

The Benefice of Harton

The Circular



Autumn 2025

August September October

News and views in our benefice and communities

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

The colour cover of this edition of The Circular
is sponsored by St John the Evangelist, Whitwell-on-the-Hill

From Rev Nigel.....

At the time of writing this, the schools have just broken up for the Summer holidays. I attended the Leavers' Assemblies at both Foston and Sand Hutton Schools. They were full of songs, shared memories, laughter and quite a lot of emotion, as the schools said 'farewell' to the Year 6 pupils. I'm sure they will now be looking forward, perhaps a little nervously, to starting their new secondary schools in September. They go with prayers of support from all the worshipping community in the Harton Benefice.

I do hope that everyone gets time to enjoy themselves over this summer holiday period and to find time to play and relax, children and adults both! I'm sure for a lot of parents, grandparents and everyone looking after children, these next few weeks mean having a little less time for themselves. So, it is important that we all take some time out from the busyness of life and have an occasional bit of 'Me' time, and recharge our spiritual batteries, as well as looking after our physical needs.

Jesus often withdrew from his disciples and followers and took time out to be quiet and pray. He also recommends taking time out from the worries and stresses of our busy lives. In Luke's Gospel at the end of Chapter 10, a passage I have just recently preached on, Jesus, who has been travelling, arrives in a small town called Bethany, and is invited to stay at the home of Lazarus, by Lazarus' sisters, Martha and Mary.

Hospitality was socially very important in the culture of that place and time. Martha was busy being the perfect hostess and preparing a meal for her guest. But, as Jesus spoke, her sister Mary sat at his feet to listen to him speak. Eventually Martha getting a bit fed up with doing everything on her own comes to Jesus and says, *"Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me."*

Jesus doesn't respond the way Martha was probably expecting him to; he neither sends Mary off to join Martha in preparing food, nor tells Martha to carry on without Mary. He replies, *"Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted*



by many things, but few things are needed - indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Jesus isn't saying to Martha that the work she is doing isn't important, but that she has got so wrapped up in providing for the physical needs of others and worrying about it, that she is neglecting to take time out to cater to her own spiritual needs, as her younger sister, Mary has done.

I think also that Martha, in being so busy, was missing out on time with her guest, properly interacting with Jesus and getting to know him.



I'm sure many of us have hosted parties or barbecues where we have spent so much time on preparation and ensuring everyone is fed and watered, that at the end of it we've barely had a chance to talk with any of the guests.

So this Summer, make sure you do take some time to look after your own spiritual needs, even if it's just a quiet walk communing with nature, or snuggling in a comfy space with a good book. (I can highly recommend the Bible, a book that often surprises and sometimes challenges), and when you are socializing make the time to enjoy the company of friends and family, and give them a chance to enjoy your company too!

Earlier this year we gave thanks to Rachael Harrison who stepped down from her role as Youth and Families Worker in the Benefice. I am now very pleased that Rachael Tearney will be taking on the role, starting at the beginning of September. Rachael brings her super talents in drama and music to the role, and I look forward very much to working with her as we go forward.

We are also grateful to Rachael Harrison who has been standing in as the Safeguarding Officer for the Benefice. This role is now being taken on by Anna Sawkins, and I am grateful to her for putting herself forward.

There is quite a bit going on across the Benefice, and we are in the early stages of creating a Pastoral Care Team. These will be members of the Church communities who will be in contact with people who may have pastoral needs, for example, being housebound. The team is being led by Adrian Watson.

Also, we have been inviting interest in creating a Benefice Healing Team. This is Christian Healing, which involves the laying on of hands and gentle prayer to help people to experience wholeness in times of difficulty and/or illness. There will be specific services of Healing and Quietness. Ian Lyall, our Licensed Lay Minister, will take the lead on this team.



Please do keep an eye on our Benefice website for services and events across all ten of our churches. www.sandhuttongroup.org.uk

I wish you all a wonderful Summer, filled with fun, laughter, friends, and rest. Oh, and factor 50 when required!

Blessings
Rev Nigel

Services for the Benefice of Harton

Some services may be subject to change. Please check the website and WhatsApp group or ask a member of the clergy. Contact details are on the back of The Circular

A Zoom service will be held on the first Sunday of every month at 9.00 am. If you would like to join this service, please let Ian Lyall know and he will send you the link: ian.lyall2@gmail.com

August 2025

<i>Sunday August 3rd</i>		<i>Trinity 7</i>
9.00	Zoom Service	
10.00	Holy Communion	Bossall

Wednesday August 6th

10.00 Holy Communion Crambe

Sunday August 10th

Trinity 8

10.00 Holy Communion Whitwell

Wednesday August 13th

10.00 Holy Communion Howsham

Sunday August 17th

Trinity 9

10.00 Holy Communion Buttercrambe

Wednesday August 20th

10.00 Holy Communion Sand Hutton

Sunday August 24th

Trinity 10

10.00 Holy Communion Gate Helmsley

Wednesday August 27th

10.00 Holy Communion Flaxton

Sunday August 31st

Trinity 11

10.00 Holy Communion Upper Helmsley

September 2025

Wednesday September 3rd

10.00 Holy Communion Crambe

Sunday September 7th

Trinity 12

9.00	Zoom Service	
10.00	Holy Communion <i>with Bishop Flora</i>	Bossall

Wednesday September 10th

10.00	Holy Communion	Howsham
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Sunday September 14th

Trinity 13

10.00	Holy Communion	Foston
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Wednesday September 17th

10.00	Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
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Sunday September 21st

Trinity 14

10.00	All Age Worship	Bossall
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Wednesday September 24th

10.00	Holy Communion	Flaxton
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Thursday September 25th

6.00	Harvest Thanksgiving <i>followed by Harvest Supper in the village hall</i>	Gate Helmsley
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Sunday September 28th

Trinity 15

10.00	Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
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October 2025

Wednesday October 1st

10.00	Holy Communion	Crambe
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Sunday October 5th

Trinity 16

10.00	Holy Communion	Gate Helmsley
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Wednesday October 8th

10.00	Holy Communion	Howsham
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Sunday October 12th

Trinity 17

<u>11.00</u>	Harvest Festival	Flaxton
	<i>followed by 'bring and share lunch'</i>	
6.00	Harvest Thanksgiving	Howsham
	<i>followed by auction of gifts</i>	

Wednesday October 15th

10.00	Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
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Sunday October 19th

Trinity 18

9.00	Zoom Service	
10.00	Holy Communion	Foston
5.00	Harvest Thanksgiving	Crambe
	<i>followed by refreshments</i>	

Wednesday October 22nd

10.00 pm	Holy Communion	Flaxton
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Sunday October 26th

Clocks go back!

Trinity 19

11.00

Harvest Thanksgiving Communion
followed by Harvest Lunch at Aldby Park

Buttercrambe

Thursday 30th October



7.00 pm

Festival of Lilies and Light

Crambe



St Michael's Church, Crambe
Festival of Lilies and Light
with The Benefice Choir
Thursday October 30th at 7.00 pm



An opportunity to celebrate and remember those who we have loved and lost
If you would like a name or names to be added to the roll that will be read out
during the service, either complete one of the forms which can be found at
the back of a church near you or contact Fiona

Email: churchmouse@crambehouse.co.uk or Text/phone 07774 886 833

The church will be decorated with arrangements of lilies. If you would like to make a small
donation towards the lilies it would be much appreciated.

You will be invited to light a candle in memory of your loved ones during the service.

If you are unable to attend the service, you can still add names to the roll.
Please let Fiona know by Monday October 27th. The church will be open every day
following the service so you can visit and light a candle at a time to suit you .

November 2025

Sunday November 2nd

All Saints Day

9.00

Zoom Service

10.00

Holy Communion
with dedication of Christmas Shoeboxes

Upper Helmsley

Wednesday November 5th

10.00

Holy Communion

Howsham



Welcome to those newly baptised

June 15th

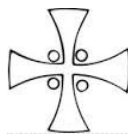
Oscar James St Duthus Mackaness Upper Helmsley



Congratulations to those newly married

June 21st

Alexander Pearson and Sara Nicholaides Howsham



Our condolences to the family and friends of

May 16th 2025

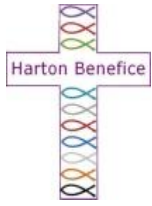
Carole Margaret Addison

Gate Helmsley

July 12th 2025

Lynda Margaret Teale

Kirkham



Benefice PCC.....

The Benefice PCC last met on 17th July.

The main issues discussed were:

- The appointment of Rachael Tearney as Benefice Lead for Youth and Families. Rachael will formally start in this role on 1st September 2025. In the meantime, she (with her husband, John) has led a couple of very creative services of All Age Worship (AAW) at Buttercrambe and Foston churches
- Anna Sawkins has volunteered to take on the role of Benefice Lead for Safeguarding. She is already in harness, working with Rachael Harrison to update the DBS records of PCC members
- We were reminded of the York based organisation, Menfulness Men-U, a much-needed resource providing safe spaces for men to socialize, exercise and talk in a supportive environment. There are more details elsewhere in the Circular

The BPCC will next meet on 16th October at 10.00 am at Crambe House, Crambe. Please send agenda items to the honorary secretary, Ellen Stott.

Delyth Harran

Lay Chairman

Christmas Shoeboxes

As usual, we are thinking about Christmas shoeboxes even though it is still summer. The new leaflet for 2025 is about to be printed and a YouTube video is on the way. I plan to distribute leaflets in August.



Our villages and schools generously contributed many items last year - thank you so much. In 2024 Amen charity were able to send out 2962 shoeboxes and would love to get over 3000 this year! Thanks to your efforts, and those of the AMEN team, the boxes reached Romania in time for Christmas and were a real blessing to those who received them.

Once again, this year, along with the shoeboxes, we plan to send blankets and good quality baby clothes (please mark bags and boxes of these very clearly). Please note hand knitted baby clothes are not required. There is also a need for pushchairs and Moses baskets. The service of blessing will be **Sunday 2nd November.**

Transport costs continue to rise. We appreciate this is a tough time for lots of people in the UK but hope many will put the full £3 on a box rather than the minimum £2. We are always happy to receive donations towards transport, from individuals or churches, which is worth mentioning when you promote the shoebox collection.

Last year we suggested that any box of a similar size to a shoebox could be used. With the rise of online shopping many items arrive in boxes of all sizes and recycling is always good! To ensure fairness when distributing boxes, we do not want large boxes like boot boxes or the equivalent.



I do hope that you will be able to support the 2025 collection.

David Fletcher

From the Churchmouse.....



It is a very long time since the Churchmouse added her musings to the content of this magazine. In the Autumn edition of The Circular 2010, she recorded our grateful thanks to Susan McAvoy who had been editing the magazine for a number of years. The Churchmouse signed herself off as the 'temporary editor', that was 15 years ago! The magazine has come a long way since then, expanding from 28 pages to around 40 pages, and progressed from all black and white to the vibrant colour cover generously sponsored by all the churches in the benefice, in turn. Thanks to the internet and the expertise of Michael Harran, it can now also be viewed in full glorious colour at the click of a mouse on the church website: www.sandhuttongroup.org.uk.

In the early days of the Churchmouse's tenure of office as editor, printing of the magazine was undertaken in the vestry of St Mary's Church Sand Hutton. It suited the printing team well, but it didn't suit the printer which was very temperamental, and sensitive to the fluctuating humidity of the rather damp atmosphere common to many churches, leading to endless breakdowns or paper jams due to sticky paper, resulting in frustration for the printing team. We are very grateful to Graham and Rachel Baker for giving the printer its current home in the shed in their garden, where temperature and humidity are controlled. Mostly, the print run is now not something to be dreaded and endured, but an enjoyable and fairly speedy process. Thanks, must also go to Rachel, Peter, Ellen and Michael for the time they spend sending out the postal copies, and filling boxes and bags with the printed copies for distribution. A huge thank you must go to the team of gallant volunteers (you know who you are!) who distribute the copies in all weathers, through every letterbox in the benefice, some 1200 of them!

We are immensely grateful to our advertisers for their support. They enable us to distribute the magazine free of charge.

The Circular is only as good as the content received by the editor. We are interested in all aspects of church, community life and creativity within our benefice. It is especially good when illustrated by your photos. So, keep it all coming! It enables us, as a benefice, to support each other's churches and events, share ideas, skills and talents, and leads to wider friendship and support for each other. **We welcome all comments and suggestions at churchmouse@crambehouse.co.uk**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE BENEFICE.....



The Free Cinema at Barton Le Willows Village Hall

Now showing regular films on our 150 inch cinema screen in HD or UHD

No tickets to buy, any donations to improve the cinema and village hall are gratefully received.

Bring your own drinks, snacks and soft drinks available at much less than regular cinema prices!

Visit our website by searching for Barton Le Willows Village Hall or scan the barcode

Or contact Graham Tel: 07812 151 234
to get on the email mailing list for up to date listings



BARTON LE WILLOWS PLAYGROUP



Every Friday during term time at
Barton Le Willows Village Hall
9.30 am — 11.30 am

£3.50 per child or £3.00 if under one year old

Includes snacks for the children and hot drinks for the adults

A friendly welcome awaits and lots to
keep the little ones entertained

Perfect for ages 0—5 years





SHERIFF HUTTON VILLAGE MARKET

A monthly Market held on the following Sundays

Sunday 18th May

Sunday 15th June

Sunday 20th July

Sunday 17th August

Sunday 14th September

Sunday 19th October

Sunday 16th November

Sunday 14th December

A mix of outdoor and indoor stalls selling largely locally produced, homemade or home-grown products. Market cafe selling hot and cold food and drinks.

Free entry.

The market is organised by a group of villagers selling a variety of goods, which are often locally produced, home grown or homemade. Perfect for groceries, baking, drink, pet treats, art, gifts, beauty products, interiors, haberdashery, plants and more!

Our market cafe serves an array of homemade hot and cold food and is run by a different local group each month. Funds generated from the market and cafe are used to support groups and causes within the local community. There is more information on our website www.shvm.co.uk or Facebook and Instagram pages



Cake and Company

We are a group meeting in
Claxton and Sand Hutton Village Hall

You can join the sessions for as much or as little time as you like. There are things to do but what we do best is just chatting, having coffee or tea and sampling the cakes!

We welcome those who wish to just drop in for the odd half hour after a dog walk, to those just passing by. Children are welcomed if accompanied by an adult.

Come an join us, it is what it says, cake and company!

Forthcoming dates

Tuesday Sept 2nd 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Thursday Sept 18th 10.00 am – 12.00 noon

Tuesday Oct. 7th 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Thursday Oct 16th 10.00 am – 12.00 noon

St Mary's Church

Saturday September 6th

Afternoon Tea

At Sand Hutton and Claxton Village Hall

From 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm

Come and join us for good
company , tea and delicious
homemade cakes!

Adrian and Jezz



St Mary's Church Gate Helmsley



Harvest Festival



Thursday 25th September

Service at 6 pm in St Mary's Church, Gate Helmsley
All Welcome

Harvest Supper at 7 pm in Gate Helmsley Village Hall

Prior booking for supper essential - contact
Delyth Harran (01759 372215) / Sue Hanson (01759 372663)

BYO drinks (soft drinks available) : Raffle

Tickets £12.50



GIFTS for CHRISTMAS

**Quality Gifts
at affordable
prices
for all your
Christmas giving**

**SATURDAY
1st NOVEMBER 2025**

**Sand Hutton Village Hall
YO41 1LL
10am to 3pm (entry£1)**

**CAROLINE'S
KITCHEN
for coffee, tea,
cakes and light
lunches**

**A good range of classic stalls and some new ones too!
All proceeds to St. Mary's Church Sand Hutton**

**Please put the date in your diary and if you have never been,
we'd love to see you.**

Further information from giftsforchristmas@hotmail.co.uk

The Lunch Club

**Next lunch club is on
Sunday November 2nd at 12.15**



At the Wentworth Arms, Old Malton

To book a place please contact Adrian

Tel: 07870591142 (phone or text)

As places are limited early booking is advised

News, views and information from around the parishes.....

from Sister Margaret Ann CSPH



Hello Everyone,

Here we are in the middle of July! Where does the time go I ask myself? I hope you have all enjoyed the sunny weather we have been experiencing over the last few months or so, but we really need the rain. The water situation is getting quite desperate. My thoughts go out to

all our local farmers who are so dependent on the weather which affects arable and animal farms alike.

The last couple of months for me have been somewhat different. After a fire at the back of the cottages where I live in Bossall, we needed to have an electrical inspection done to ensure our safety. As a result of that, it was found necessary to rewire the cottage and while all that was done there were a number of other things which need putting right.

Once I had got my head around it all, I had a good clear out and thinning down of possessions before the work could begin. After several trips to the tip and a distribution to various charity shops I returned home, sat in my chair, sighed with relief and suddenly found I could breathe more easily. We all have so much, more than enough, and often it doesn't make us any happier! I was suddenly reminded of some familiar words:

“We brought nothing into this world and it is certain we can take nothing out”

As I sat and watched the whole of my life hanging out on view to the world, I realised I had to learn from, it. A lesson in humility and patience, and I was reminded of words from St Peter: “when you were young, you used to get ready and go anywhere you wanted to; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands and someone else will bind you and take you where you do not want to go.”

Old age is difficult for us all, but peoples love, generosity and patience know no bounds. I have learnt that we only have to ask for help when we are struggling and the good Lord supplies all the love and care we need. So, learn

to lean more and more on our Heavenly Father and give thanks for all that he provides; help comes from the most unexpected sources, I have been amazed!

So, praise and thanksgiving be given to the God and Father of us all
With my love and continual prayers for you all

Margaret Ann
+ CSPH

Church rambles with Adrian

I am continuing my church travels around churches in my church life. I visit St Mary's Goathland occasionally to take communion, a lovely welcome always. We both love this church and when in Goathland often come in to light candles and have quiet time.



I recently took communion for the first time with my Methodist friends at Hovingham where I lived for many years, a very different style to what I have been used to, but it got me thinking!

I also still occasionally attend St Margaret's Huttons Ambo, but of course Harton Benefice is my church family and home, and I/we love being part of the Benefice.

Adrian

Cambodia... an update from Lynne Barnett



Readers may recall that my 20 years of connection and volunteering in post-Genocide Cambodia, led to a much-needed counselling training programme being developed and piloted in 2017-2020. Sadly, due to the covid pandemic and financial difficulties, it was discontinued after two cohorts of students completed the 2-year part-time course.

After the programme was complete, I returned to the UK and decided to undertake a research project to explore the effectiveness and impact of the training, and the possible need to decolonize the curriculum which had been delivered. I returned to Cambodia 2023-2024, to collect the research data and facilitate the former students undertaking participatory action research. After all, I am not Cambodian and therefore the former students' perception was most important.

My return to Cambodia was fruitful, but not exactly as I had planned it in my mind. It was a visit full of meetings, collecting research data and *ad hoc* teaching. At the time I wondered if it was as fruitful as I had hoped, but on reflection it has proved very worthwhile. It was more of a strategic planning visit than expected, exploring with Cambodian colleagues what the way forward may look like in mental health service provision.

The research data is now proving very helpful and subsequently there is a possibility that the counselling training program may restart in 2026. Having more trained Cambodian counsellors would be invaluable in helping heal the massive societal trauma that exists in the nation today.

Former students are already making a difference and, as the saying goes, 'paying forward' their personal gain by sharing their knowledge and encouraging people to support their families, neighbours and work peers.

They are encouraging communities to enhance dialogue, are generally being kind role models who openly and sensitively bring mental health topics into the public arena.

Later this year I will return to Phnom Penh for a short visit, to explore at length how the training programme may be restarted in 2026, made sustainable and ultimately Cambodian led.



Thank you for your interest and support.

Menfulness is a York based wellbeing and mental health charity for men.

We support men to improve their mental health through connection, conversation and shared activities in a friendly, stigma-free environment.



We know that life can be challenging, and it's not always easy to talk. That's why Menfulness offers simple, accessible ways for men to look after their wellbeing, whether it's through walks, sports, allotment, social meetups, or just a cuppa and a chat. Our aim is to make it easier for men to reach out, feel supported, and know they're not alone.

hello@menfulness.org / www.menfulness.org

or for our events page here
www.meetup.com/menfulness

BUTTERCRAMBE

We had a very successful All Age Worship service at St John's Buttercrambe on Sunday 8th June. Thank you in particular to Reverend Nigel, and Rachael and John Tearney for their input in making the service so interactive for the children. Rachael and John had written a sketch which they acted out and had all the congregation in stitches. They also introduced the congregation to some new contemporary songs accompanied by John on his guitar.

We had twelve children gathered from around the benefice and welcomed two new families to our church from Harton and Barton. The church was packed. Brothers Teddy and Berty Headley read one of the lessons, and Chloe Brittenden (all from Buttercrambe) read the other. Two of Ida's grandsons helped with the collection. Ellie Harrison helped the children make Pentecostal crowns. Order was maintained by Nigel and Peter and Ellen Stott and the choir provided some wonderful singing. Chocolate brownies were particularly popular with the children and refreshments were enjoyed by everyone after the service.

With the harvest starting so early this year, our annual service celebrating the end of the harvest seems ages away. We always look forward to our Harvest Festival service which is on Sunday 26th October at 11 am followed by a lunch at Aldby Park. We don't sell tickets but a recommended donation of £10 would be very welcome which will, as in previous years, be split between the church and a local charity.

CRAMBE

St Michael's Church came into its own during the very hot weather. Instead of the usual complaints about how desperately cold it is in there, it became a welcome refuge to villagers and walkers alike as a cool and welcoming space on hot days!

On Saturday June 28th we welcomed the Terrington Singers and Guests for a concert in the church. It was a wonderful evening of light traditional choral music, contemporary light songs, including the Beatles. It was lovely to welcome along with the choir, Sam Wrigley and his band, a small group of young people still at college, exploring the music of their time. It will be the first time that the walls of this church have reverberated to the sound of a

drumkit and guitars, and very welcome it was too. Following the concert everyone repaired to the tent in the churchyard, and with the sunset making a glorious backdrop enjoyed wine and refreshments and lots of chat.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making it such a successful evening. Over £800 was raised for the church.



Lynda Teale of Bridge Cottage, Kirkham died on July 12th. Her death is a great loss to many of us personally, and especially to her husband John, and their family. Lynda had been ill for a number of years but she bore her illness with great fortitude and good humour under John's devoted care.

She was the staunchest of supporters of St Michael's Church here in Crambe. A very talented knitter, baker, and needlewoman. She tirelessly crafted a wide range of items which we sold at coffee mornings and fetes. We will always be grateful to her for this and all the help she gave at fundraising events. She will be greatly missed. Our condolences go to John and all the family at this time of loss.

FLAXTON

Date for your diary

Though it is a few months away, on 12th October we will be holding our Harvest Festival Service at 11.00 am. This will be followed by a "bring and share lunch". You are warmly invited to join us at the service and the lunch. If you are unable to come to the service please do come to the lunch.

As in previous years we shall be giving the produce to the Salvation Army to help them in their continued support of people in need. If you would like to contribute, the Salvation Army would appreciate nonperishable goods e.g. tins, pasta, rice, cereal, baby food etc. Monetary donations are also welcome. More information about the lunch venue and where to bring harvest goods nearer the time.

Churchyard Maintenance

Thank you to the churchyard team for keeping the churchyard tidy. Not an easy task on these hot days.

FOSTON

All Saints Foston and Thornton Le Clay

We were treated to very entertaining drama and crafts based on the parable of the Good Samaritan at our July All Age Worship service.

The service was enjoyed by both young and not so young members of the congregation. Many thanks to Rachael and John for all their hard work and enthusiasm.

We are having a fundraising quiz and curry night later in the year, hosted by our fantastic quiz master Peter Mills. Come along and see why the event is always so well supported – you will not be disappointed! More details nearer the event.

We are always looking for volunteers who would like to support our lovely historic church in any way. This could just be helping with some routine cleaning, putting flowers on the altar or by supporting our events.

Please speak to any member of the PCC or message the secretary on 07783 031815 if you are interested.

Our church is open 24/7 if you want to have a look round.

Foston and Thornton Le Clay Village Hall

Our windows have now been replaced and look very smart! We have had lots of lovely feedback from hirers about all our improvements and we are already starting to plan the next phase of improvements.

We would like to remind you of our upcoming events. Everyone is very welcome and you can generally pay on the door.

Our Soup and Pud Lunch will be starting again in Autumn. The first lunch will be held on Wednesday 24th September at 12pm. The cost is £5, all welcome.

Saturday 2nd August – Jorvik Vikings TOMCC for “Yorkshire Day” with brass band “Simply Brass”. Supporting the charity “Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia”. Doors open at 2pm and the band are playing at 3pm. Admission and refreshments free, but donations are encouraged!

Weekly coffee mornings will start again in September – Mondays 9am to 11am. Drop in for a chat, coffee and cake.

Following a sell-out event last year, we are welcoming back “THE PROFFS” – formerly known as “MANNA” for a night of music and supper on Saturday 8th November. More details to follow nearer the time.

GATE HELMSLEY

We are still basking in the afterglow of the very successful Strawberry Lunch held at the village hall last Sunday. Nearly seventy people attended, there was a wonderful convivial atmosphere, and a goodly sum was raised for church funds. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any possible way. We are especially grateful to Anna Sawkins, who donated a dishwasher to the village hall, making clearing up after events so much easier. Thank you, Anna. And thanks to the management at the Balloon Tree who donated the strawberries.

The next fundraising event will be the Harvest Festival and Supper on Thursday 25th September, starting in church at 6.00pm. See details elsewhere in the Circular.

The fundraising events only support the day-to-day running of your church, paying for annual costs such as insurance, electricity and gas. We do not raise enough to cover major works such as those needed to repair the church tower and rainwater goods. A good way of supporting the church is through regular giving by standing order. We are grateful that several people already do this. Do you think you might be able to join them? Have a word with the PCC honorary treasurer, Claire Sykes (clairesykes@hotmail.co.uk) to discuss this. Any amount of regular giving, however small, makes a difference.

The churchyard has withstood the vagaries of the summer weather. Thank you again to those who regularly help with churchyard maintenance. It's a joy to see the cheerful sunflowers, Ella's favourite flowers, thriving near her memorial bench in the new churchyard.

We are pleased that so many visitors – from all over the world - come into the church for moments of reflection and peace. From the comments in the visitors' book, it is clear that they value the beauty and stillness of the building and appreciate the opportunity for a cuppa and a biscuit.

We send particular greetings to those parishioners who are unwell, and hope that their health will improve.

HOWSHAM

Things in Howsham are progressing slowly. We are now into a very warm summer season. Our last Sunday service on July 5th was a very joyous occasion which was well attended. Our thanks go to Ellen and Peter and the choir for their wonderful contribution.

We still await the Quinquennial report. Although we have mostly been able to do the work allowed on the trees, in doing so a rather bedraggled half a holly tree was discovered. The Council would not give permission to remove this whilst the tree surgeons were on-site, so we now must make a special application, involving more time plus the additional expense of calling back the surgeons when they could have dealt with the matter when they were originally attending. Howsham is a conservation village with preservation orders on every tree in the churchyard. As this tree is pushing out the boundary wall, repairs to the wall have consequently been put back.

On a happier note, we had a very successful cake and plant stall on the May Bank Holiday Monday, raising just over £700. Thanks to everyone who supported us.

At the end of June, we had our first wedding of the year – Alex and Sara. It was quite a spectacle with the bride arriving in a horse-drawn carriage. The flowers were magnificent. Our next wedding is in September.



Our churchyard and church clean-up will be held as usual on August Bank Holiday Monday (25th August) followed by a barbecue. Everyone is welcome. Do come along if you are able.

SAND HUTTON and CLAXTON

Summer is here and with it the vagaries of the weather – periods of bright blue skies and hot sunshine then periods of heavy rainfall and storms. Whilst our lives may be slightly inconvenienced by either or both, our thoughts are with all those whose livelihoods are interlinked with the weather and those impacted by natural disasters further afield.

In June, Allen Warren gave a very interesting and informative talk based on specific points of interest associated with each of the churches within the Harton Benefice and linking factors. The talk was very warmly received and raised £320. The PCC extend their grateful thanks to Allen for his time and research, to those who attended and to those who donated refreshments.

The Sunday service on 20th July was held at St Mary's – a lovely, uplifting service of worship and fellowship afterwards. We thank the Benefice choir and their musical director for all they contribute to the services throughout the benefice on a regular basis.

We have three weddings and a baptism at St Mary's during the month of August. We are looking forward to welcoming Katrina and Alex, Emily and Ross, Phillipa and Robert, Eden and all their families and friends as they celebrate these very special occasions.

We remain very appreciative of all who work so hard and volunteer their time to help to look after our beautiful church and churchyard. However, we are a small team and would welcome any additional support. Perhaps you could help with the cleaning or the flower rota or tidying in the churchyard? If interested, contact Ellen for more details – 01904 468404.

Please make a note in your diaries of these fundraising events which we hope you will be able to support:

- * Saturday September 6th** – Adrian and Jezz' Afternoon Tea
at Sand Hutton & Claxton Village Hall from 2.30pm – 4.30pm
- * Saturday November 1st** – Gifts for Christmas
at Sand Hutton & Claxton Village Hall from 10am. to 3pm.

UPPER HELMSLEY

We have had a very busy quarter at St Peter's. A lovely Baptism on 15th June for the great grandson of the late Jane Herbert, baby Oscar Mackaness.

We had very good attendance followed by refreshments and fellowship at Delphinia Lodge.

At end of May a very successful fundraiser in Gate Helmsley village hall involving the pop-up pub, a raffle and shuffleboard games. Thank you to the generosity of Dan and Claire Sykes, Delyth and Michael and Mandy and Charlie the proceeds from the pub were gifted to St Peter's this time. Much appreciated.

We had our Quinquennial inspection on 19th July and will await the report in due course.

Following a meeting of the last Benefice PCC it was agreed that the Benefice Allotment project is on hold until further notice.

Looking forward to a lovely summer....

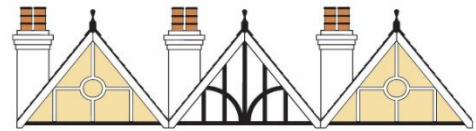
WHITWELL

We were very sad to hear of the death of Brian Bennett on 19th June. Eileen is a strong church supporter and they have lived in Whitwell for many years.

Emma and Anthea much enjoyed the wonderful organ recital and blessing of a bench in memory of Martin Monkman at Hutton's Ambo church last month.

Always remember that the church is open for visitors and we do enjoy seeing people having a look round or using our picnic table! We still do not know who gave us the wonderful bench a few months ago!

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Churchwardens: Currently no Churchwardens have been appointed. In case of need, please contact the Vicar, whose details are on the back cover.

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The Circular

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