

# The Benefice of Harton

# The Circular



Autumn Edition 2016  
August      September      October

Sand Hutton   Claxton   Flaxton  
Gate Helmsley   Upper Helmsley   Bossall  
Buttercrambe   Howsham   Harton  
Whitwell-on-the-Hill   Crambe   Foston  
Barton-le-Willows   Thornton-le-Clay

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St John the Evangelist, Buttercrambe

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## ***From The Vicarage***

My dear friends,

**“A handful of patience is worth more than a bushel of brains” (old Dutch proverb)**

In the wake of the dramatic, emotional turmoil of Brexit and its political and economic fallout, the speculators and the ‘blame merchants’ are having a field day. The burning questions of ‘What happens next?; Why did it happen?; Who is to blame?; When will we know its true impact?; How will it affect me?’ fill our newspapers, social media and fuel many family discussions, including my own! And let’s be honest, we all have an opinion or two on each of those questions. We want those questions answered – and we want them answered now.

But it’s not only Brexit that raises these questions: all dramatic changes in life demand answers – and perhaps none more so than the drama of life when it changes inevitably into death, which I am personally reminded of this month.

As I’m writing this article on a wet day in July drinking a cup of coffee, I’m gazing at two photos from recent holidays. The first is of ‘Il Cenacolo’ (‘The Last Supper’) by Leonardo Da Vinci. It is an amazing, huge mural on the wall



of the refectory of the Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan. It depicts that moment when Jesus announces at his last supper, that someone is going to betray Him. The emotional turmoil of the disciples – surprise, shock, anger, disbelief (is John, his beloved disciple ‘swooning’?) –

are all captured in wonderful detail – but the overriding sense is one of ‘questioning’: Again, the words ‘What? Why? Who? When? How?’ – literally come screaming from the scene. There’s an urgency from the Disciples that answers to those questions are demanded – and they need answering now! And yet Jesus seems to be that point of calm amidst the storm, as though he’s saying ‘wait: trust’.

The second photo is of our dear friend Rosemary, who sadly passed away three years ago this month. She and her partner Sue and their two children were fundamental to Thelma and me in our early days in Tonbridge. Rosemary was a Lay Reader and Sue the Choir Mistress in the small village church we all worshipped in. Both Rosemary and Sue were strong in their faith, and wise and practical in their lives.

Before she died, I spoke at length to Rosemary about her cancer, her life and her dying, and we touched on those ‘Why, When and How’ questions. And, ever wise, she reminded me that all the brains in the world can’t answer some questions immediately - some questions just need patience to be answered. And sometimes that patience may have to stretch beyond the grave.

**Leonardo Da Vinci once wrote:**

**Patience serves as a protection against wrongs as clothes do against cold. For if you put on more clothes as the cold increases, it will have no power to hurt you. So in like manner you must grow in patience when you meet with great wrongs, and they will then be powerless to vex your mind.**

I think Da Vinci’s got it right there. Whether we agree with Brexit or not; whether we find it liberating or ‘a great wrong’, we need to be patient with people and circumstances. More importantly, we need to be patient to protect ourselves from ourselves!

And as ever, I find Rosemary right too. Trying to hurry answers to seemingly unanswerable questions of Why? When? How? etc. may not lie in our time; it could be that some answers lie with God beyond this life. Maybe we just need to ‘wait: trust’.

And so, gazing at these two photos, sipping my coffee on this damp evening, I am slowly and painfully coming to the conclusion that I should give up my spontaneous opinions on the ‘What, Why, Who, When, How?’

Perhaps my **'bushel of brains'** should concede that a **'handful of patience'** might be the wiser option. To 'wait: trust'.

For me, Jesus in Da Vinci's 'Il Cenacolo' is expounding that – and I can see Rosemary nodding her head in agreement too.

***Yours in Christ***

***Revd. Chris Wingfield***

## ***Meet Hannah!.....***



Hello, I'm Hannah Suekarran, I am the new Assistant Curate in the Benefice of Harton. I recently finished my training at Cranmer Hall in Durham, and was ordained on 3<sup>rd</sup> July in York Minster. This was the second big set of vows I made this year, the first being my marriage vows to Rob in January. Rob is entering his second year as the curate at St Mary's Church in Strensall, and we met whilst training together at Cranmer. We have only just got used to

being Mr and Mrs, and now we're adjusting to Rev and Rev!

I was born and lived in Epworth in North Lincolnshire - the village from which John Wesley hailed (leading some to suggest I should have been a Methodist!) I made a short foray to the south to study English at university in Cambridge, and it was here that I rediscovered my Christian faith, having drifted away from church in my teens. One of my friends at university was a Christian, and she lived out her faith in a way I had never experienced in someone my own age before - she talked to God in prayer regularly, and seemed to really trust Him. As I went to church with her and she answered my questions, I got to know this loving God again for myself, and it changed my life. If you want to know more please do ask me sometime!

I couldn't stay away from the north for long, and after graduation I moved to York for a 6 month internship with Riding Lights Theatre Company.



I'm always keen to point out that I was in the education department – my acting leaves a lot to be desired! I had then intended to go into arts education, but God had other ideas. I found myself agreeing to be a Parish Assistant for a year at St Paul's Church, Holgate, after which I became their Youth and Children's Coordinator. It was in this role that I began to sense a call to ordained ministry. It has been quite a journey, and I am very excited about this next stage.

In my spare time I like singing, drinking tea (making me prime fodder for 'more tea vicar?' jokes), spending time with family and friends, watching comedy sit-coms, being creative, and enjoying the creativity of others. Coming to Harton Benefice feels a little like returning to my roots, as I was brought up in a village church which was part of a group – though there were three churches rather than ten, so this will be something of a learning curve! I also can't quite believe I've landed a curacy with such beautiful countryside at almost every turn. I am really looking forward to meeting and getting to know all of you soon.

***Hannah***



*July 3<sup>rd</sup> Following the Ordination of Deacons at York Minster  
Hannah is 2<sup>nd</sup> from the left on the front row.*

# Services for the Benefice of Harton

## August 2016

### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August

7.00pm

Taize Spa Church

Flaxton

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

09.00

Morning Prayer

Gate Helmsley

10.00

Holy Communion

Gate Helmsley

<b><i>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August</i></b>	<b><i>Transfiguration</i></b>
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10.30

Benefice Holy Communion

Bossall

### Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August

09.00

Morning Prayer

Foston

10.00

Holy Communion

Foston

<b><i>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August</i></b>	<b><i>Blessed Virgin Mary</i></b>
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10.30

Benefice Holy Communion

Flaxton

### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August

09.00

Morning Prayer

Buttercrambe

10.00

Holy Communion

Buttercrambe

<b><i>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August</i></b>	<b><i>Trinity 13</i></b>
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10.30

Benefice Holy Communion

Gate Helmsley

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> August

### St Bartholomew

09.00

Morning Prayer

Sand Hutton

10.00

Holy Communion

Sand Hutton

<b><i>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August</i></b>	<b><i>Trinity 14</i></b>
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10.30

Benefice Holy Communion

Howsham

### Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August

09.00

Morning Prayer

Crambe

10.00

Holy Communion

Crambe

## September 2016

<b><i>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September</i></b>		<b><i>Trinity 15</i></b>
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10.30	Benefice Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
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### **Tuesday 6th September**

7.00pm	Gregorian Spa Church	Buttercrambe
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### **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

09.00	Morning Prayer	Bossall
10.00	Benefice Holy Communion	Bossall

<b><i>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September</i></b>		<b><i>Trinity 16</i></b>
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10.30	Harvest Holy Communion	Upper Helmsley
10.30	Family Service	Flaxton
6.00pm	Songs of Praise	Buttercrambe

### **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

### **Holy Cross Day**

09.00	Morning Prayer	Howsham
10.00	Holy Communion	Howsham

<b><i>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September</i></b>		<b><i>Trinity 17</i></b>
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10.30	Benefice Holy Communion	Whitwell
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### **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

### **St Matthew**

09.00	Morning Prayer	Upper Helmsley
10.00	Holy Communion	Upper Helmsley

<b><i>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September</i></b>		<b><i>Trinity 18</i></b>
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09.00	Matins BCP	Bossall
10.30	Harvest Holy Communion	Foston
6.00pm	Harvest Evensong BCP	Crambe

### **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September**

### **St Michael and All Angels**

09.00	Morning Prayer	Flaxton
10.00	Holy Communion	Flaxton



## October 2016

<b><i>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October</i></b>		<b><i>Trinity 19</i></b>
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*11.30	Benefice Harvest Holy Communion	Buttercrambe
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### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October

09.00	Morning Prayer	Bossall
10.00	Holy Communion	Bossall
6.30pm	Harvest Thanksgiving	Gate Helmsley

<b><i>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October</i></b>	<b><i>! York Marathon !</i></b>	<b><i>Trinity 20</i></b>
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10.30	Harvest Holy Communion Confirmation service	Flaxton
6.00pm	Harvest Evensong	Howsham

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October

09.00	Morning Prayer	Sand Hutton
10.00	Holy Communion	Sand Hutton

### Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October

7.00pm	Harvest Thanksgiving	Foston
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<b><i>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October</i></b>		<b><i>Trinity 21</i></b>
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10.30	Benefice Holy Communion	Crambe
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### Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October

09.00	Morning Prayer	St Luke Flaxton
10.00	Holy Communion	Flaxton

<b><i>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October</i></b>		<b><i>Last Trinity</i></b>
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09.00	Holy Communion BCP	Upper Helmsley
10.30	Holy Communion	Sand Hutton

### Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October

09.00	Morning Prayer	Crambe
10.00	Holy Communion	Crambe

<b><i>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October</i></b>	<b><i>NB: BST ends – clocks change</i></b>	<b><i>All Saints</i></b>
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10.30	Benefice Holy Communion All Saints	Foston
4.00pm	Memorial Service – All Souls	Gate Helmsley

***Tired....? Weary....? Need to Pamper yourself....?***

**Indulge yourself at our new Spa Church a new type of Church!  
*for Free!!***

**No 'Joining Fee'**

**No 'Monthly Payments'**

**No 'Contract Clauses'**

**It's all absolutely Free!**

Join us in our 'Five Step Programme' to make you feel spiritually healthier and more alive – feel refreshed and replenished!

There are 'Taster Evenings' during the Summer each with a special theme.



**2nd August - Taize Spa Church, St Lawrence's, Flaxton**

Soak up the rich beauty of Taize music and be fed by its rhythm and simplicity.



**6th September - Gregorian Spa Church, St John's Buttercrambe**

Luxuriate in the haunting plainsong chant of music sung in Abbeys and Monasteries centuries ago.

Each "Five Step Programme" starts at 7.00pm and lasts 45 minutes. You will experience the following treatments:

- ***First Step - Deep cleansing and exfoliation – confessing our separateness from God***
- ***Second Step - Preparation and calming – candles are lit as a sign of our desire to receive God's wisdom***
- ***Step three - Replenishing and conditioning – infilling by a reading from Scripture***
- ***Step four - Revitalising – connecting to God through prayer and intercession***
- ***Step five - Relaxing Massage – blessing and dismissal more alive, more invigorated and more at one with God.***

***So do come along and experience "Spa Church"– let your spiritual health feel refreshed and replenished.***

***A new Prayer Team has recently been formed  
to Pray for our villages and communities.***

We are launching our P14ME initiative in  
Upper Helmsley, Howsham, Foston and  
Thornton Le Clay this year.

please  
pray  
ONE  
for  
ME

P14ME prayer cards will be delivered to each house on a Monday, inviting you to write down any prayer requests you might have, knowing that they will be prayed for in a special church service on the Thursday that week.

You are invited to bring your cards with you to the service, or drop them off in the P14ME box at the back of the church.

**Do look out for the posters on the notice boards  
and make a note of the following dates.**

<b>Upper Helmsley:</b>	P14Me cards delivered 25 <sup>th</sup> July P14ME church service 7.30pm Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Howsham:</b>	P14Me cards delivered 1 <sup>st</sup> August P14ME church service 7.30pm Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> August
<b>Foston/TLC:</b>	P14Me cards delivered 12 <sup>th</sup> September P14ME church service 7.30pm Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> September

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***Evensong at Castle Howard***



**On Sunday 21st August  
at 4.00 p.m.**

**The Benefice Choir will  
lead Evensong in the  
Chapel at Castle Howard.**

***Everyone is welcome to attend the service and support the choir***



### **Congratulations to those recently married**

27 <sup>th</sup> May	Matthew Ian Spalding and Donna Marie Kirbitson	Flaxton
28 <sup>th</sup> May	Steven Timothy Bishop and Angela Healey	Bossall
4 <sup>th</sup> June	Elliot Calpin and Gemma Wilcock	Sand Hutton
1 <sup>st</sup> July	David Steven Carter and Charlotte Louise Relton	Bossall
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Philip St Clair Blakeborough and Chloe Maud Walsh	Whitwell
15 <sup>th</sup> July	William Mellor and Laura Cowlbeck	Foston
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Mark Mirfin and Rebecca Helen Ford	Bossall
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Kyle James Cooper and Denise Buckby	Flaxton



### **Welcome to those newly baptised**

8 <sup>th</sup> May	Isaac Todd	Flaxton
5 <sup>th</sup> June	Jack Charlie Cole	Foston
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Harriet Christine Walker	Bossall
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Caiden Harry Edward Simpson	Crambe



### **Our condolences to the families and friends of**

5 <sup>th</sup> May	Marie Booth	Gate Helmsley
2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Jill Lewin	Flaxton
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Pam Vaughan Hughes	Flaxton
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Neville Webb	Flaxton
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Peter Harrison	Upper Helmsley

## ***From the Benefice PCC.....***

The Benefice PCC last met on 12<sup>th</sup> July. Among the topics discussed were;

- The need to make sure that our churches are as welcoming as possible, through an initiative called “Sharing our Story” which encourages us, for example, to have messages of welcome on church notice boards, signs and our website and to let people know what our church is about.
- The benefice prayer mission, “Pray One for Me”. This work was commissioned at the benefice service at All Saints Foston on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July and began in the village of Upper Helmsley the following week. More about this elsewhere in The Circular.

The Benefice PCC will next meet on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October at Barton le Willows Village Hall. There will be a short business meeting at 7.00 pm, followed by an open meeting from 7.30 pm. to be addressed by the Venerable David Butterfield, Archdeacon for Generous Giving Stewardship. Everyone is very welcome to this part of the meeting; ***churchwardens, PCC secretaries and PCC treasurers are particularly encouraged to attend.***

*Delyth Harran, Lay Vice Chairman*

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## **Royal British Legion 2016 Poppy Appeal**

Volunteer poppy sellers are still needed for some of the villages in the Benefice for this year's appeal.

**If you could spare a few hours during Remembrancetide  
for this important task**

**Please contact Fiona Davies on 01904 468001**

## **Wiggle Waggle Community Dog Walking Group**



Do you fancy getting to know people in your local community and walks in the local area? We plan to meet on the 1st Sunday of every month at 10 am outside the Village Hall, Barton le Willows.

**everyone is welcome even if you don't have a dog!**

If you would like to join us,  
Please contact Karen on: 07776 446 886

**Suggestions for walks and ideas for the walking group welcome.**

Future dates planned, walk details to be arranged.

**7th August, 4th September, 2nd October, 6th November, 4th December**

## **Up-coming Events at Sand Hutton and Claxton Village Hall**

### **Saturday 13 August**

Summer Saturday Social

10.30 am – 12.30 pm

### **Saturday 3 September**

Village Produce Show

2 – 4 pm

### **Friday 23 September**

“Synolda Arms” Pop-up Pub

7 – 11 pm

### **Wednesday 26 October**

“The Last Station Keeper”

7.30 pm

a new play by Badapple Theatre

***Please note that the Community Library will continue to open throughout the summer on Monday mornings 10 – 11 am***





Gate Helmsley Village hall

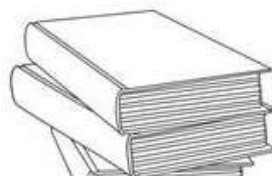
## LIBRARY OPEN!

**2nd SATURDAY EACH MONTH**

**Starting on August 13th 2016**

lots of books to choose from!

browse over endless amounts  
of tea coffee and biscuits



Jean Shipley invites you to  
***Scones on the Lawn***  
*At Croft Cottage, Thornton-le-Clay*  
***Sunday 14th August***  
***10.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m.***

Cream scone with tea or coffee £2.00

Tombola for which donations much appreciated

All proceeds to  
Macmillan Nurses

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**



**OPEN GARDENS**  
**Monday 29th August**

Buttercrambe House  
and Aldby Park  
2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.  
Tea and Cake

***Sand Hutton and Claxton, Barton and District  
Annual Village Produce Show 2016***

***Saturday September 3rd  
Sand Hutton and Claxton Village Hall***

***Entries for judging to arrive  
between 8.00 a.m.  
and 10.00 a.m.  
Show opens 2.00 p.m.***



***Dogs most waggly tail  
competition 3.00 p.m.  
Auction of produce 3.30 p.m.***

***For further information contact***

email: hallcaroline993@gmail.com email: rachel@no1claxton.f9.co.uk  
email: jdanischewsky@gmail.com email: catbell180@googlemail.com

***and on the website  
www.claxton-sandhutton.org.uk***



***St Michael's Church, Crambe  
Calling all Bridge players!***



**BRIDGE AFTERNOON**

**September 15th at 2.0 p.m.**

Bridge afternoon in aid of church funds  
at the village hall Barton Le Willows.

Rubber Bridge

Prizes to be won!

**Tickets £10 per person to include Afternoon Tea**

if you are interested in joining us please contact Deborah Cole

**Tel: 01653 619648**

St Mary's Church, Gate Helmsley

Coffee  
Morning



10.00 a.m.  
to  
12.30 p.m.

Thursday 15th September  
at Fox Farm courtesy of Anne and Andrew Podmore

Cake stall ❖ Tombola

*Are there are any Gin lovers in our Benefice ?*



If so we would love to see you  
at a talk from the award winning  
Sloemotion Gin company

on Saturday 24th of September 7.00 p.m.

in Thornton-le-Clay village hall.

the evening includes an arrival drink, a light hearted gin talk and supper,  
**all for a mere £10.**

Please contact the churchwardens at Foston for further information

Gate Helmsley Village Hall

15th October

10.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

**CRAFT FAIR**

lots of stalls  
refreshments will be available





**Wednesday 26th October at 7.30 p.m.**

**At Sand Hutton Village Hall**

**Tickets £9.50**



## **THE LAST STATION KEEPER**

The world premiere of a new comedy by Kate Bramley

**The station house at Honeypot Holt is under attack and not just from the resident bees!**

As the summer days drone on the threat of closure creeps nearer and nearer as the new high speed rail link threatens the bumbling ways of the station master and the railway cottage that has stood at the centre of the village for as long as anyone can remember.

Will all the memories within those walls be lost to progress?

An hilarious and heartfelt look at the perils of modern life as the 21st Century 'need for speed' hits the old ways head on...

Tickets available from Christine Keller Tel: 01904 468195,  
Caroline Hall Tel: 01904 468376, Fiona Davies Tel: 01904 468001

# **Halloween Dance**

**29th October 7.30pm**

at Gate Helmsley Village Hall

**dancing to 'Uncut'**

tickets £12 wonderful supper included.

Please bring your own drinks (glasses provided).

Raffle



**Tickets from Chris 01759371687 or Mandy 01759371148**



## ***Around the Parishes.....***

### ***News views and information from:***

#### **CRAMBE**

There have been normal services, and even though it's supposed to be Summer, the new heating has been in use!

On the second weekend in June, two events were held to celebrate the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. It started on Friday evening with a fundraising event for the Church, which was well attended in spite of the inclement weather. Food and drink tasters were provided by Sloemotion, Food2remember and Roost Coffee. A total of £510 was raised. Many thanks to all who helped, all in the village helped in one way or another.

This was followed by a village barbecue on Sunday. Again much help was provided from everyone, rearranging chairs and tables, and decorations. Again the weather was not at its best, but everyone enjoyed the afternoon and fabulous food.

Some of us attended an event at Foston Church which was a fascinating story of 'The woman who didn't exist'. Recommended if you see it coming anywhere else.

On 5th July several people attended Chris's 'Spa Church'. This was a very tranquil and relaxing experience, as the sun shone through the open door and lit up the church. The service was followed by tea, coffee and biscuits in the church. We also had the opportunity to meet our new curate, Hannah, who will be a great addition to the Benefice. Welcome Hannah to the Benefice of Harton and may your stay be a happy one!

#### **FLAXTON**

In May we were very happy to host the Todd family who originate from York, but now live in Scotland, for the baptism of their second son Isaac. We had a lovely email from the family thanking everyone involved and saying that they had had a super day celebrating and very happy to be traveling back to Scotland having had another great celebration and memory from Flaxton.

Our grateful thanks once again to Jane and Trevor Corner for hosting our Garden Fete on the 18<sup>th</sup> June which was opened this year by the children from Sunday School. As always there was a lot of hard work involved and the PCC are extremely grateful for all the help given.

We were blessed with good weather when we joined Archbishop Sentamu on his walk from Flaxton to Foston School. The following Sunday a few of us were able to enjoy the Pentecostal outdoor service at Castle Howard where we had the opportunity to meet the Archbishop and his wife Margaret, and to witness a baptism in the Castle Howard fountain.

On Thursday September 8<sup>th</sup> we are holding our second St Crux fund raising event. If you are in York that day please do call in. You can be assured of a warm welcome and excellent cakes!

Our Harvest Festival service will be held on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October when we shall be joined by Bishop John. The service will be followed by a "bring and share lunch" in the village hall to which all are warmly invited.

And finally, it is with great sadness to have to record the passing of three members of the village: Jill Lewin, Pam Vaughan Hughes and Neville Webb. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families

## **FOSTON**

As we progress with the summer our church continues to keep us all busy, especially as now the church porch is home to a couple of families of nesting house martins, whose main aim is to get into church !

A couple of weeks ago we all enjoyed an amazing talk from Kath and Clive Richardson entitled "The woman who didn't exist" A true story told with great skill and passion kept us all entertained right to the end. Afterwards we all enjoyed tea and cakes. Many thanks to all who helped and attended.

On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July Foston church held a well-attended Benefice service. The service was extra special as we welcomed Hannah Suekarran our new curate. Hannah led the service which was very inspiring and spiritual. Her only competition were the three house martins who had seen their chance to enter the church, and were not going to miss out on the service, they managed to make quite a racket !

As always a big thank you goes to those who care and look after our church. Its beauty is a reflection of your commitment.



## ***GATE HELMSLEY***

We were pleased that the day of the Archbishop's visit to the Benefice in May (as part of his pilgrimage of prayer) opened with Morning Prayer at St Mary's. The day was a great success both for this church and for the benefice as a whole.

We are very happy to welcome our new Curate, Hannah Suekarran, to the Benefice. She will be supporting the Rector for the next three years and her work will be greatly valued.

St Mary's Church has taken on a completely different and more open aspect since the removal of the organ to the workshop of the restorers, PPO. This has given us the opportunity to have the vestry redecorated to match the rest of the church.

The new churchyard is being maintained in very good order, including the planting of new hedging on either side of the gate. Plans are in train for the consecration of a dedicated area for burials, while the remaining unconsecrated ground will be available for the recreational use of villagers.

The existing churchyard is being managed as an area of conservation, with the grass left long in some parts in order to encourage wildlife. There has been a huge variety of wild flowers and different grasses, which provide a safe environment for insects and small animals. The long grass is cut once a year when the flowers and grasses have seeded. This cut is due by the beginning of August. Some sycamore trees growing close to the churchyard wall will have to be removed in the autumn.

Two recent fund-raising events proved very successful and were blessed with good weather. Thanks to Dick Garnons-Williams for opening the beautiful garden of the Manor House on 18<sup>th</sup> June, and to everyone who supported this event. The annual strawberry lunch was held at the Village Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, another very enjoyable and successful event. Thank you to everyone who helped.

Sadly we report the death of Marie Booth, a long-standing resident of Prospect House Care Home, whose funeral was held at St Mary's Church on 25<sup>th</sup> May. Marie had a long and happy life, reaching the age of 92. The funeral service was very much a celebration of that life.

We have again been asked to hold an hour of carol singing on a Saturday before Christmas. The proposed date is 11<sup>th</sup> December at 12.00 noon. Other forthcoming events are:

- Harvest Festival Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 6.30 pm in church followed by a harvest supper in the Village Hall
- Christmas Fayre Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2.00 to 4.00 pm at Orchard House

As we go to press, we are anticipating a successful barbecue in aid of Gate Helmsley Village Hall to be held in the beautiful garden of Whinfield, courtesy of Tony Parker. Other forthcoming Village Hall events are advertised in another part of the Circular.

## **“Pipe Up!”**

### **St Mary’s, Gate Helmsley Centenary Organ Restoration Fund**



Our organ has gone – but we are pleased, because it was taken on 26 April by a team from PPO (led by Geoffrey Coffin) to their workshop in York. The task of removal took a full day and two large vanloads.



*The pipes were carefully stored in order!*

*Some were clearly not in good shape!*

As the organ was dismantled it seemed that it would be difficult to restore the pneumatic action as originally planned. Geoffrey Coffin discussed this with Mr John Scott Whiteley, the Diocesan Organ Advisor, who recommended that the action be electrified on the grounds of greater reliability and improving the difficult touch of the original action. The Fundraising Group agreed to accept this advice.

The group visited the PPO workshop on 30 June and were shown around by Mr Coffin. We were impressed by the quality and complexity of the work that we saw. Most of the organ case has been cleaned and re-polished, the bellows are under reconstruction, the pedal board has been transformed; the sound boards and pipes are work in progress. We were pleased to learn, and to see for ourselves, the excellent quality of the original

workmanship of Abbott and Smith in 1913 – justifying the decision to undertake restoration.

We expect the restored organ back in place in September. Meanwhile we have a harmonium to support congregational singing. This presents interesting challenges, albeit of a different nature to those of the creaking organ. It certainly keeps the organist fit as it has no electric blower!

We are now planning for a re-dedication service and recitals, so watch the website and the next edition of The Circular for details.

The vestry looked large and empty without the organ. It was also clearly in need of redecoration – and this has now been carried out.

The Fundraising Group is still happy to receive further donations to ensure that we have a small “contingency” reserve in case of unforeseen additional work that might be required.

***The Fundraising Group:*** Dick Garnons Williams, Michael Harran, Andrew Podmore

## **HOWSHAM**

Our Bank Holiday Cake Stall raised a record amount and was as busy as ever.

We celebrated the Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in great style with a lunch party at Derwent Court attended by over 70 people. Sister cut the celebration cakes and even a heavy downpour failed to dampen spirits. We also added to Church funds with a raffle.



*Sister Margaret Ann cuts the cake*

Messrs Carr Brothers have made a great job of repairing the Church wall. We are most grateful to Bossall PCC for their contribution to this.

The annual Church & Churchyard clean-up will again take place on Bank Holiday Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August from 2pm. This will be followed by a barbecue as usual at the Great Barn.

We should like to welcome several new arrivals to the village and will be delighted if they can come to the barbecue.

**Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service, Supper & Auction will be on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm**

## ***SAND HUTTON and CLAXTON***

We have had quite a quiet three months the highlight being the celebration for the Queens Official Birthday on June 11th. Thankyou to all those who made this a real community event on Claxton village green and the weather was kind to us!!! Many village folk mingled and enjoyed afternoon tea whilst the children enjoyed the old traditional games. A brilliant opportunity for a village 'Get together'!

It seems a long time since Archbishop Sentamu visited the Benefice encouraging us in our faith journey and setting us an example of serving not only our friends and neighbours but reaching out to those unknown to us who maybe have needs.

**ST MARYS CHURCH:** Thank you to Chris for introducing new forms of worship for us to explore e.g. 'Spa Church'. We look forward to exciting times ahead.

**WELCOME** to Hannah our new Assistant Curate who was ordained Deacon early in July! We look forward to getting to know her and sharing our community and church life with her.

**SNACK & CHAT:** You are warmly invited to join us on the 2nd Monday of the month starting on 12<sup>th</sup> September in St. Mary's church from 9.0 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. for a cuppa and an opportunity to have a chat or maybe a time of reflection and quiet.

The prayer board and candle stand within the church are being well used. All are welcome to leave prayer requests / tributes on the memorial table and we will remember you in our prayers.

### **FUNDRAISING.**

**STRAWBERRY TEAS:** What a beautiful sunny day, we were truly blessed with the lovely weather, good food, fun and friendship. Thank you to all those who supported the teas in Claxton and to those who helped behind the scenes, we could not put this event on without you all! Fortunately the trains performed well and it was good to have Ivan (our previous vicar) & Valerie to help. Many thanks, again, to Louise and Paul Coulter for the generous gift of plants to sell, boosting funds for the Tower Restoration Project at St. Marys. (Approx. £600 raised)

The PCC met on July 20th and the minutes will be made available at the church for those who wish to take a copy. Please contact any member of the PCC if you have any concerns you would find helpful to be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Save the Date!**

**GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS:** 5<sup>th</sup> November always a brilliant social event in Sand Hutton Village Hall.

**QUIZ NIGHT:** 17<sup>th</sup> November Dot & Bryan's Quiz night is one event not to be missed!!!

**Full details in the next Circular**

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### **AN UPDATE FROM SHIKA IN ZAMBIA**

Each time I visit the family in Zambia, Shika, who you remember is training to be a dentist, asks me to share her news with those of you who sponsor her to go to college, so in her words:

*"Dear my Sponsors,  
I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
I would like to say thank you for your support in  
kindness towards my Dentistry Training. Maybe it has  
not always been easy for you to support me but you*

*have managed to give me a piece of your monies to do my course of which I  
am enjoying. I am so happy that I wouldn't stop my tears of joy coming from  
my eyes as it hasn't been an easy thing to express myself. I have now  
completed my 2nd year which I now have a year and a few months to  
complete the whole course hopefully in UK. I am doing good in my school  
work and easy to do because of your support in money which has been  
buying books and with the gift of a laptop, I am able to type my  
assignments. I thank you all so much, a letter is not enough, not a gift would  
be enough but one day I wish to be with you and share my life experiences  
with you."*

**If you wish to support or know more about this amazing Zambian lady,  
please contact Rachel 01904 468809**

# **ST MARY'S CHURCH, SAND HUTTON, TOWER AND SPIRE RESTORATION PROJECT**



The development stage of our Restoration project is drawing to a close. There has been a full programme of investigations: rectified photography, stone sampling and analysis, internal investigations, drainage exploration, glazing survey, asbestos survey, ecology survey and designs drawn up for a

kitchenette, heritage storage area and accessible toilet. The various reports have informed our plans for the delivery phase when the actual work will be undertaken.

Specification and plans have been prepared and tenders have been invited from a shortlist of contractors who submitted expressions of interest. A faculty application has been made to the Diocesan Advisory Committee. The next step is to prepare and submit the second round application to the Heritage Lottery Fund to seek funding for the delivery phase of this major and significant project. If we are successful we hope to begin the programme of works in 2017. Our aim is to preserve St Mary's Church and its heritage and to create new opportunities and facilities to attract more people to use and enjoy this beautiful building.

We sincerely thank all those who share our vision and who continue to generously support our fundraising. Also to those who give freely of their time and effort planning and organising events. It is very much appreciated.

**If you would like more detailed information  
or feel able to make a donation please contact:**

**Ellen Stott 01904 468404 or Graham Baker 01904 468809**





## ***News from our schools.....***

### ***SAND HUTTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL***

The summer term is to end in the traditional manner with a Leaver's Assembly to say farewell to the Year 6 children, PTA BBQ, Sports Day as well as visits and trips to the seaside – just how summer in primary school should be.

**Class 1 had a super day at Filey on the beach.** They were accompanied by a large group of parents who were able to join in the fun. Everyone returned tired but very happy. Class 2 visited The Ryedale Folk Museum Hutton le Hole to bring their topic on Victorians alive. They had a busy day and proudly brought back the rag rugs they had made but were not convinced that a Victorian school day was preferable to school at Sand Hutton in 2016!



**Once again Class 3 (Years 4, 5, 6) took part in the Theatre Royal Playhouse Project** where the children have the opportunity to perform in a play especially written for children of this age. The performance took place on the Studio Stage at the Theatre Royal in York involving the whole class. This year's play was "In the Shadow of the Quarks" by Bridget Foreman, which was a challenging play demanding that the children give of their very best –

which of course they did! Mrs Sharna Fraser produced the play assisted by the theatre staff including lighting and sound technicians that resulted in an excellent performance enjoyed by all. There were many special individual performances but most notable was the way the children interacted and supported each other throughout – parents and grandparents were rightly very proud of the children's achievement.

**We will be sad to say goodbye to the Year 6 children as they go off to secondary school**



but they are very ready for the next stage of their school life. Callum, Josie, Harry, Megan, Owen, Rebecca, and Robert will be going off to Huntington and Becki, Ellie, Isaac, Lydia and Matthew, are joining Malton School and Eliza is to start at York High. We send them off with our love and best wishes for continued success in the future.

Everyone is off enjoying their summer break hopefully having a well-earned rest before the new academic year gets underway.



## ***FOSTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL***

It has been a fabulous year for Foston CE Primary School. Beginning with a good Ofsted, under very tough new criteria, with many areas of strength in our school and finishing the year with an outstanding grade for our church schools inspection. The inspector stated "Christian values in action result in excellent relationships, behaviour and attitudes to work that enable all pupils to develop academically and socially." Our Christian values form strong foundations for the excellent care, guidance and support offered to our children. The inclusive nature of our school for children of all abilities and need is clearly reflected in the outstanding provision recognised by the inspector.

Over the year we have made strong links with Howsham Mill which has extended our love of learning outside to the beautiful island hidden on the River Derwent. In conjunction with their education officer we have hosted a creative writing workshop and maths problem solving day for local cluster schools and many children from Foston and Terrington have enjoyed forest schools and other outdoor learning. We look forward to using Howsham Mill as an extension to our classroom into next year.



*KS2 children at Howsham Mill*



Yet another sad goodbye, as our Year 6 children, Liam, Libby and James move onto secondary school. Particularly poignant to me as I taught these three in reception and it seems just yesterday. We wish them every good luck and happiness as they move through their education.

Currently Terrington and Foston Schools share their Head teacher and both schools have their own Governing Bodies who have been working together in an informal confederation. Both Terrington and Foston Governors have been looking in to the implications of a full Federation between the two schools. Federation is not an amalgamation of the Schools. Both would keep their own identity but there would be one Federated Governing Body. After lengthy investigations and deliberations the governors are of the view that it would benefit the Schools to be in a Federation together and so have decided to take the next step of consulting with parents and the local communities. The consultation will take place in the autumn term and full details of how parents and the communities can be involved will be available in early September. The two governing bodies will consider the feedback and take a final decision before Christmas.



## *Claxton and Sand Hutton Parish Council, what do we do?.....read all about us.....*



We sometimes wonder if people know what their parish council does, or even what it is. The word “parish” is slightly confusing, being normally associated with a church, but no, the Parish Council is simply one part of local government, dealing with very local things such as clearing drains, cutting the grass, picking up litter, as well as commenting on local planning applications.

Not the most exciting list of activities, but the reason the Parish Council exists is that “local” means the things that actually matter to us as we go about daily life. “Nimbyism” is often criticised but of course we all care about what happens in our back yards, it’s where we experience the effects of things happening on a bigger scale. The Parish Council, then, tries to help its community function as well as possible.

One major thread in this work is about communication because that is how a community will become stronger (indeed, the words have a common root). In one direction, we talk to the next levels of government, Ryedale District Council, and North Yorkshire County Council, whose councillors often attend our meetings and support us on local issues. But we also want to respond to parishioners (again, not a church word – just everyone living in the “parish” area) and foster the sense of neighbourhood.

There are, of course, lots of brilliant activities organised by other local groups and individuals that make a big contribution to our lives. The special contribution made by the Parish Council is in hosting the “Saturday Socials”, where anyone and everyone can come and find out what is happening in the back yard – events, local businesses, products for sale, issues of current concern, and so on.

**Please support our work: we need two more councillors to fill vacancies in Claxton, so do come and talk to us at the next Summer Saturday Social on 13<sup>th</sup> August in the Village Hall at Sand Hutton.**

For more information, including the formal process of PC meetings, see

[www.claxton-sandhutton.org.uk](http://www.claxton-sandhutton.org.uk)



## ***Recollections of Barton le Willows and the Village Hall in times past***

As newcomers and members of the Barton-le-Willows Village Hall Committee we wanted to learn more about the history of the area and the village hall.

Rebecca Brennan talked to Ray Freer, who was born at Woodland View, Barton-le-Willows 92 years ago and has seen some changes in the village over the years. As a young boy he recalls there being a number of shops in the village, the first one at No.8 which sold sweets, and then from the 1930s to 1949, his parents had a shop in his house selling cigarettes, sweets, lemonade, large bags of yeast and even fireworks around Bonfire Night. There was also a Post Office, a Blacksmiths (Forge Cottage) and a pub, the Blacksmiths Arms. Then there were the yearly outings to Scarborough run by the Methodist Church where Sunday school was held. At Whitsuntide there were tea and cricket matches, besides walking to Kirkham for a picnic by the river and using the rowing boats.

I also talked to Wendy Illingworth, who was born at Elm Tree Farm (now Harton Hill House) in Harton where she has lived all her life. She attended Harton School and her maiden name is listed on one of the wooden panels that now hang in Barton le Willows Village Hall as "Wendy Parkinson, 1947". The panels record the winners of an annual written competition "Amer's Memorial Prize", organised by the vicar. Amer was a past teacher at the school and the prize each year was a bible.

Wendy and her sister Vera were lifelong members of the Howsham, Barton and Harton branch of the W.I. Vera served as President and Wendy was Treasurer, then Secretary for over twenty years.

The W.I. had its first meeting in 1940 in a room above the stables in the stable block at Howsham Hall. At least one woman had to send apologies as she was on wartime fire watch duty. Mrs Ida Strickland, who lived at the Hall, was a leading light in the W.I branch and its founder President. She also embroidered a special tablecloth for use at the meetings.



The small bell was to call for silence when necessary at meetings! When Barton le Willows Village Hall opened in 1961, the WI started to use it straight away.

“We met at 7pm on the third Wednesday of the month and it was very interesting and educational. There was a cup for the overall points winner every year. In the past we used to have lunches for forty people at the village hall – people would come in coaches. It had to be a cold lunch of course, as there was no cooker and it was a problem washing up for a big group in that small sink, especially as there was only room for about two people in the kitchen! At Christmas we always had a pub lunch and this is how the “Harton Ladies Christmas Lunch” developed – we decided to try a caterer and have it at the Village Hall – that works well.”



In more recent times, the Village Hall has hosted numerous events. Ivy (Ray's wife) remembers the Country Dancing which was held during the winter months and Malcolm (Ray's son) recalls the youth club which was held every Friday where people could play table tennis, billiards, snooker, darts and listen to music on the record player.

Ray thoroughly enjoys the Village BBQ Party held in the Hall which is still going strong today and which he attended again this year!

Wendy has pointed us in the direction of the WI archives at Thirsk and I will be visiting them soon, as the minutes of those 1940s wartime meetings will be fascinating. I shall have another talk with Wendy to record her memories of Harton over the years.

***Jo Danischewsky***

*Ida Strickland's embroidery*



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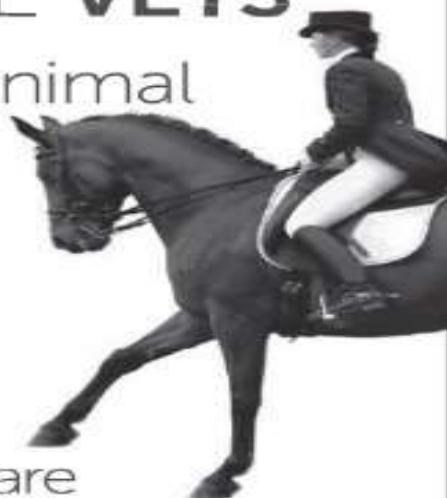


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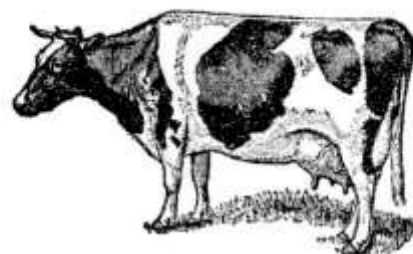
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### **Upper Helmsley, St Peter**

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**Items for 'The Circular'**  
**Copy deadline for the next edition October 14th 2016**

This will cover: November December 2016 January 2017

**Unfortunately it may not be possible to include  
anything received after the deadline.**

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