

Hoxne Benefice Newsletter

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

September 2015

I have been really touched by the welcomes and concerns expressed from my picking up Michael Womack's diary. Thank you for the support and prayer around us both! But I've also been thinking of the historic role clergy used to fulfil, expectations that still linger in some places but are no longer realistic. In many cases, clerical roles have been taken away from us by professional practitioners: social and medical care, the major responsibilities on governing bodies and charities.

Clergy have also been custodians of the Community Story, hearing it at intimate levels, sometimes in the confessional! But as secularism and non-religious ceremonies now mark so many peoples' lives, even this is being curtailed. So the question is, what do clergy realistically 'do' outside taking services and officiating at those celebrations of peoples' stories that still come our way? Perhaps the answer is not so much about what the clergy might or might not do. The first question we have to wrestle with, as Michael takes time to be healed, is to ask what we want our vicar to be! Ordination is about someone so giving themselves to God's purposes that they are prepared to go on becoming a signal, or a voice, or a reminder, or an echo, of what we believe God to be. And the most perfect example of that is none other than Jesus Christ.

So are we on the lookout for Jesus Christ, coming among us in the guise of the faithful priest? And I need not remind you that sometimes the cost of being that person is a hugely demanding one. So it then follows - and it is in this order - that we must be clear as to what we need them to 'do'; things we cannot 'do' ourselves and in which we welcome their contribution. Please use September to think about these things. May God bless you.

Canon Andrew

Revd Susan Loxton - 01379 388439 Revd Canon Andrew Vessey - 01379 588389

Administrator - Virginia Skoyles 01379 586708

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

SEPT 2015	6 Sept 14 th after Trinity	13 Sept 15 th after Trinity	20 Sept 16 th after Trinity	27 Sept 17 th after Trinity
	Isaiah 35:4-7a James 2:1-17 Mark 7:24-end	Isaiah 50:4-9a James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-end	Jeremiah 11:18-21 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Mark 9:30-37	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16 James 5:13-end Mark 9:38-end
Athelington			9.30am Holy Communion	
Denham				11.15am Harvest Family Service
Horham		10.30am No HC. Service for 95 th BG		11.15am Harvest Family Service
Hoxne	11.15am Holy Communion	11.15am BCP Morning Prayer	8.30am BCP Holy Communion. No 11.15am due to Harvest Breakfast	10.00am Family Service
Redlingfield	9.30am Holy Communion 1.30pm Baptism			10am Morning Prayer
Syleham	4pm Messy Church for the benefice		10am Village Praise	9.30am BCP Holy Communion
Wingfield	10am Morning Prayer	11am Holy Communion	10am Family Service	6.30pm Harvest Choral Evensong

Tuesday 8 September at Denham, 7.30pm, Benefice Communion

Revd Michael would like to thank everyone for their support and cards. He is very grateful and touched by your care and concern. He is on medication that is helping and is improving daily. It will still be a little while before he is able to return to ministry, but he looks forward to that day.

Cleaning of Wingfield church

We have regular cleaning and churchyard cleanup and would like to encourage more people to help us. Please contact Michael or Sue Harvey on 01379 586355.

Wingfield Barns - Tel: 01379 384505.

email: enquiries@wingfieldbarns.co.uk

Sun 13 Sept, 7pm for 8pm. Come & Sing HMS Pinafore with soloists from Ipswich Gilbert & Sullivan Society. All welcome to join in the full 4 part harmony of the chorus - or simply watch and hum along! Tickets £8.

Weds 30 Sept, 7.30pm. The Count of Monte Cristo - Common Ground Theatre Company, 7.30 pm. Tickets: Adults £10 under 16s £6.

Art classes at Wingfield Barns with experienced art tutor John Parker. Open every Tuesday from 10am to 4pm. For further details email:

artistjparker@gmail.com or call John on 07442 491734.

Wingfield College - Invitation to View

Friday 11 & Saturday 12 Sept, 2pm.

Advance bookings 01206 573948.

www.mercurytheatre.co.uk

This newsletter is found in all churches, but you can get it early by email, (bcc to hide addresses). Please send an email to hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com h
Deadline for Oct HBN is Mon 21 Sept.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Cycle Ride, Sat 12 Sept.

If you are not yet involved in this fun venture, then get in touch with your local organiser. They can give you the necessary details whether you wish to ride/walk/record or sponsor. Keeping our churches open costs more each year and we need the funds! It is an excellent chance to have fun, get fit and raise money for your church. Get friends or the family to do it with you.

Local Organisers are

Evelyn Adey, Athelington, 01728 628428

evelyn.adey@btinternet.com

Sue Roberts, Denham, 07713 157351

scr@netcom.co.uk

Daphne Harvey, Horham, 01379 384216

Caroline Ball, Hoxne, 01379 668222

c.ball@uea.ac.uk

Joan Abbott, Redlingfield, 01379 6678736

Mary Lewis, Syleham, 01379 669258

mary.lewis43@icloud.com

John McCracken, Wingfield, 01379 384181

vj.mccracken@gmail.com

Advance notices from Friends of Hoxne Church

Oct 3/4 Harvest thro' Time. Each village group invited to take part in the Harvest Festival weekend by displaying a flower arrangement. Our really rural Harvest Festival service on the Sunday, 11.15am. Sat and Sun afternoons we will be offering 'rural refreshments'.

Oct 25 Harvest Lunch in the Village Hall - an event that has been going on for many, many years. 12.30 for 12.45pm. Friends £8.50, others £10.50, children under 12, £5.

Nov 20 (St Edmund's Day) Evensong in Hoxne church, 6pm and a vividly illustrated talk about the life and times of St Edmund, at 7.30pm in the village hall, by raconteur Chris Parfitt. The bar will be open before and after the talk with buffet refreshments afterwards.

We continue to pray with love and concern for Revd Michael and his family. During his absence, we are grateful for the support of Revd Canon Andrew Vessey who, with the support of Revd Eleanor Goodison, (following her recent 'priesting') will be covering our regular Communion services. We also know we have the warm support of the Rural Dean, Revd Susan Loxton.

Syleham

Syleham enjoyed hosting the benefice Holy Communion on 30 Aug, led by Revd Canon Graham Hedger of Diocesan Office, with a shared meal afterwards.

Village Praise The next service is 20 Sept, now at 10am, followed by coffee.

Messy Church continues to serve the benefice and it is encouraging that not only families attending but also helpers are drawn from several parishes. On 6 Sept, we shall be celebrating our first anniversary! 4pm in Syleham Village Hall.

Fête It was a great joy to have a younger generation stepping up to organise our fête on 15 Aug - and they did a splendid job. What's more, they already have ideas for next year! It was a lovely afternoon, in John Leader's charming garden at Monks Hall, and made £1282 for the church's depleted fabric fund. Thank you to visitors who came to support from other parishes.

Harvest Advance notice that we shall have a 3pm Harvest Festival on Sunday 18 Oct, followed by a Harvest Tea in the Village Hall. We are not planning a Harvest Supper this year.

Denham midweek, evening communion, Tues 8 Sept, 7.30pm.

An amazing £2310 was raised during and after the deanery Lammas Service held at Hoxne on 5 August for the benefit of The Addington Fund, helping farming families in need. Thank you everyone!

Always plenty of coffee to drink!

*Every Wednesday morning from 10am there is coffee, cookies, cakes and chatter in the Old School Hall in Horham.

*The Rural Coffee Caravan will be Weds 2 Sept at Redlingfield, Tues 15 Sept at Wingfield, with news of what's happening around and about us.

*Friends of Hoxne Church coffee morning, Saturday 26 Sept.

Also in Redlingfield The next lunch is on Friday 25 Sept at 1pm at the Sir Alfred Munnings near Harleston.

The work on the roof of Redlingfield Church is now scheduled to start on 26 Oct and is due to take 6 to 8 weeks. It is planned that the church will be open for services during that time.

Discipleship Explored - Following Christ. What's it all about? 8 weekly get-togethers looking at Paul's letter to the Philippians, with time and space to think about what it really means to live the Christian life. Thurs evenings, 17 Sept through to 5 Nov, 7.30 to 9.30pm at Reading Hall, Denham. You can come at the last minute but it would be good to know in advance what resources we need. Interested? Please call Barbara Irwin 01379 870500.

Sew early for Christmas Christmas Eve at Nora's Yard, Denham and our first live action Nativity Service. Help wanted. You don't have to be skilled. Materials supplied. Sewing sessions to be organised or take it to do at home. If sewing is not your forte, why not wear a costume on the day? There are 10 roles to play. No lines to learn. Or help with the refreshments? Let's try to get every parish represented in some way and make it a wonderful benefice Christmas Eve service. Please call Barbara 01379 870500, cobowner@gmail.com or Sue Roberts 01379 668602.