

The Benefice of Harton

The Circular



Summer 2024
May June July

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 All Saints Church, Foston

From Rev Nigel.....

Winter has finally given way to Spring, and there is new life all around. The blossom has come and gone, and the trees are spreading their leaves. There is an increase in the sound of birdsong as the days get longer and warmer. It felt at times over the past few months that the rain would never stop. Planting has been delayed and new lambs have had to be kept inside because of water-logged fields. But I was pleased to see some out in fields as I was driving to a recent meeting in Crambe.

There is a newness in the air for our ten churches too, as they move forward with their new vicar. I am absolutely delighted to be that new vicar. I say new, but I have been in situ for a year as Assistant Curate prior to my collation by the Bishop of Selby in St Mary's Sand Hutton on 11th April. Photos of the service can be found on the Harton Benefice website. The Harton Benefice is a wonderful place in which to minister. I am truly blessed.

As the weather improves, I will be out and about on my motorcycle, and maybe even my bicycle, stopping off in our villages in order to meet people where they are. If you see me do come and have a chat.

I'm really keen to find out what is happening in the lives of the people living in our Benefice area. Of course, I want to talk about what our ten churches are doing and how Jesus is working amongst us, but I'll talk about anything. If you get me into a conversation about motorbikes, hill walking or dogs, be prepared to talk for a while!

For me it is important to let everyone in our communities know that I am here to minister to everyone wherever they are, and not just in the churches. Jesus travelled around with his followers in order to meet people where they were. In chapter 4 of John's Gospel, we read about the encounter between Jesus and a Samaritan woman at a well. Before that time, the Samaritan woman would not have believed that such a conversation could possibly take place. The Jews of the time considered Samaritans to be unworthy and ritually unclean. Jesus accepted her for who she was, even knowing that she had something of a dubious past.

Our church doors are open to anyone, no matter what personal or emotional baggage they carry, and I am here to be a minister and a friend to all who want or need one.

As I said, come and speak to me. Oh, and I'm always up for a cuppa!

The service of Collation for Nigel on April 11th



Rounding up the churchwardens before the service!



Nigel reads the Declaration and oaths



With Nigel's hand on the doorhandle, The Area Dean inducts and installs him into the possession of the Benefice.



As a symbol of Ministry, the children present Nigel with a large vessel of water.



As representative of the parishes within the Benefice, Judy Stephenson presents Nigel with a Bible, another symbol of Ministry.



Ian Lyall, our Lay Reader leads the procession at the end of the service.

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 9.00am. If you would like to join this service, please let Ian Lyall know and he will send you the link: ian.lyall2@gmail.com

May

Wednesday May 1st

10.00	Midweek Service	Sand Hutton
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Sunday May 5th

Easter 6

9.00	Zoom Service	
10.00	Holy Communion	Foston

Thursday May 9th

Ascension Day

10.00	Holy Communion	Crambe
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Sunday May 12th

Easter 7

10.00	Holy Communion	Flaxton
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Wednesday May 15th

10.00	Morning Prayer	Bossall
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Saturday May 18th

2.30	Messy Pentecost	Gate Helmsley VH
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Sunday May 19th

Pentecost

10.00	Holy Communion	Howsham
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Wednesday May 22nd

10.00	Midweek Service	Flaxton
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Sunday May 26th***Trinity***

10.00	Holy Communion	Buttercrambe
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Wednesday May 29th

10.00	Midweek Service	Howsham
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June***Sunday June 2nd******Trinity 1***

9.00	Zoom Service	
10.00	Holy Communion	Crambe

Wednesday June 5th

10.00	Midweek Service	Sand Hutton
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Sunday June 9th***Trinity 2***

10.00	Holy Communion	Upper Helmsley
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Wednesday June 12th

10.00	Midweek Service	Flaxton
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Sunday June 16th***Trinity 3***

10.00	Holy Communion	Gate Helmsley
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Wednesday June 19th

10.00	Midweek Service	Crambe
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Sunday June 23rd

Trinity 4

10.00

Holy Communion

Sand Hutton

Wednesday June 26th

10.00

Midweek Service

Howsham

Sunday June 30th

Trinity 5

10.00

Holy Communion

Bossall

July

Wednesday July 3rd

10.00

Midweek Service

Sand Hutton

Sunday July 7th

Trinity 6

9.00

Zoom Service

10.00

Holy Communion

Whitwell

Wednesday July 10th

10.00

Midweek Service

Crambe

Sunday July 14th

Trinity 7

10.00

Holy Communion

Howsham

Wednesday July 17th

10.00

Midweek Service

Bossall

Sunday July 21st

Trinity 8

10.00

Holy Communion

Flaxton

Wednesday July 24th

10.00

Midweek Service

Howsham

Sunday July 28th

Trinity 9

10.00

Holy Communion

Buttercrambe

Wednesday July 31st

10.00

Midweek Service

Flaxton

August

Sunday August 4th

Trinity 10

9.00

Zoom service

10.00

Holy Communion

Sand Hutton

Wednesday August 7th

10.00

Midweek Service

Flaxton



**REV NIGEL, RACHAEL & THE
MESSY TEAM INVITE YOU**

**TO COME & JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE
THE MEANING OF PENTECOST AS THE
DISCIPLES RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT;
CRAFTS, GAMES, STORIES, QUIZZES.**

Saturday 18th May 2.30 –4.30

Gate Helmsley Village Hall

(Please arrive promptly)

***We end by sharing
refreshments.***

FOR ALL THE FAMILY TO ENJOY TOGETHER!

LOTS OF FUN!!!!

For more information contact Rachael Harrison on 07847 329015
rachaelyouthharton@gmail.com

Welcome to those newly baptised

March 3rd

Annabelle East

Sand Hutton



Congratulations to those newly married

February 29th

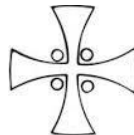
Charlotte Harvey and David Hudson

Sand Hutton

April 3rd

Charlotte Owbridge and Steven Badger

Gate Helmsley



Our condolences to the family and friends of

January 12th

Paul Calpin

Sand Hutton

January 17th

Colin Francis

Sand Hutton

January 23rd

Ann Thompson

Claxton

March 20th

Don Gregson

Buttercrambe

March 11th

Catherine Bourne

Flaxton

March 17th

Rob Pierce

Sand Hutton

March 17th

Anthony Francis Sherlock

Barton Hill

April 4th

Sylvia Hodgson

Flaxton

April 17th

Dick Garnons-Williams

late of Gate Helmsley



***From Rachael Harrison
Benefice Children and Youth Worker
Children and Families update***

Like a lot of folks, it felt as if we'd no sooner put our Christmas decorations away and we were suddenly buying Easter Eggs! Time marches on and Easter already is starting to feel like a distant memory. However all this means that spring and, fingers crossed, good weather is on its way!

Just by way of an update, the Aubergines have started to plant seeds at the allotment and last Saturday had a great time weeding beds and planting potatoes. Back in February we had a successful muck sale, bagging up and selling over 60 bags of manure!



Then on April 6th we launched our spud-athon, a great community event at the allotment. We are pleased that lots of families and people from the local community have chosen to take part.

A huge 'Thank you' to Jake Smith who farms just outside Warthill for kindly donating and dropping off the manure, and to Jon and Charlotte Rooke at White Sykes

for once again kindly donating the seed potatoes. Good luck to those who are now busy trying to grow a prize-winning yield!

10th March saw us enjoying a really lovely Mothering Sunday Family Service at Sand Hutton church, where it really was an event for all ages, with the Mills family gathered to celebrate Dot's 90th birthday. What an amazing milestone!



Sending all our love and best wishes to you Dot. The children created some lovely wreaths, grown-ups wrote prayers, and the ladies present were presented with a daffodil posy.

The Easter weekend brought with it an Easter Egg hunt in all 10 of the churches. Many thanks to the churchwardens for their help and support with this event. It was attended by 36 families, and 56 children took part in total.



A special mention has to go to The Knock family, (Lucas, Leo and Rufus) and to Alex and Harriet who all went around all 10 churches! Fantastic achievement. You must have bumped into each other along the way at least once? I was delighted when I drew out the Knock family from the prize draw so very well deserved, Lucas, Leo and Rufus!



Are you aged between 11-16 and have an interest in the environment and making friends?
Why don't you come along to our fortnightly sessions at Upper Helmsley allotment/church and see what we do?



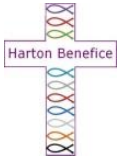
- Support of the allotment at Upper Helmsley Church
- Greening activities e.g. recycling, environmental issues
- Running charity and fundraising events e.g. pop-up cafes, sales
- Meeting friends
-and you even get a free sweatshirt!!



The Aubergines are recruiting! Any children out there aged 10 upwards who would like to join us on the allotment, we meet twice a month, generally on a Saturday afternoon at 2.00pm for a couple of hours. Please do contact me for more information.

Looking ahead we have Messy Pentecost happening on 18th May and hopefully another Family Service in church before the end of the school year. Keep an eye on your local notice boards, village Facebook pages/WhatsApp groups, the newsletter and the website for more up to date information. If you haven't already joined the Harton Children & Families Facebook page, please do!

www.facebook.com/groups/hartonbenefice
rachaelyouthharton@gmail.com



Benefice PCC.....

The Benefice PCC last met on 9th April, almost the eve of the celebratory Collation Service held at St Mary's Sand Hutton to install Reverend Nigel Benson as the new incumbent of the Benefice of Harton.

At the PCC meeting, Nigel was congratulated on his appointment and formally welcomed as our Vicar. There was some discussion about the intricate planning for what turned out to be a very moving and successful service on 11th April.

One of the main items on the PCC agenda was the ratification of the benefice Safeguarding Policy. This had been discussed and agreed at the local PCC meetings and so the policy was duly ratified at the benefice level.

The next BPCC meeting will be on Tuesday 23rd July at Crambe House, at 10.00 am. Any items for the agenda may be sent to the honorary secretary, Ellen Stott.

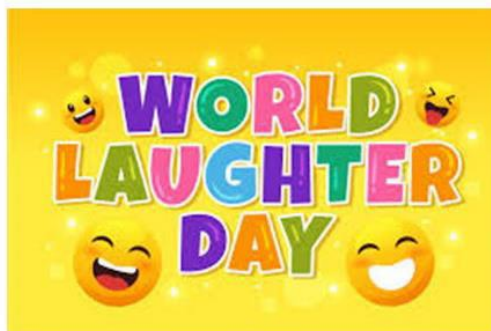
Delyth Harran

Lay Chairman

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE BENEFICE.....

Barton Le Willows Village Hall Quiz Friday May 3rd 2024 at 7.00 pm (Quiz starts at 7.30 pm) In celebration of

Test your skill
at the quiz and
maybe win a prize!



Quiz entry £2.00
per person
Maximum 6 per
team



BYO alcoholic drinks and snacks for free
but a donation to support the
Village Hall would be gratefully received.
Range of good value soft drinks available





Monday 6th May

**Come and join us on the bridge
10.00 am onwards for
Tea and coffee
Cakes and plants for sale**

All proceeds will go to St John's Church, Howsham



**Barton Le Willows
Village Hall**

Come and join us!

**The group meets every Thursday
Starting on April 18th
7.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Cost per session £3.00**

The sessions will alternate weekly from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm
and 12.00 pm to 1.00 pm
(The session on May 2nd has moved to May 1st due to the election)

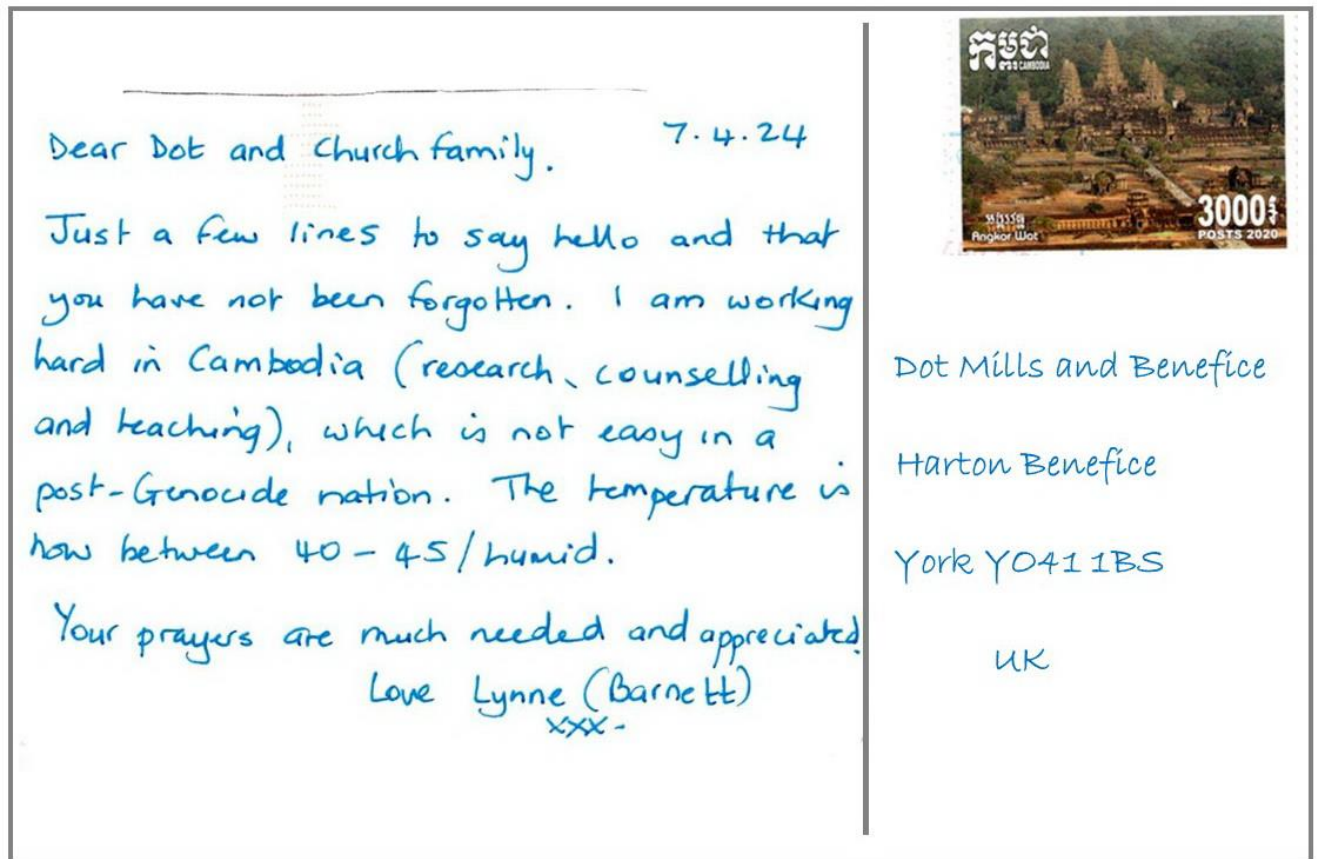
Knitting, sewing, embroidery, quilting, crochet etc

Bring your own project to work on or come along and try something new
(materials provided)

Free refreshments available

For more information contact Celia on 07905 628 063

Postcard from Cambodia.....



Dear Dot and Church family. 7.4.24

Just a few lines to say hello and that you have not been forgotten. I am working hard in Cambodia (research, counselling and teaching), which is not easy in a post-Genocide nation. The temperature is now between 40 - 45 / humid.

Your prayers are much needed and appreciated!

Love Lynne (Barnett)
xxx-

Dot Mills and Benefice

Harton Benefice

York YO41 1BS

UK

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

from Sister Margaret Ann CSPH



My Dear Friends,

Here we are in the middle of April with Summer just around the corner and a promise of longer lighter days ahead for us all to enjoy.

Over the thirty years that I have lived within what is now the Benefice of Harton, I have had the privilege of getting to know some incredible people. Lots of local characters like Lordy of Foston, Norman Cresse from Harton, Ron Townsend from Gate Helmsley, Mollie Kennedy from Crambe, Frank and Freda Spaven from Claxton, Jane Herbert from Upper Helmsley, the Fosters from Buttercrambe, and so many more who have served both their communities and churches faithfully over the years. Now it's time to say 'goodbye' to the Walters from Harton. Ian and Angela have given us all so much as well as being our local milkman.

I remember when I first came to the area in the early 90's it was Alwyn and Kath Walters who ran the business then, with Ian helping out. Then he took over and was assisted by Guy, Luke and Angela. I remember too Elizabeth Todd from Harton who helped them during the school holidays, riding across the fields on her bicycle. It was a real family business. They have always been there for us all. I saw them most days at the cottage delivering either the milk or papers or both. Even in really bad weather they always came. We used to say, 'if Ian can't get through the snow and ice, nobody can'. They would pass on news around the villages; perhaps someone wasn't well or had been taken into hospital or had moved away, or died in the night. They knew their customers well and if anything was wrong they were alert to it, always interested and concerned and willing to help. They would do anything for anyone where needed.

Angela had another string to her bow. She became known as the local 'Flower Lady'. Her great love of flowers showed in so many ways. Her garden at Cherry Tree Cottage was beautiful, as were her flower arrangements in the churches. She made beautiful bouquets for special occasions, and arrangements for the Flower Festival.

In the early years, after helping Luke with a school wreath making project one Christmas, Angela placed one on my cottage door. She has continued to do one for the cottage every year since. They are always beautiful, each different from the last, and much appreciated. On my 70th birthday I was presented with a most lovely bouquet that Angela had made for me.

It was always a privilege to be involved in all the highlights of their family life, and to walk alongside them in times of sadness which included Alwyn and Kath's funerals at Hovingham, and Angela's mum's at Trinity Methodist Church in Norton.

Thank you, Ian, Angela and all the team for all you have done for us and the community over the years, and Ian, you will always be my favourite milkman, only don't tell James and Michelle who have taken over the milk round!

We wish you well in your retirement, a well-deserved rest, and we hope the move to Stamford Bridge goes smoothly. May God go with you and bless you in your retirement.

May God bless you all. Enjoy the summer and stay safe.

Margaret Ann
+ CSPH

Lent Lunches.....



Three very successful Lent lunches were held in February and March. Thank you to those who hosted them and to those who attended and made such generous donations to the Island, a children's charity in York.

**A total of £545 was gratefully received,
a very satisfactory sum. Thank you everyone.**

Message from Dot Mills.....



Many thanks for all the cards, plants various gifts and endless good wishes for the occasion of my 90th birthday which took place on Mothering Sunday. I was delighted to see so many of my own family at the church service and lots of people from the various parishes.

The donated refreshments were also most enjoyable. Thank you so much.

I had a lovely birthday and feel truly blessed to have lived for such a long time. Thank you all once more.

Take care and God Bless.

Dot

Message from Adrian and Jezz.....

The Lunch Club: On March 3rd another lovely lunch was enjoyed by seven of us at The New Derwent. We hope to hold another towards the end of the year.

BARTON LE WILLOWS

From Caroline Sherlock.....

I announce the death on March 17th of Anthony Francis Sherlock aged 86. He was a good, gentle man who touched the lives of those he met with smiles, kindness and generosity. He was a longtime oarsman and rowing coach - the latter at York University where he was also employed. Tony was in hospital at the beginning of the Covid outbreak and his health was compromised thereafter. He very peacefully died at home. He will be sadly missed.

The Village Hall

At the start of the year the Parent and Toddler group held three very popular coffee mornings to raise some money for the group; the cake and chats were lovely and they met their target amount.

At the end of January there was a "Burns Night Quiz", with a bar. This was really well attended and great fun. Some people tried unfamiliar whiskies for the first time...

In March we ran a St Patrick's day Pop-Up Pub with themed drinks, music and raffle prizes. It was a very rainy Friday night with competing sports fixtures so there were fewer "Punters" than usual, but the "Bar Staff" really enjoyed the opportunity to sometimes sit down and chat/play cards with those who did come (from as far afield as Whitwell!). The next Pop-Up Pub will be in the summer when hopefully it will have stopped raining and we will be able to use the garden as well.



On Good Friday a children's Easter Egg Hunt started at the Village Hall and there were cakes and games. We had 35 children take part in the hunt, and a "Well Done" to Harry Ford-Mirfin for guessing that there were 230 eggs in the jar!

Earlier in the month two Sundays were spent litter picking – the first in Barton and one in Harton a week later, so hopefully the roadside verges should be looking clear of rubbish as the spring comes.

We'd like to thank our good friends at Sloemotion and all the others who donate prizes, money and their time to keep this valuable community resource up and running.

Forthcoming event in the village hall:

Summer Pop-Up Pub - provisionally Friday 28th June

In case you are not aware, the hall is available for private hire at very reasonable rates. It has an enclosed garden and plenty of parking space.

To hire the hall please contact Anne on 01653 618683

email: paulrandannel@btinternet.com

website: bartonlewillowsvillagehall.weebly.com

BOSSALL

Along with many other churches in the Benefice, Bossall was pleased to have been able to participate in the great big Easter Egg hunt, and we took great pleasure in welcoming a very healthy number of young 'chocolate hunters' over the Easter weekend. Well done Rachael for all her hard work in setting this initiative up, and doing most of the organising.

There have been challenges with ongoing wet and boggy conditions in the churchyard and grass verges around the church in Bossall, with added complications of a plethora of moles this winter. Apologies to those who struggled to park at the recent Sunday service on 7th April. However I am delighted to report that we look now to be getting on top of the moles, and the first decent grass cut has been done at last, so we hope the coming months will see us getting the place looking more presentable! As ever the daffodils have been magnificent, and the churchyard remains a sought-after place to sit and admire the views as well as the peaceful environment we are so fortunate to call 'home'.

We can also announce that the second phase of major remedial works resulting from our Quinquennial review got underway this week, 15th April. As the attached photos show, the whole church has been stripped back to fully expose all the timbers, and we have been undertaking a full and comprehensive treatment for woodworm and death watch beetle. This

required a total 'spring clean' of all exposed surfaces, as well as the clock/bell tower, which generated a skip load of rubble, bird droppings, and general detritus. Not pleasant work. The process has involved heat treatment of the altar area, all pews and moveable furniture, with all roof timbers getting sprayed with approved chemicals. It's been a very significant undertaking. The church remains closed for a few days but should be open again week beginning 22nd April.

This will leave us with the final, but largest phase of works still to complete. That will involve repairs to defective stonework, upgrading and renewal of external drainage and the re-installment of rainwater guttering, all of which has been tendered now with costs in excess £150,000. We are still actively looking to raise funds to meet this necessary funding requirement.



BUTTERCRAMBE

Sadly, we lost Don Gregson in March aged 94 who had been a resident of the village for many, many years. He moved to Ranbeck Cottage nearly 50 years ago to work as a gamekeeper which he did until he retired. He came from Hull and some can remember that this gave rise to much mirth with regard to his dialect! He was an enthusiastic gardener and grower and after he was widowed became a very keen cook. For the last 10 years he has lived in the white cottage in the middle of the village. Many will have noticed his colourful display of roses when driving through Buttercrambe. He was much liked and respected and will be missed enormously by his family and friends.

CRAMBE

Life plods quietly on in the little hamlet of Crambe. With such a wet and windy Spring everyone has kept a pretty low profile keeping warm and dry. However, the rainy days were brightened up considerably by the emergence of all the spring bulbs that had been planted in the churchyard in the Autumn. Hopefully they will multiply over the years providing a cheerful carpet of colour for villagers and walkers alike to enjoy. Many thanks to Paula and her team of helpers for all their hard work.

Grass cutting has begun and a huge thank you to Sam Cook who gives his time so generously to mowing the paths that wind through the churchyard and the 'smart' bit at the front.

After what has seemed like for ever, we have finally got started on the French Drain which is being put in round the nave. Once finished this will allow us to get on with improving the driveway and access for all, including those with buggies and wheelchairs.

We are delighted that Nigel has been collated into the post of Vicar of the Benefice of Harton, wish him well, and add our warmest welcome to those of the rest of the benefice. We look forward to working with him in trying to ensure that St Michael's Church will continue to serve the village of Crambe long into the future and make its contribution to the wider community.

FLAXTON

We have recently had two burials of ashes in the church Garden of Remembrance. Mrs Catherine Bourne (11th March) and Mrs Sylvia Hodgson (4th April). Both families had connections with Flaxton.

Thank you to all who came along to make the Pancake Party held in the village hall a huge success. The age range was 2-92. This year the newly formed Social Committee for Flaxton joined us helping with shopping and cooking of pancakes. Thank you everyone. A huge thank you to Jill, Catherine, Helen and Luke for organizing the Pancake Tossing Competition and to John for running the raffle.

This is not a fund-raising event and costs were covered by the raffle, sale of glasses of wine and donations for extra pancakes. There was £20 left over and it was agreed this would be given to the Salvation Army.

The competition winners were:

10 and under team: *Lucy, Lexie, Louis – 179 flips.*

11-18 team: *Louis, Izzy, Ellie – 217 flips.*

Adults team: *The Gilmores – 309 flips.*

Individual winners – *Rafferty 65 flips, Izzy 119 flips, Anna 111 flips.*

Congratulations and well done.

We had hoped to hold another joint fund-raising event in December with St Helen's Church, Sheriff Hutton and St Mary's Church, Marton in the Forest. Sadly, due to a decrease in much needed helpers on the day from all the churches it was agreed not to hold the event this year.

The churchyard has over the years been kept neat and tidy by the goodwill of a team of villagers and is much appreciated by the members of the Parochial Church Council and the family and friends of those buried there. A number of the team have left the village and sadly others have passed away. The time has now come to look for new recruits. If you feel you can help, please contact me, Ida Terry on 01347 878432 for details.

GATE HELMSLEY

We are happy to be able to report some items of local cheer, which in a small way serve to balance some of the bleak news coming from distant parts of the world.

First, we offer congratulations and a very warm welcome to Reverend Nigel Benson on his appointment as the new Vicar of the benefice of Harton. We have already been able to get to know Nigel as he has spent the last twelve months as our Assistant Curate. We look forward to working closely with him over the coming years.

We have had some happy events in the church, with more to come over the summer. We offer congratulations to Charlotte Owbridge and Steven Badger who were married at St Mary's on 3rd April. We look forward to a baptism in early May and another wedding in early June.

We are sad however to report the recent death of Dick Garnons Williams. 'Captain Dick', as our grandchildren knew him, was a stalwart supporter of St Mary's church. We will add more when we have further news from the family.

Easter Sunday saw a full church for the Easter Day Holy Communion service, a joyous occasion at which the Reverend Rachel Benson presided, and the Reverend Nigel Benson preached. Thank you both.

Rachael Harrison, benefice lead for children and young people, organised an Easter egg hunt in all 10 churches in the benefice. St Mary's participated for both days of the Easter weekend. The church and churchyard were visited by 8 families, which included 13 children. Much chocolate was consumed. We are really pleased to receive visitors into our church, which is open every day. Drinks and biscuits are always available, and we value the positive comments that people make in the visitors' book.

The PCC recently received the Quinquennial Inspection (QI) report. Churches are inspected every five years by a nominated church architect. The report makes recommendations, with time scales, on repairs and refurbishments needed to maintain the church fabric. Although no urgent repairs are needed, work costing more than £100,000 is required for 2025-26. This is mostly to repair the rainwater goods to reduce the dampness in the church. So please watch this space for future intensive fund-raising.

On the fund-raising note, our continued thanks are due to Claire and Dan Sykes for the enjoyable monthly pop-up pub sessions. By the time this goes to press the Race Night they have organised will have taken place (on 20th April). We are grateful for the funds from these events which are shared between the village hall and the church.

We are very dependent on volunteer help. A huge “thank you” to all those who give so much help with the maintenance of the churchyard. You know who you are. We don’t always know who you are as you just quietly do what you think needs doing without expecting anything in return.

HOWSHAM

Howsham is coming to life again after a quiet few months. The churchyard is looking lovely with primroses and daffodils. Do join us for the United Benefice service with the choir here on Sunday 28th April.

Our Easter Egg Hunt was well supported. Thanks to Rachael for organising it. The Annual Bank Holiday Cake and Plant Stall will be held on Howsham Bridge from 10am on Monday 6th May. Teas and coffees will be served so do please come along – with some cash!

We are all grateful that Gill has made a good recovery from her major back surgery.

We are attempting to complete much needed tree work in the churchyard but have failed to get permissions from North Yorkshire Council. As one of the trees is demolishing the boundary wall, this work is essential and we shall continue our efforts.

Nigel’s collation and induction service was a great occasion. We are all delighted and reiterate our welcome and look forward to the future.

SAND HUTTON and CLAXTON

Unbelievably, we are a quarter of the way through the year but Spring has finally arrived to brighten all our spirits. New growth, new life and even some sunshine and blue skies. Lush greens, primrose yellow, bluebell hues – a whole palette of colours emerging.

The last few months have been a busy period for the benefice with advertising, shortlisting and interviews for a new vicar. This culminated in a

Collation and Induction service on 11th April at St Mary's, Sand Hutton when Revd. Nigel Benson was installed and welcomed as our vicar. It was a wonderful, uplifting occasion - thank you to all who attended or contributed in any way.

Other services at St Mary's have witnessed both sadness and joy. On 1st February there was a very moving funeral service for Paul Calpin. Paul, Tracey and their sons lived in Sand Hutton for many years and have a long association with the local area. Family, colleagues and friends all gathered to celebrate Paul's life and share their memories. Our condolences go to all the Calpins and extended family.

On 23rd February a funeral service was held for Colin Francis who lived in the village for very many years before moving to the County Durham area. We send deepest sympathy to family and friends.

A family group gathered for the private and peaceful interment of ashes of Ann Thompson from Claxton on 12th March – our thoughts and sympathy are with them.

We also extend our condolences to Joy and Samantha Pierce as they grieve the loss of Rob, a loving husband and father. Rob was such a character, a kind man who will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Our congratulations go to Charlotte and David Hudson who celebrated their marriage at the end of February. We wish them every happiness in the years ahead. Another happy occasion was the baptism of Annabelle East on 3rd March.

Mothering Sunday was celebrated with a family service – thank you to Rachael Harrison and all the children for making it so special.

Sand Hutton School held their Easter service on 21st March – it was lovely to see their enthusiasm and they were all so engaged with their singing and interpretation of the Easter story – well done.

The Good Friday service was quiet and reflective featuring a mix of poignant and atmospheric prayers, readings and music.

A big thank you to those volunteers who assisted with the Spring Clean at church – we will be organising a churchyard tidy soon.

Finally, thank you to all the people within our local communities who so generously donate items for the Ryedale Food Bank. It really is greatly appreciated. The collection point is in Claxton at Holderness House.

18.30 - 22.30h SUNDAY 16 JUNE 2024



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UPPER HELMSLEY

We started the year well in St Peter's. Our Palm Sunday service was very well attended and many stayed for fellowship and cake. The Spudathon event on 6th April was successful and we look forward to later in the year when we announce the family who produce the greatest yield.

Weeding and planting is now ongoing and we pray for a prosperous season for the Aubergine Operations.

Last Sunday we were blessed to hold Nigel's first Holy Communion service as our new vicar. We wish him well and an enjoyable and fulfilling time with us.

WHITWELL

St John's church welcomes Nigel Benson as the new Vicar and we wish him every success!

We have a beautiful new picnic table with seating for everyone to use.

Andrew Mitchell and Michael Goodwill have done a great job clearing the ivy from the church wall.

Many thanks to Rachael Harrison for organising a wonderful Easter egg hunt which was thoroughly enjoyed by the children (and parents!) who came to the church.

Let's hope we have seen the last of the dreadful winter rain.

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS.....



Sand Hutton C of E Primary School

Hello everyone,

It seems incredible to think that we are already in the final term of the school year. Where did that year go!?

The Spring Term was a busy one for us and the Summer Term looks as though it will be following in the same way. Despite the rain preventing our Big Help Out Day at Sand Hutton in March, it went ahead in April where much progress was made. We are so grateful for all donations of items to what has become a very enjoyable regular event. This means that Mr Mackfall is now able to have a Forest Schools After School Club. We are being supported by Biodiversity UK. In a similar theme, we are looking forward to a visit as a whole school to Askham Bryan Wildlife Park. This has been organised and paid for by our hardworking and dedicated PTA.

We also visited the church for our enthusiastic Easter Service, joined by Reverend Nigel. More recently I was very privileged to welcome him formally during his collation service at St Mary's Church. It gave me the chance to welcome him formally to our school family. Welcome Rev Nigel from us all at Sand Hutton C of E Primary School!

Just before Easter, we had two unexpected visitors to our school...on the same day and poles apart! Ofsted Inspectors returned to our school. Please look out for our report which will be published shortly. We are very proud of our school, one of two in our federation with Warthill.

In total contrast, we were visited by Dazzling Darren the magician! Such fun was had by all in the school hall! Thank you again PTA!

Just a couple of notices. Please look out on our school railings for notices related to our planned summer event in June. You will be welcome to attend. And, a reminder, that our clothing bin remains in the Sand Hutton School car park, should you be having a clear out. Please consider our school as a charity of choice. The earnings from this really do make a difference to our children.

After such a wet winter, I am sure you, like us, are looking forward to warmer and drier weather.

***Sending you sunshine from,
The children and staff at Sand Hutton C of E Primary School***



Foston C of E Primary School

We hope everyone had a lovely Easter! At Foston Primary, the children enjoyed leading our Easter Service for our families and community members. We were extremely proud of how confident our children were when reading and singing. Thank you to those who joined us!

Last term we were very busy with fun enrichment activities, including a residential, a talk from a local MP, a sports enhancement day with trampolines, a poetry workshop, farm visit, celebrating world book day, a dentist workshop and first aid training for the children!



At Foston we have also had our Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) inspection. A particular well-done to pupils and staff; the report truly reflects our vision as a federation.

A quote that stands out for me is, 'Pupils and families are loved at Foston. We are 'one big family' is a frequent and accurate refrain. Teachers know pupils very well and making the most of every opportunity is constantly to the fore. It is seen in their determination to see everyone as an individual, with unique gifts and talents.'

This half term the junior children are looking forward to starting their weekly swimming lessons and visiting Howsham Mill for their Geography topic. We are lucky to use our local environment to support learning.



**We have nursery places available from 3 years old,
we offer full and part time places.
Please ring Foston Primary School on 01653 618265 to organise a visit.**

Community Climate Action Group for Harton Benefice Area

Professor Colin Garner, Sand Hutton, as a concerned citizen, has set up with others a local Community Climate Action Group for the villages that broadly make up the Harton Benefice.

**The Group's aim is to help people take individual actions
to work towards zero carbon**

**If you are interested in learning more or getting involved, please see
www.sandhutton-claxtonvillagehall.org.uk/clubs-societies
or email cgarner010@gmail.com**

One of the initiatives is to look at Energy Performance Certificates (EPC) for our villages. If you let a house or if you have transferred a house in recent times there will be an EPC for your property. But if you have not and are interested in doing some works to your property to improve the thermal efficiency or to generate more electricity or other zero carbon measures, then it would be worthwhile commissioning one as a first step. They cost less than £100 (typically £80) and will give you some good insights as to what is most likely to reduce your energy consumption and save you money. The certificates list possible actions in priority order. It is a very valuable way of identifying where any money you choose to spend should be targeted first.

EPC's are valid for 10 years so if you are planning to transfer the property in the near future, you will need one at that stage anyway.

So far we have researched the EPC data for the villages of Buttercrambe, Scrayingham, Bossall, Sand Hutton, Skirpenbeck and Claxton. Zero carbon will be achieved when all houses are at band A and currently none are!

There is an interim target to get properties to band C as a minimum and currently Scrayingham is the winning village with 36% of properties at band C or above, chased by Sand Hutton on 28%, Buttercrambe on 24%, Skirpenbeck at 22%, Bossall with 7% and Claxton at 3%. So, we all have a long way to go!

If you Google EPC assessors there is a good choice locally. However, Helen Pirozek from Wiggington attended the Saturday social in February to speak about EPCs and has been used by a number of people on the CCAG group who recommend her. Helen can be contacted on helen@yorkepc.com or 07941 956332.

The CCAG also has a thermal imaging camera which can be borrowed to assess your own property. In the next Circular we will explain how that operates and what has been learnt so far.





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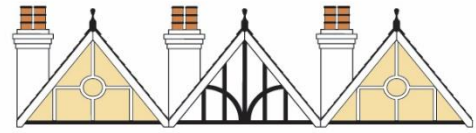
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Contact details for the churches in the Harton Benefice

Bossall, St Botolph

Churchwardens: Christopher and
Belinda Fordy

YO60 7NT

Email: christopherfordy@fordymarshall.com
Email: belindafor dy@gmail.com
Tel: 01904 468682

Buttercrambe, St John the Evangelist

Acting Churchwarden: Sara Winn Darley

YO41 1AT

Email: sara@winndarley.net
Tel: 01759 371398

Crambe, St Michael

Churchwardens: Stewart Walker

YO60 7JR

Email: stewart.walker46@gmail.com
Tel: 07754 055658
George MacNicol Email: george@scaledrinks.com
Tel: 07919 326515

Flaxton, St Lawrence

Churchwarden: Ida Terry

YO60 7NT

Email: idmt@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 01347 878432

Foston, All Saints

Churchwardens:

YO60 7QG

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

Gate Helmsley, St Mary

Churchwardens: Delyth Harran

Sue Hanson

YO41 1NE

Email: dandmharran@gmail.com

Tel: 01759 372215

Email: sjhanson50@gmail.com

Tel: 01759 372663

Howsham, St John

Churchwardens: Gill Littlejohn

Judy Stephenson

YO60 7PH

Email: simoncklittlejohn@msn.com

Tel: 01653 618846

Email: jfs@great-barn.co.uk

Tel: 01653 618673

Sand Hutton, St Mary

Churchwardens: Ian Lyall

Ellen Stott

YO41 1LB

Email: ian.lyall2@gmail.com

Tel: 01904 468209

Email: ellenstott55@gmail.com

Tel: 01904 468404

Upper Helmsley, St Peter

Churchwarden: Mari Richards

YO41 1JY

Email: mjb.richards1000@gmail.com

Tel: 07930 338516

Whitwell on the Hill, St John the Evangelist YO60 7JJ

Churchwarden: Janie Bell

Emma Du Mon

Email: janie.bell@me.com

Tel: 01653 618270

Email: emmaanne777@btinternet.com

Tel: 01653 619804

And just for fun! You may have seen some of these before but hopefully they will make you chuckle.....

These are extracts from various Parish magazines.....

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus walks on Water' The sermon this evening: 'Searching for Jesus'

Please remember in prayer those who are unwell in our communities. Smile at someone who is hard to love and say 'hell' to someone who doesn't much care about you.

Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want to remember.

This evening at 7.0pm there will be hymn singing in the park opposite the church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping. Bring your husbands.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

At the service this evening the topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Miss Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

Weightwatchers will meet at 7.0 pm in the Church Hall. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.

The Circular

Copy deadline for the next edition July 18th 2024

This will cover: August September October 2024

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

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