



## The Benefice of Harton

# The Circular



Winter 2023/2024  
November December January 2024

*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 Lawrence Church, Flaxton

*From Rev Nigel.....*



We have all come through a busy period. The harvest, agriculturally speaking, is over, and the last Harvest Service will have been enjoyed at Buttercrambe, followed by a communal lunch.

Now we can settle into something of a quieter period before we enter the season of Advent, and the busyness of preparing for Christmas.

Whilst we are in the quieter period, we should all take some time out for ourselves, and to find some time to rekindle our intimate relationship with God.

Jesus, as we read in the Gospels, often took time out to be alone to pray. He needed that time to recharge spiritually and physically, and so do we.

So, perhaps you can take a walk and enjoy the colourful beauty of Autumn, being childlike and kicking through the fallen leaves, wrapped up in comfortable warm clothes (I do like clothes for this season, along with being comfortable, they hide all those lumpy bits).

Then, we can return home to a warm drink and perhaps a good book, or to listen to some good music. It is, I think, a comfortable and quieter season. Please do find time to enjoy the quiet, and to share it with our heavenly Father. After all, He created the season for us.

*Blessings*

*Rev Nigel*



## *from Sister Margaret Ann CSPH*



### *My Dear Friends,*

During my time as Parish Sister both in the Sand Hutton Group of Churches and then in the Benefice of Harton, I have never made any secret of my love for hymns and using them in both public and private prayer. They have so much to teach us of God and to lift our eyes and heart to the Father of us all.

A couple of weeks ago I was asked to choose a favourite hymn to be sung at the Sheriff Hutton Chapel where I worship these days and to say a few words about why I like it. So please may I share my choice with you all now.

It is number 428 in Mission Praise.

Lord, for the years  
your love has kept and guided us,  
urged and inspired us,  
cheered us on our way,  
sought us and saved us,  
pardoned and provided  
Lord of the years  
we bring our thanks today

As the years pass and we get nearer our goal, I reflect on the past with thanksgiving for God's goodness to me. I thank Him for my family and home life, not always easy in all sorts of ways, but still a lot to be thankful for. This taught me that none of us are perfect, and none of us outside God's mercy and redemption but unconditionally loved, cared for and held.

So, I thank God for all that my Mum, and Dad gave me of themselves, all that they taught me, preparing me for the great wide world. My Mum gave me my faith, nurturing it and encouraging me in the ways of God teaching me that I was nothing without Him.

Dad, most importantly taught me the value and importance of being still and quiet and a great love for all God's creatures. I thank God that through family and friends God led me along the paths I trod. Not always easy and sometimes very painful, but exploring his ways, his will until at last I arrived at where he wanted me to be.

Then in Community at Horbury He gave to me the discipline I needed to grow ever closer to Him, my Lord and my God. Through prayer, meditation, the recitation of the divine office and the reading of Holy Scripture, I learnt to be

still, just like my dad had done, so I too could listen to the voice of God Himself. Allowing Him to open my eyes so I could see, my ears so I could hear, and he gave me the heart to respond to His great love in service to Him and my neighbours.

Lord for that word,  
The word of life which fires us,  
Speaks to our hearts  
And sets our souls ablaze,  
Teaches and trains,  
Rebukes us and inspires us:  
Lord of the word  
Receive your people's praise.

In all the work I ever did in the name of Jesus Christ and the Community of St Peter, I learnt to serve as Jesus taught us, and the value of these great words 'it is better to give than to receive, to serve than to be served'. God led me on and entrusted me with some incredible work, allowing me to meet some amazing people along the way and giving me the opportunity of listening to some wonderful heartwarming stories. Brave and enlightening, what a privilege that has been.

He provided everything I needed to share with those less fortunate than myself even when I had nothing, and when life got hard, he helped me to be ready for all that came my way, and to accept all that he asked, knowing that my strength is in Him alone.

None of us are perfect, we all have faults and failings to ask forgiveness for, but God gives to each one of us the potential to be that person that He created us to be. So.....

Lord for ourselves;  
In living power remake us,  
self on the cross  
and Christ upon the throne,  
past put behind us,  
for the future take us:  
Lord of our lives,  
to live for Christ alone.

This is my prayer for each and everyone of you and all those who you love and hold dear this day and every day,

May God bless you all.

*Margaret Ann*  
+ CSPK

# Services for the Benefice of Harton

**November 2023**

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

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**



**7.00 pm**

**Festival of Lilies and Light**

**Crambe**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

**All Saints**

9.00

Zoom Worship

10.00

Holy Communion

Gate Helmsley

Blessing of Amen Shoeboxes

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November**

10.00

Midweek Service

Flaxton

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November**



**Remembrance**

10.30

Holy Communion

Bossall

12.00

Act of Remembrance

War Memorial

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

10.00

Midweek Service

Howsham

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November**



10.00

Holy Communion

Foston

10.00

AAW - St Lucia

Gate Helmsley Village Hall

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

10.00

Midweek Service

Bossall

<b><i>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November</i></b>		<b><i>Christus Rex</i></b>
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<b>10.00</b>	<b>Advent Carols</b>	<b>Sand Hutton</b>
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<b><i>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November</i></b>		
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10.00	Midweek Service	Crambe
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## **December 2023**

<b><i>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</i></b>		<b><i>Advent 1</i></b>
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9.00	Zoom Worship	
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10.00	Holy Communion	Bossall
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<b><i>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</i></b>		
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10.00	Midweek Service	TBC
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<b><i>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December</i></b>		<b><i>Advent 2</i></b>
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<b>10.00</b>	<b>Nativity and Toy Service</b>	<b>Flaxton</b>
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<b><i>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</i></b>		
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10.00	Midweek Service	Crambe
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<b><i>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December</i></b>		
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<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Service of Nine Lessons and Carols <i>with the Flaxton Singers</i></b>	<b>Flaxton</b>
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<b><i>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December</i></b>		
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<b>6.00</b>	<b>Celebration of Christmas by Candlelight</b>	<b>Crambe</b>
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***Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December******Advent 3***

10.00	Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
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***Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December******Christmas Eve***

10.00	Holy Communion	Buttercrambe
4.00	Christingle	Foston
11.00 pm	Midnight Mass	Bossall

***Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December******Christmas Day***

10.00	Christmas Holy Communion	Gate Helmsley
10.00	Family Service	Flaxton

***Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December******Christmas 1***

10.00	Morning Prayer	Sand Hutton
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**January 2024*****Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January***

10.00	Midweek Service	Crambe
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***Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January******Epiphany***

10.00	Holy Communion	Bossall
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***Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January***

10.00	Midweek Service	Sand Hutton
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***Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January******Epiphany 2***

10.00	Holy Communion	Upper Helmsley
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**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January**

10.00 Midweek Service Flaxton

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January**

**Epiphany 3**

10.00 Holy Communion Whitwell

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January**

10.00 Midweek Service Foston

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January**

**Epiphany 4**

10.00 Holy Communion Gate Helmsley

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

10.00 Midweek Service Bossall



**St Michael's Church, Crambe**  
**Festival of Lilies and Light**  
**with The Benefice Choir**  
**Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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 Sunday October 29th. The church will be open every day**  
**following the service so you can visit and light a candle at a time to suit you .**

## Welcome to those newly baptised



3<sup>rd</sup> September  
22<sup>nd</sup> October

Elijah Jack Wilson  
Hugo Henry Spring

Howsham  
Howsham

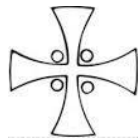


## Congratulations to those newly married

2<sup>nd</sup> August  
9<sup>th</sup> September  
30<sup>th</sup> September

Jack Rees and Amelie Smith  
Luke Hutchinson and Amy Cundall  
James Henley and Lauren Tye

Flaxton  
Flaxton  
Bossall



## Our condolences to the family and friends of

3<sup>rd</sup> June  
12<sup>th</sup> August  
30<sup>th</sup> August  
October  
5<sup>th</sup> November 2022

John Beckwith  
Terrence Oxendale  
Marian Pratt  
Robert Peter Holmes  
James Francis Thomas

Whitwell  
Gate Helmsley  
Gate Helmsley  
Gate Helmsley  
Sand Hutton

## **2023 Shoebox Appeal**

**Service of blessing of the shoeboxes will be held on  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00 am  
at Gate Helmsley**



Our Christmas shoeboxes for Romania project will be entering its eighth year this time round and we are enormously grateful for all the support we receive from across the Benefice area and beyond. It's useful to keep this giving in mind so that items can be collected as the months go by.

The shoeboxes are not just for children. At the request of the partner church in Romania we also encourage supporters to put items in the shoebox which will be gifts for parents and grandparents.

AMEN is a registered Charity No. 1057626. You can see more of the work they do by visiting: <https://www.amentrust.co.uk/relieving-poverty/romanian-shoebox-appeal/> Very many thanks.

**If you require more information please contact me, David Fletcher,  
Tel 07900 998378**

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE BENEFICE.....**



Quality stalls at affordable prices  
for all your Christmas giving

### **GIFTS for CHRISTMAS** **Saturday 4th November 2023**

**SAND HUTTON VILLAGE HALL**  
**10am to 3pm**

Stalls include... Sand Hutton Gifts (handmade gifts/pots and planters)  
Silver & Stone (jewellery),  
Wikkon (Ceramics), Annabelle Shaw (handbags & scarves),  
Tins 'n Tubes (childrens kits),  
Wax Lane (candles), Touchy Feely (Recycled fabrics). ... and more!

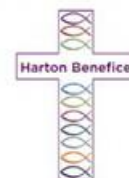
**Caroline's Kitchen for light lunches  
and cakes**

**Entry £1**

details from [giftsforchristmas@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:giftsforchristmas@hotmail.co.uk)  
**01904 468481**







# A Festival of Light – All Age Worship

at

**Gate Helmsley Village Hall**  
**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00 am**

**CELEBRATING**

**THE FESTIVAL OF SANTA LUCIA**

**Celebrating the meaning of Baptism**

**Activities : Refreshments**

*“You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in that light all the days of your life”*

## A NORSE NIGHT TO REMEMBER PRESENTS

# OLAF THE SKALD

a Chris Cade spectacular!

followed by a traditional Pie Supper and Bar

**Gate Helmsley Village Hall**  
**Saturday 25th of November 2023**

### Tickets:

£10/Children £5 bought in advance for catering numbers

Anna: [anna1986@live.co.uk](mailto:anna1986@live.co.uk) Phone: 07544 259258

David: [davidfletcher165@hotmail.com](mailto:davidfletcher165@hotmail.com) Phone: 07900 998378

Delyth and Michael: [dandmharran@gmail.com](mailto:dandmharran@gmail.com) Phone: 01759 372215

### Lucky Ticket Prize Draw!

Claire and Dan Sykes famous Bar 18.30 - 19:00

Chris Cade's Olaf the Skald 19.00 - 20:00

Pie Supper and Bar 20.00 - 22:00

All ticket proceeds to St Mary's Church GH



St Mary's Church Gate Helmsley



# Christmas Fayre

**Saturday 2nd December**

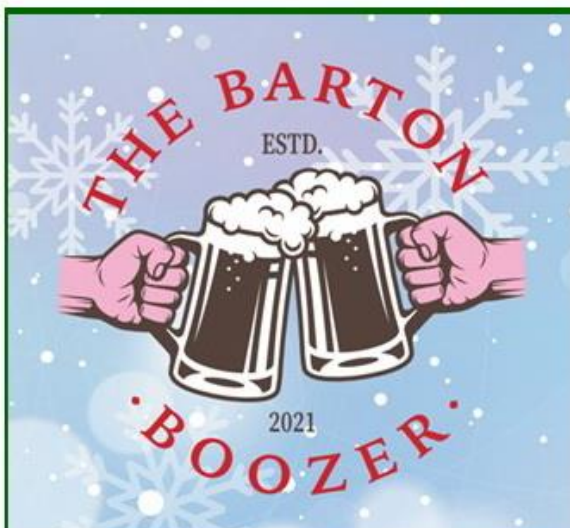
**2.00—4.00 pm**

**Orchard House**

**Tombola : Raffle : Mulled Wine  
Cakes : Gifts : Garlands : Table decorations**

**Adults £3 / Children 50p :  
Includes tea/coffee and mince pie**

***Items also available online – contact Delyth on  
01759 372215 / [dandmharran@gmail.com](mailto:dandmharran@gmail.com) for an order form***



## **CHRISTMAS AT THE "BARTON BOOZER"**

**EVERYBODY'S WELCOME FOR  
A FESTIVE  
"POP UP PUB" NIGHT**

**FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

**7.00 – 10.00 P.M.**

**BARTON LE WILLOWS VILLAGE HALL**

**BOTTLED BEERS/LAGERS/CIDER /WINE/PROSECCO  
SOFT DRINKS AVAILABLE RAFFLE**



*All Saints Church, Foston  
In aid of church funds*

## **Quiz and Curry Night**



**Friday 8th of December  
7.30 pm**



**Thornton le clay Village Hall.**

Come and join in the fun with our famous Quiz Master Peter Mills  
Bring family and friends and test your general knowledge skills.

**A guaranteed fun experience !**

**For Tickets please contact**

**Karen Tel: 01653 619964**

**Pam Tel: 01653 618141**



There will be  
Carols, Prayers,  
Mulled wine,  
juice, mince pies!  
Dressing up &  
taking part in a  
Nativity drama,  
Christmas crafts

**YOU ARE INVITED TO.....**

**MESSY NATIVITY!!**

**White Sykes Farm Sand Hutton**

**Saturday 9th Dec 2023**

**3.30 – 5.30pm**

*Join us as we celebrate together  
the Festival of Christmas.*

**ALL AGES WELCOME**

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT

RACHAEL HARRISON

07847329015

[rachaelyoutharton@gmail.com](mailto:rachaelyoutharton@gmail.com)

## Defibrillator

A **FREE** familiarization course for using the Defibrillator and also, CPR training has been arranged at:

**Welburn Village Hall**

on

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00 pm.**

If you would like to attend this course, please book a place through either:

**Fiona: 07774885833 or 01653619368 or  
Martin Walker 07877 703 924**



## St Michael's Church Crambe



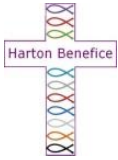
Come and join us on  
**Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6.00 p.m.**

## **'CHRISTMAS AT CRAMBE'**

A Celebration of Christmas  
by candlelight in carols, prose and poetry  
with

## **THE '200 SINGERS'**

And afterwards for mulled wine and refreshments  
at Crambe House All are very welcome



## **Benefice PCC.....**

The Benefice PCC last met on 19<sup>th</sup> September. The main point of discussion was the development of the document the “Benefice Profile”. This is the full description of the Harton Benefice and its constituent churches that will be used as a major part of the formal process to recruit a new vicar. A timetable was discussed so that the post can be advertised as soon as possible.

Each PCC is asked to nominate two people in advance of the interviews, one to be on the interviewing panel and the other to act as a reserve.

Another topic discussed was Safeguarding, in that all necessary DBS screening of parishioners (PCC members, etc) has been completed. This must now be completed every 3 years (rather than every 5 years as previously required).

The next Benefice PCC meeting will be on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 2.00 pm. Please send agenda items to the honorary secretary, Ellen Stott.

***Delyth Harran***

***Lay Chairman***



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

The new school year in September always heralds the start of fresh activities within the Benefice for our families and children and this year was no exception. The Aubergines were pleased to get back onto the allotment at Upper Helmsley after the summer break and following on from the success of our spud-athon launch on Good Friday, we were delighted to host a ‘Harvest-athon’. Many congratulations go to Carolyn and Michael Rickleton who took 1<sup>st</sup> prize for the heaviest yield, with the McCandless family coming in hot on their heels in 2<sup>nd</sup> place and the Letmans 3<sup>rd</sup>!

It was a really great event - everyone had fun, the weather was super and it was well supported. Definitely a fixture for next spring! The Aubergines have also been busy gathering up apples in the local village which we have had made into apple juice as part of our raising awareness of waste/re-using resources. We continue to meet fortnightly at the allotment throughout the autumn and winter months.



October brought us Messy Harvest at Sand Hutton Village Hall, which again was a great fun event, enjoyed by families and helpers alike! The children dressed up as farmers; made cards; wrote prayers and decorated animals to stick onto a beautiful world map. As always, a massive 'Thank you' to the Messy team and on the day helpers without whose help we couldn't run the event.

Look out for Messy Nativity coming in December, which this Christmas we are delighted to be holding in a barn! (see flier). We are really looking forward to it, Christmas will be here before you know it!

October has also brought us the annual shoebox appeal which gathers more momentum every year! We are always delighted with the response to this event, and the generosity of families within the Benefice. We always enjoy going into Sand Hutton and Warthill schools to support the children who take part. The shoeboxes will be in church on 5<sup>th</sup> November, at Gate Helmsley ready for a blessing as they begin their epic journey to Romania

Keep an eye on your local notice boards, village Facebook pages/WhatsApp groups, and the newsletter 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](http://www.facebook.com/groups/hartonbenefice)  
[rachaelyouthharton@gmail.com](mailto:rachaelyouthharton@gmail.com)

**UBERGINE OPERATIONS**

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!!

Contact Rachael Harrison (07847 329015) or Katie Hopkins (07951 726412) for more information

The flyer includes a logo with a green mask and orange stick, a purple text box with the main text, a list of activities, a contact box, and several photographs showing groups of people at various events. A 'Harton Benefice' logo is also visible in the top right corner.

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

*The Lunch Club.....*



Our first Lunch Club date at the New Derwent in Malton went well. We had a lovely Sunday lunch and friendship.

Another date to follow  
in March next year  
Thanks for coming!

*Adrian and Jezz*

**BUTTERCRAMBE**

All is quiet in Buttercrambe but I thought the following bit of Buttercrambe Church history might be of interest.

In the churchyard at Buttercrambe there is a small, plain, single cross positioned in the north east corner, on its own, away from the main burial area which has always remained a mystery ..... that is until recently when George and Sara Winn-Darley were contacted by Simon Roots who was tracing his family tree.

His great grandparents worked at Aldby Park in the late 1880s, his grandfather Henry was a coachman, and his grandmother Margaret was a cook. They had three children. Tragedy hit the family when in 1891 the youngest two Harry, aged 3 and Edith then 18 months died when the pony and trap driven by their mother fell into the lock at Buttercrambe Weir whilst visiting Mrs Ireland who was the lock keeper's wife. Whilst negotiating the trap through to the Lock House the pony had backed towards the lock, subsequently running off the lock edge and into the water. Edith and Harry were strapped into the trap and tragically drowned and they are buried in St John's Church by the plain single cross. A sad story.

## **CRAMBE**

In our own quiet way, we have had a busy time here in Crambe with the centre of attention being our lovely St Michael's church. The churchyard rewilding project continues, and there has been a noticeable increase in the diversity of both plant and insect life. Sam's mown paths which weave their way round and across the churchyard have created beautiful tranquil short walks where one can enjoy the peace and beauty of not just the wildflowers, but the fine views of the surrounding hills.

At the beginning of August, a team from the Lower Derwent Valley Nature Reserve and Natural England came with their strimmers to cut all the long grass, an annual task. They did a marvellous job and largely raked it into piles for us, a huge thank you to them.

The following week the villagers and some of the Aubergines came to do the final rake up and loading of all the cut grass into a huge trailer kindly brought by a local farmer. It was hard work, but much fun was had by all. We rounded the job off with hotdogs and cakes!



The highlight of the day was hauling a ladder up the outside of the tower so we could drop it through the roof hatch into the chamber below. Our QI had stated we needed to dispose of our existing wooden ladder and replace it with a metal one, and everyone knows you can't get a rigid 14ft metal ladder up a tight spiral staircase! Mission accomplished!

More recently, Paula, Clare, Millie and Simon from the village, between them planted over 900 bulbs in the churchyard. The bulbs were generously donated by everyone in the village, a sterling effort for which we are very grateful. We look forward to seeing a riot of colour in the spring.

The following day St Michael's had its Harvest Festival service which was taken by Rachel Benson. It was good to welcome Canon Maggie Mclean from York Minister who came and preached. Our thanks go to them and to Michael Harran for playing the organ for us. Our grateful thanks to Linda Walker who did all the floral arrangements, and to those who supplied fresh produce and



tinned goods. These were given to the Free Fridge in Norton and the Malton Food Bank.

**Lily Festival:** On November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7.00 pm. This is a Benefice service and we look forward to welcoming as many of you as are able, or would like to attend. It is a service of remembrance for all those we have loved and lost. Even if you cannot attend, your loved ones can be remembered. The church is always open, and for the following two weeks the lilies will be at their best for those who would like to just come at any time and spend a few quiet moments in the church and maybe light a candle.

**On Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6.00 pm** our annual Celebration of Christmas in carols, poetry and prose by candlelight will take place. The 200 Singers from York will be joining us again this year, and everyone is welcome to come along and share this event with us, and afterwards at Crambe House for mulled wine and mince pies.

## **FLAXTON**

**Jumble sale:** Thank you so much to everyone who donated goods and gave their time in support of the Jumble Sale fundraising event. It was a great success due to you in the community.

**Harvest:** The Harvest celebration service was well supported. Many thanks to the Benefice Choir who joined us on this occasion helping to raise the roof with their singing. The bring and share lunch in the village hall was well supported and it was good to have friends join us who were unable to make it to the service. A huge thank you for all the gifts given which were passed on to the Salvation Army who were grateful to receive them. A letter of thanks has been received from the Salvation Army and is on display on the lychgate notice board and inside the church.

**Sheriff Hutton Sunday Market:** Last December Flaxton Church joined with Sheriff Hutton Church and Marston Church in a fundraising event. Over £600 was raised and shared between the three churches. We have been invited to join the two churches again. This will take place on Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup> 10.00 am to 1.30 pm at Sheriff Hutton village hall. We would be very grateful for donations of cakes and help on the day. There is no denying it is hard work but fun and you get to meet new people.

**Advent 3<sup>rd</sup> December – 24<sup>th</sup> December.** As in previous years there will be no flowers in church. Decoration of the church for Christmas day will be on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December between 10.00 am and 12 noon. If Friday is not

convenient the church will be open on Thursday between 10.00 am and 3.00 pm. Vases will be at the back of the church.

**Holy Communion/Toy Service: 10<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00 am.** Once again, this service is in support of the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. This is a joint effort between the Salvation Army and Social Services. They are requesting **new** gifts for children between the ages of 0 – 18 and their parents/carers. For example, toys, books, games, jigsaw puzzles, toiletries (male and female), gloves, scarves, chocolates, selection boxes, biscuits. Gifts can be brought to the service or left in church on the following days prior to the service: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December or Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December between 10.00 am and 3.00 pm. Many thanks for your support.

**On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.30 pm there will be a service of Nine Lessons and Carols. This service will once again be supported by The Flaxton Singers. The service usually lasts about 45 minutes and is followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

We look forward to welcoming you on **Christmas Day at 10.00 am** for a family service.

**A huge thank you to the churchyard team** for keeping the churchyard looking so neat and tidy during the course of the year and to the church opening team for their dedication in opening and closing the church on a daily basis. This is much appreciated by the PCC members and visitors to the church.

## **FOSTON**

All is well here at All Saints. We are currently working through the long list of required work highlighted after our Quinquennial Inspection. Thanks to Nigel Copsey, the church is looking a lot better now. We hopefully will be having the inside of the church painted soon too. We have enjoyed a couple of services, the last one being Harvest Festival, which was taken by Nigel Benson and Ian Lyall. It was well attended and the church looked lovely. Afterwards we all enjoyed coffee and cake.

We shall be having another quiz night with our talented Quiz master Peter Mills. It promises to be an entertaining evening, and there will be a supper of homemade curries. Do come and join us, on



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 7.30 pm at Thornton le Clay Village Hall. Please bring your own drinks.

We will be having another Christmas Shoebox evening on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October packing and wrapping shoeboxes to be sent to Romania for Christmas cheer to those in need. If you would like to donate or help on the evening please contact:

Linda Fothergill 07809 115250 for more information.

It would be lovely to see you.

Wishing you all Peace and Love from Foston.

### **Thornton le Clay Village Hall**

The trustees and management committee would like to thank everyone for their support with the installation of the lovely new kitchen. The hall now offers a much brighter, modern catering space with a large double oven for hirers to use. Email [villagehallbookings@outlook.com](mailto:villagehallbookings@outlook.com) for more information about hiring the hall. Alternatively, why not come to one of our many community events or regular Monday coffee mornings held between 9.00 am and 11.00 am to see what we have to offer.

### ***GATE HELMSLEY***

As the evenings are drawing in and there's a distinct chill in the air, we can look forward to some interesting and entertaining events in Gate Helmsley over the coming weeks.

Full details can be found elsewhere in the Circular, but here is a taste of what is planned:

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November 10.00 am** service to bless the Amen Christmas Boxes for Romania in St Mary's Church.

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 10.00 am.** Santa Lucia Service of Light in Gate Helmsley village hall. The families of all those recently baptised in the Harton Benefice are warmly invited to this service of All Age Worship

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 7.00 pm** 'Olaf the Skald' in the village hall (pop-up bar from 6.30 pm).

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2.00 to 4.00 pm** Christmas Fayre at Orchard House and online.

**Christmas morning 10.00 am** Holy Communion service and mince pies in church.

In addition, don't forget our regular monthly events: the village hall library on the second Saturday morning each month, thanks to Christine Bickerdike, and the Friday evening (usually the last in each month) Pop-up Pub, thanks to Dan and Claire Sykes. Life is so much better when people volunteer to do good things for their community.

We had a good congregation for the Harvest Evensong Service in St Mary's on 28<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you to Reverend Nigel Benson who led the service. A harvest supper was served in the village hall after the service and was greatly enjoyed by everyone. Thank you to all those who helped in any way to make the evening such a success, both socially and financially. The supper raised over £500 for church funds.

We await the outcome of our recent QI – with some trepidation!

Sadly, we have to report the deaths of three past residents of Gate Helmsley, Terrence Oxendale, Marian Pratt and Peter Holmes. We extend our sincere sympathy to all three families in their loss and sorrow.

## **HOWSHAM**

The August Bank Holiday clean up went very well. Lots of people came and worked in the church and churchyard during the afternoon. More daffodils were planted, and much cleaning done inside the church. Thanks to everyone who helped. We had a lovely BBQ afterwards and the weather was kind. It was good to have Sister Margaret join us.

Harvest Festival on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October was led by Reverend Nigel and followed by the usual auction and supper. This year we raised funds for Lynne Barnett who is going to do missionary work in Cambodia and closer to home, we donated to the Down Syndrome group in York. As always it was a fun evening and people were very generous.

We were delighted that Tom and Bethany Spring, who were married in Howsham last year, chose to bring their baby boy, Hugo Henry to be christened on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. We also enjoyed the baptism of Elijah Jack Wilson.

**On Monday December 4<sup>th</sup>** there will be our usual Cake Stall & Raffle at York Auction Centre Christmas Fatstock Show.

We hope to do some fundraising as there is a lot of work to be done on the trees in the churchyard. In addition, the boundary walls are in a precarious condition in several places. Our quinquennial inspection is also due shortly, so fingers crossed!

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

Summer has come to a close – it will have brought holidays, relaxation and fun for many and we hope it has been refreshing for most of our community. Autumn is now upon us bringing colder temperatures but with it the beauty of russet leaves upon the trees as the season progresses.

As we think about what we enjoy and how fortunate we are, we don't have to look far to see how others struggle with health, finance, personal problems, sometimes finding it hard to find a way to survive each day, not to mention the atrocities witnessed in other parts of the world. We pray that the less fortunate are supported, that their humanity may be respected, and that they may live without fear.

We have, during the last few months said 'Goodbye' to several villagers and of course 'Welcome' to those who have joined our communities. We look forward to getting to know you as time goes on!

We do not take for granted the hard work done by the few who look after our villages, churchyard, church and village hall. If you would like to contribute in any way, please contact Nigel Davies 468001 or Peter Stott 468404.

Thank you again for your contributions to the Ryedale Food Bank who are always very appreciative of your generous donations. The collection point is in Claxton at Holderness House. We are sourcing a new collection point for Sand Hutton.

**Forthcoming service:** On November 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at St Mary's, Sand Hutton, there will be the Advent Carol service led by the Benefice Choir. The service will be followed by seasonal refreshments. All are most welcome – it would be lovely to see you.

### **Fundraising:**

Thank you to Jez and Adrian for hosting the Afternoon Tea in September, and to all who came to make it such a pleasant social occasion. Almost £400 was raised for St Mary's church. Thank you!

**“Gifts for Christmas” on Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> 10.0 am – 3.00 pm** at Sand Hutton Village Hall, is our next major fundraising event for St. Mary's Church. Quality stalls and gifts; delicious refreshments and a fabulous atmosphere. Come and enjoy socialising and shopping of course! More information in the events section of this Circular.



## **WHITWELL**

Suddenly Autumn is here, it has been so wet and muddy recently but the leaves are now turning and the Castle Howard Avenue will soon be spectacular. There was a lovely service for Dermot Gray on 26<sup>th</sup> September who passed away suddenly. Many thanks to Rachel Benson for taking the service and to Peter Stott for his usual excellence on the organ.

Our harvest service did not take place this year - it always seems to land on the marathon Sunday which makes the roads rather chaotic. Thank you to Sand Hutton for having an evening communion on that day instead.

### **Carol singing Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> December.**

We are having a walk-about carol singing evening weather permitting! We will start outside the church at 6.00 pm and walk up the village street and sing, hopefully gathering more people on the way! We will finish back at the church where we will serve mince pies and mulled wine. Everyone is most welcome, the more the merrier!

## **NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS.....**

### ***Sand Hutton C of E Primary School***



Well, it is already well into Autumn and we don't really know how that has happened when we weren't looking!

All our reception children have settled into school as though they have always been here and we are so happy to welcome them all! In fact, we are already looking forward to next September and thinking about ways to spread the good news about what a fabulous place Sand Hutton C of E Primary School is to begin a school journey.

Early in September, we opened our doors on a Saturday for people to have a look around and we have a further open event planned after school. Please feel free to share this date, which is also live on Mumbler. We will be open from 5.00 - 6:30 pm on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Staff will be available to answer questions and there will be activities to engage children of all ages. Please come and find out more about us!

We are very lucky to have such beautiful grounds at Sand Hutton school and also fortunate to have parents who are so enthusiastic about contributing to them looking the best they can. Our youngest children are using these grounds to enjoy Forest Schools activities with Mr MacFall. In Class 3 the children have been excited to have had a 'real life' author reply to their tweet on twitter. If you would like to follow their adventures, please follow them on @sand\_warthill

We love to visit our church and we are glad to be able to celebrate church calendar events there with Rev Nigel. This year our Christmas service will be on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 9.00 am and 6.00 pm. Perhaps you would like to come along and enjoy the festivities of the season with us.

Finally, we are delighted to celebrate the success of our clothing recycling bin in the school car park. It is a real fundraising source and easily accessible. If you are clearing out clothes, shoes and bags, please consider our bin as your charity of choice. We really appreciate this.

***With every best wish***

***Beverley Pawson and everyone at Sand Hutton C of E Primary School.***



### ***Foston C of E Primary School***

Our new Early Years dedicated classroom is now complete! The children and staff are absolutely delighted with their new space and outdoor area. The bright and welcoming environment has sparked creativity and enthusiasm among our youngest learners. If you are looking for a nursery or reception place, please don't hesitate to contact us at: [fostonoffice@foston.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:fostonoffice@foston.n-yorks.sch.uk) for a personalised tour of our lovely school and an explore, with your child, in our new environment.

Our dedicated Parent and Friends group has been hard at work designing our new library space. Their commitment and creativity are greatly appreciated, and we can't wait to see the library come to life as a hub of learning and imagination.

Our older students recently celebrated the Harvest Festival at Foston Church. It was a lovely service and it was fabulous to welcome so many of our children's family members. Meanwhile, our Early Years students had their own special Harvest Celebration at the Methodist Chapel. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to express their harvest thanks in a unique and age-appropriate way. We extend our thanks to Reverend Benson and Reverend Hayward for their support and involvement in these beautiful harvest celebrations. Their presence made the events even more meaningful.

We are incredibly proud of our school community and the enthusiasm everyone brings to our wonderful school. Thank you for your continued support, and let's look forward to more exciting learning in the coming weeks.



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## **Christmas star biscuits**

### **Ingredients**

250g self-raising flour      125g cold butter cut into cubes  
½ tsp cinnamon              ½ tsp ground ginger  
125g caster sugar            1 egg beaten

### **Method**

Grease baking trays. Preheat oven to 200C/180°C  
Rub butter into flour in a large mixing bowl until it resembles breadcrumbs.

Mix in sugar, spices add beaten egg stir thoroughly until mixture forms a dough. Add a drop of water if required.

Rollout dough on a floured board to approx. 5mm/¼ inch thick.

Using a star cutter, cut out stars. Continue to roll remnants until all used up. Place on baking trays. Put in the oven for 10-15 minutes until the stars are pale gold on top. Cool on a wire rack. Store in an airtight tin.



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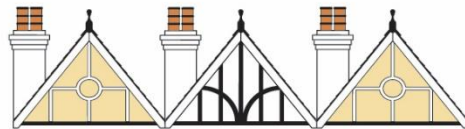




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### **Buttercrambe, St John the Evangelist**

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### **Crambe, St Michael**

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### **Flaxton, St Lawrence**

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## The Circular

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