

# Hoxne Benefice Newsletter

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

## November 2017

November, and the changing leaves prompt us that change comes naturally. Sometimes that change creeps upon us as gently and subtly as the lengthening nights; at other times it catches us off-guard with its abruptness as when a sharp frost sends a shiver down our spines.

Caught off-guard myself, I might in some small measure be over-coming my allergy to cathedrals, though the circumstances must be exactly right! Mary and I went to the cathedral in Alta, Norway. Like all cathedrals there is an admission charge, but being Lutherans the dedication is different and this is the Cathedral of the Northern Lights. In this setting, things that have always seemed strange such as Ezekiel speaking of lights in the sky started to make some sense. As did the Jacob's Ladder chapel and its position directly inside the main door. A prayer space positioned there shouldn't work, but like God, it defies human logic and immediately moves thoughts heavenward, away from the daily rush and into the Peace of God.

The cathedral only seats about 250 but is spacious and filled with light of a very special quality. Nearly all of it is diffused from concealed light rods, the few windows are on the north side. In this place of prayer there are no bright shafts of light bringing divine revelation. Instead there are clues and hints- icons and symbols distilled to a few lines and lit by gentle light.

My prayer for all of us this November is that in its subtle light we will catch a fresh glimpse of God in the images around Remembrance, St. Edmund and the lives of our 'private saints' through the Service of Memorial and Thanksgiving and the All Saints' Festival.

### Rev Michael

Rev Michael's days off November - 2, 3, 4, 9, 16, 23 and 30 November.

Nov 2017	5 November 4 before Advent	12 November Remembrance Sunday	19 November St Edmund	26 November Christ the King
Athel'ton			9.30am Holy Communion*	
Denham		3pm Act of Remembrance*		11.15am Family Service
Horham		3pm Act of Remembrance		11.15am Holy Communion*
Hoxne	11.15am Holy Communion+	10.45am Act of Remembrance*	8.30am BCP Communion* 11.15am Pageant for St Edmund at The Swan Inn~	10am Family Service
Redl'field	9.30am Holy Communion+	10.45am Act of Remembrance^	8.30am B-17 Commemor- ation at the Memorial+	10am Morning Prayer
Syleham	4pm Messy Church *	9.30am Act of Remembrance	10am Village Praise	9.30am BCP Holy Communion*
Wingfield	10am Morning Prayer	8.30am BCP Holy Communion+ 9am Act of Remembrance+		6.30pm BCP Evensong*

Tuesday 14 November, 7.30pm, Denham midweek Holy Communion\*

\* with Rev Michael

+ with Rev Eleanor

~ with Rev Michael and Rev Eleanor      ^ with Rev Richard

**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, Ian Rose 01379 669337

**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

**Let's raise funds for Churches of the Hoxne Benefice with Easyfundraising!**

Visit [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) and a percentage of what you spend is passed to Churches of the Hoxne Benefice. There are over 2,700 online retailers available and all will give a small percentage of what's been spent back to Hoxne benefice to say thank you for shopping with them. **Please register to support us -**

**<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hoxnebenefice>.** If you want to talk through the signing up process, email Virginia on [hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com) to arrange. Let's get signed up and our online Christmas shopping can then help the benefice.

**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 Benefice Evensong** service will be Sunday 26 November, 6.30pm, at St Andrew's Wingfield.

**Tuesday 7 November: A Prayer and Spirituality Day** 10am - 4pm at St Nicholas Centre, Ipswich. A day led by Bishop Tim Stevens. We live in uncertain and troubling times. Many experience anxiety about the future and within the Church there is evidence of worries about what the next generation may bring. During this day Bishop Tim Stevens will explore God's promise to us of 'a joy which is complete'. How do we live this joy in our personal lives and in the Church and in a world like this? There will be space in the day for discussion and reflection and prayer. Enquiries to Caroline Redman, 01359 269335, [spirituality@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:spirituality@cofesuffolk.org)

*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](mailto:hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com)*

**The scarecrow** that the Messy Church youngsters made for the benefice harvest services would be an excellent candidate for a Guy Fawkes should you be looking for one. Man-sized, straw stuffed. Please contact Mary Lewis on 669258. [mary.lewis43@icloud.com](mailto:mary.lewis43@icloud.com)

**Athelington Advent Carol Service**, Sunday 3 Dec at 4.30pm, followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the church. We look forward to seeing you there.

**2017 Jerusalem Awards** (promoting Christian involvement in broadcasting). BBC Radio Suffolk won a national award for the harvest programme they brought live from Athelington Hall last year in conjunction with Horham Baptists, The Forge Church and Hoxne Benefice Churches.

**Suffolk Churches Trust Ride and Stride** See below the money raised by the SHCT sponsored cycle ride in September. Half of the goes to SHCT and half to the individual churches. It was an added bonus being able to look through the Denham forms, to see that nearly 60% of the village contributed as sponsors. A very big thank you to all who supported this fund raising effort as riders, walkers, recorders and sponsors. Sue Roberts

	Visitors	Money Raised
Athelington	35	£340.00
Denham	13	£987.16
Horham	28	£120.00
Hoxne	15	£678.00
Redlingfield	21	£150.00
Syleham	19	£0.00
Wingfield	15	£150.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£2,425.16</b>

**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 Coffee Caravan** is taking its winter break, but there are still winter coffee mornings  
 \* in **Redlingfield** on Weds 1 November, 10am to 12 noon at the home of Mike Ager and Janet Norman Phillips at Hidcote Lodge. Any queries, contact Jacqueline on 01379 678805.  
 \* at **Wingfield Barns** on Tues 21 November, 10am to 12 noon.  
 A great source of information and a chance for a chat over a drink and cake. Donations welcome.

**Messy Church** for the benefice, 4pm, Sun 5 November at Syleham Village Hall. If you are interested in joining us for this fun and friendly family activity, you would be very warmly welcomed. Contact the rector, or Mary Lewis on 01379 669258.

**Join us at a service to celebrate St Edmund, our local saint**



**Sunday 19 November '17**  
 The story begins at 11.15am at the Hoxne Swan.  
 Rediscover the legend. How will it unfold?  
 A certain bridge, arrows, a wolf?

Children and grown ups wanted to take part as fierce Danes - arrows provided!  
 Contact Revd Eleanor Goodison on 07876 143579

**THE SWAN** PUB & DINING **St Peter & St Paul's Church, Hoxne**

**Hoxne Benefice Mothers' Union** Mon 20 November. New members welcome. Contact Cathie McGregor on 668434.  
 Also, the Mothers' Union are having a Pop Up shop at 'i-Chameleon' in The Thoroughfare, Halesworth, between Friday 17 and Wednesday 22 November. For sale – Christmas and birthday cards, bric-a-brac, preserves, cakes, books and much more. Open 10am to 4pm each day. Donations of items welcome. Please contact Cathie on the number above.

**Friends of St Peter & St Paul Hoxne** The next Friends' coffee morning will be Saturday 18 November, 9.45 – 11.15am in church.

**St Edmund's pageant** on Sunday 19 November, starting 11.15am at The Swan, Hoxne. Rediscover the legend. See left.

**Hoxne Christmas Fair** will be held this year on Saturday 25 November, 12 noon to 2.30pm in St Edmund's Hall.

**Advance notices**

- Sun 3 Dec**, 3.30pm, Messy Church Christmas party, Syleham Village Hall.
- Sun 3 Dec**, 4.30pm, Athelington Advent carol service.
- Sun 17 Dec**, 10am, Christingle, Hoxne.
- Mon 18 Dec**, 2.30pm, St Edmunds Primary School, carol service at Hoxne.
- Also Mon 18**, carols on Castle Crescent Green, 6.30pm. Refreshments available.
- Tues 19 Dec**, 7.30pm, Hoxne village carol service, Hoxne.