!

Benefice organiser - Sue Roberts 07713 157351, scr@netcom.co.uk

Local organisers are:

Evelyn Adey	Ath'gton	01728 628428	evelyn.adey@btinternet.com
Sue Roberts	Denham	07713 157351	scr@netcom.co.uk
Daphne Harvey	Horham	01379 384216	none
Anne Swann & Rhona Bertie	Hoxne	01379 669322 01379 871850	anneswann3@hotmail.com rhonabertie@gmail.com
Joan Abbott	Red'field	01379 678736	none
Mary Lewis	Syleham	01379 669258	mary.lewis43@icloud.com
John McCracken	Wingfield	01379 384181	vj.mccracken@gmail.com

Monday prayer and breakfast continues

We meet weekly at 7.45am for breakfast; prayers start 8.30am, using a Celtic pattern. We are finished by 9am. Contact Rev Michael for more details.

Our next Evensong service will be Sun 23 July, 6.30pm, at St Andrew's Wingfield. Reverend Jeanette Gosney, the newly appointed bishops' ministry officer, will be the cantor and preacher, with Rev Eleanor and Rev Michael also in attendance.



Benefice Labyrinth Day Come and help make a labyrinth in Syleham churchyard on Saturday 15 July.

What is a labyrinth? Simply a maze that you can't get lost in as it only has one route from the edge to the centre. You have to travel (pilgrim) to make progress, you have to trust the path (Jesus said I am the Way), and you can't see how you will get to the centre (an exercise in trust).

They have long been used in Christian spirituality as an aid to meditative prayer. Kay Barrett, an experienced worship leader at her church in Girton, Cambridge, will join us to make a labyrinth in Syleham churchyard, using seed or grain, for prayer and meditation, learning how to draw a labyrinth, about their history and much more. 10am to 4pm with a break for lunch in the village hall. To cover costs, the suggested donation is £20 but more importantly, as Kay only has so many labyrinths, numbers are limited to 25, so reservation is essential. Please contact Rev Michael to book your place before this event is offered more widely.

Coffee in the Old School Hall in Horham

every Wednesday morning from 10.30am with coffee, cookies, cakes and chatter, internet access and tuition.

The Rural Coffee Caravan is back!

* in **Redlingfield** on Weds 5 July
* in **Wingfield** on Tues 18 July, both 10am to 12 noon. The caravan is a great source of information and a chance for a chat over a drink and cake. Come along, see for yourself. Donations welcome.

St Peter's Athelington are holding their patronal Songs of Praise on Sunday 2 July at 11am. Everybody welcome. The service will be followed by Pimms and nibbles.

The Benefice Blasters is our singing group, which contributes so much to the worship at our benefice services. It will be singing twice in July, firstly at Eleanor's licensing on Wednesday 12 July and then at the benefice service on Sunday 30 July. We're the Blasters, so we don't take ourselves too seriously but are always looking for new members to join us. If you like singing and want to sing with us, please come to any rehearsal in July, Friday evening (7pm) in Horham church.

Save the Children Fund are having an evening garden party, 'Summer Fizz', at Woodlands, 50 Low Street, Hoxne on Friday 14 July, 6pm. Tickets cost £10 and include a glass of wine, canapés and puddings. Contact Hilary Castleden on 01379 668458.

Pop Up Greek Taverna Night in aid of refugees in Greece, 7pm, Saturday 22 July, Hoxne village hall. Delicious Greek food, music, dancing, auction of promises. Tickets in advance from Hoxne Village Stores, Maryanne on 07935 846542 or Sue Flagg on 01379 668258. Suggested donation £20.

Hoxne Benefice Mothers' Union

Mon 17 June. New members welcome. Contact Cathie McGregor on 668434.

Friends of St Peter & St Paul Hoxne

The next Friends' coffee morning will be Sat 16 July, 10am - 12 noon in the church.

Hoxne Fête, Abbey Farm, Sat 1 July, 2pm, all the fun of a traditional summer fête, with stalls, games, raffle and refreshments.

Licensing of Rev Eleanor Goodison, as associate priest for the Hoxne diocese, at 7.30pm on Wednesday 12 July at Hoxne church. Everyone in the benefice is invited. There will be refreshments afterwards. Volunteers are wanted please to supply finger food for this occasion. If you are able and willing, please call Brian Chester on 01379 669157.

Black Dog at The Swan

'Black Dog at The Swan' every Tuesday pm, 2 to 3pm in Hoxne. Further details from Rev Michael Womack, 388889, hoxnebenefice@gmail.com.

Messy Church for the benefice, 4pm, Sun 2 July, Syleham Village Hall.

Advance notices

- Sat 26 Aug **Syleham** family fun day with barbecue
- Sat 9 Sept Suffolk Historic Churches bike ride. (More info left).
- Sat 23 Sept The **Denham** Ceilidh at the barn at Park Farm from 7.30 til 11pm, with music from the Hoxne Hundred Ceilidh Band. Tickets are available from Helen on 07894 562172 for £10 inc. BBQ.

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