

Hoxne Benefice Newsletter

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

July 2014

For most of July I am in South Africa. After the controversial years of apartheid, South Africa became the Rainbow Nation and entered a period of remarkable unity under Nelson Mandela. There was then a peaceful transition as he gently faded from public life and his death last year did not lead to the turmoil that some had feared. Combine this political harmony with the thought that you can go into a supermarket in this country and buy Fair-Trade South African wines and you might think that the country was a veritable Jerusalem out of the book of Psalms. Yet there is the darker side of poverty and high levels of crime and violence which make you realise that is not the case.

Back in Suffolk, we can look around and see all sorts of things that are going well; the eagerness with which the churchyard was spruced-up by the villagers in Redlingfield last month, Barbara Irwin's initiative to share her library or the impending launch of a Benefice Messy Church. Yet, we are aware of the limitations and short-comings in our community and church life which curtail excessive self-congratulation. As the wedding season gathers pace, I notice that *Jerusalem* is enjoying something of a revival. Never mind South Africa, as Blake himself noted, we still have a long way to go before we have built Jerusalem in England's green and pleasant land; and the truth is we have a distinct head-start in rural Suffolk!

I continue my South Africa adventure and am not in the benefice until Monday 21st July. If in that time you need a priest, contact Rev Canon Andrew Vessey on 01379 588389. Routine enquiries will be handled by your local Churchwarden or Virginia Skoyles on 01379 586708, as the Benefice Administrator. My other rest days are 26th and 31st July.

Revd Michael Womack. St Andrew's House, Vicarage Road, Wingfield, Suffolk IP21 5RB.
01379 388889, hoxnebenefice@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Athelington: St Peter. Evelyn Adey 01728 628428, John Davey 01379 741455

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 Abbot 01379 678217

Syleham: St Margaret. Mary Lewis 01379 669258, John Leader 01379 668205

Wingfield: St Andrew. John McCracken 01379 384181, Michael Harvey 01379 586355

Wingfield Barns Tel: 01379 384505
Saturday 26th July, 7.30pm. 'If Patriotic Sentiment is Wanted...' Guest singers from Ipswich Gilbert & Sullivan Society. A rousing selection of Gilbert & Sullivan's patriotic sentiments to commemorate the outbreak of the Great War.

Sat 26th July - Sun 31st August

International Mini Prints Exhibition. Open 11am - 4pm, Weds - Sun. Closed 9th, 24th, 30th August.

Wingfield College - Invitation to View. Book at www.invitationtoview.co.uk, 2pm, Fri 18th July, Fri 12th Sept.

Wingfield Village Fete at Wingfield Barns, 12.30-3pm, Saturday 28th June. Usual fun and games for all ages, crockery smash, face painting, football and more. Craft stalls, plant sales, a raffle, cake stall, BBQ, strawberries and cream, luxury Alburgh ice creams. Also second hand book sale and displays of vintage military Land Rovers and motor bikes. Free entry, wheelchair access. Proceeds to St Andrew's church tower.

Reminder...Rev Michael is away from Tues 24th June to Sun 20th July. During this time, should you need to talk to a priest, please contact Canon Andrew Vessey on 01379 588389, andrew.vessey@btinternet.com. For anything administrative, please contact Virginia Skoyles on 01379 586708, hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com or your Churchwarden.

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 your email address to hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com Deadline for July HBN is 21st July.

Suffolk Historic Churches Bike Ride takes place this year on Saturday 13th September. Caroline Ball is taking over the organisation in Hoxne this year, and in memory of her late husband John, who organised it for many years, is laying down the challenge of raising more this year than ever before. We need to beat the £3026 raised in 2012! So, participants wanted, to bike, run or walk, or act as local recorders in church. Families or groups of friends can make this a great day out. Repeat participants will be given forms. New applicants, please call Caroline on 01379 668222 or c.ball@uea.ac.uk

Remember, a proportion of the money you raise goes to your church. Other contacts: Evelyn Adey in Athelington, Susan Roberts in Denham, Daphne Harvey in Horham, Joan Abbott in Redlingfield. Mary Lewis in Syleham and probably John McCracken in Wingfield.

Launching in September - Benefice Messy Church. From September we are planning on having Messy Church on the 1st Sunday of the month at 4pm in Syleham Village Hall. It will involve simple craft activities, refreshments and worship. More details in next month but if you'd like to be involved in helping with this new venture, please contact Rev Michael, or have a browse on messychurch.org.uk.

Advance Notice – 31st August
August is a 5 Sunday month and our Benefice Eucharist will be at Wingfield at 11.15am. The preacher will be Rev Canon Martin Seeley, Rev Michael's former tutor and Principal of Westcott House, as well as being one of the theological advisors to Rev. Afterwards there will be a bring-your-own lunch (the barbecue will be lit if you want to use it) at St Andrew's House, Wingfield.

Cursillo

The next Cursillo weekend in our diocese is from 9th-12th October at Leiston Abbey. What is Cursillo, you may well ask? Here, Maria (from Denham) explains a little:

On a personal level, the Cursillo weekend was a time that has done nothing but enhance my living, loving, personal relationship with God; it has been life changing and I would encourage anyone to pray for the answer to the questions "Is this for me? Is this the right time for me?" And it wasn't a whole weekend of aching knees from praying - there was a huge amount of laughter and fun, many new friendships made, a whole lot of wonderful singing and rejoicing, much joy and glee and compassion and empathy when needed. No matter what age, what colour, what denomination, what sex, what shoe size, what colour hair - everyone was welcomed, supported and loved each other. It was, to me, Christianity in action! Intrigued? Contact Rev Michael, Mary Womack or Maria Price for more information.

Coffee, Chat and Choose

On the first and third Wednesday of each month, between 7pm and 8.30pm, you will be most welcome at Reading Hall, Denham where a selection of Christian books will be available to borrow - both adult and children's. Coffee and cake will be served if you wish to stay a while, but please feel free to just pop in and out. This will be running from July with the first dates being the 2nd and 16th. For further information please contact Barbara on 01379 870500.

Friends of Hoxne Church coffee morning, Saturday 26th July, 10am – 11.30am, in the church.

Rural Coffee Caravan Info Project in Redlingfield and Wingfield

The Coffee Caravan returns to Redlingfield on Wednesday 2nd July and to Wingfield on Tuesday 15th July, from 10am until noon, with coffee, tea, biscuits and information about local events, services and organisations. Donations welcome. A great opportunity to meet neighbours and keep up to date with what's on.

Also in Redlingfield

On Saturday 19th July, the Annual Village BBQ, in conjunction with the Pub on the Green, will be held on Doorstep Green in the village from about 5pm until midnight. This time the PCC will be providing desserts to raise money for the restoration fund at Redlingfield Church. Again everyone welcome for a friendly get together.

A big thank you to everyone in Redlingfield who came and helped with the churchyard clear up on 11th June. What a great community effort, with so many playing their part, from strimmers to farmyard equipment to timely refreshments; and now we have a churchyard that looks, and indeed is, cared for.

Hoxne Mothers' Union meets on the 3rd Monday of every month; Monday 21st, 2pm at Cathie McGregor's home.

Red Bridge Road Closure. The road between Hoxne and Diss will be closed from Friday 11th to Tuesday 29th July to allow for refurbishment of this bridge. Look out for diversion signs.

Read the Bishop's Blog from David Thomson, Bishop of Huntingdon and Acting Bishop of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich. Visit www.bpdt.wordpress.com

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

Sunday 6th July 3rd after Trinity	9.30am	Redlingfield	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Wingfield	Morning Prayer - CW
	11.15am	Horham	Family Service
	11.15am	Hoxne	Holy Communion
	11.15am	Syleham	Mattins - BCP
Sunday 13th July 4th after Trinity	9.30am	Horham	BCP Holy Communion
	11.00am	Wingfield	Holy Communion
	11.15am	Hoxne	Mattins - BCP
Sunday 20th July 5th after Trinity	8.30am	Hoxne	BCP Holy Communion
	9.30am	Athelington	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Syleham	Family Service
	10.00am	Wingfield	Family Service
	11.15am	Hoxne	Family Service
	11.15am	Horham	Family Service
	Sunday 27th July 6th after Trinity	9.30am	Syleham
9.30am		Redlingfield	Morning Prayer
10.00am		Hoxne	Family Service
11.15am		Denham	Family Service
11.15am		Horham	Family Service
6.30pm		Wingfield	Evensong - BCP