

The Benefice of Harton

The Circular



Winter Edition 2018 - 2019

News, views and forthcoming events

In our benefice and communities

November December January

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

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Reflections from our Curate *Revd. Hannah Suekarran*



Dear Friends

As this issue of the Circular is published, we are approaching a change in season; the leaves in all their autumnal glory are beginning to fall to the ground, the harvests of plums and apples are coming to an end, and the temperature is steadily dropping as winter creeps in.

This is also a time of remembrance; both the kind that lights up our early November skies with bright colours as we recall gunpowder, treason and plot; and the kind that calls us to keep silence, as we pause to reflect on many brave and unimaginable sacrifices by our armed forces, and give our thanks for the freedom which they have brought us. In the church calendar we mark All Souls and All Saints, remembering those whom we have loved and lost, and many who have gone before us in the faith and given us an example to follow.

As we look back, with the seasons shifting around us, we are perhaps made more aware than usual of change. Whether that be the huge changes that have occurred over the 100 years since the end of the First World War, or more personal changes in our own lives. Some will feel positive, others less so. Some will have caused grief, and others joy. Change can be exciting and hopeful, unsettling and concerning in equal measure.

But perhaps the seasons themselves have something to teach us about change. Along with several others in our Benefice, I recently attended a quiet day led by Margaret Sentamu, based on a book by Sister Joyce Rupp entitled 'Praying Our Goodbyes'. We considered Sister Joyce's observation that there is an ache in autumn, as we watch things in nature die on the approach to winter. And yet we know that this is part of a cycle. Winter is followed by spring, and spring brings new growth, which often begins deep under the ground during the colder months. Change can involve loss, but the seasons give us hope that it may also be the start of something new.

The Bible holds within it many similar images. In the Old Testament the prophet Ezekiel speaks of new life being breathed into dry bones; Isaiah tells of God saying, 'See, I am doing a new thing...I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland'. And in the New Testament God's promise to bring new life out of loss takes on human form in the person of

Jesus, who walks a path from life, through death, to life again, giving us the hope of new life with God for all eternity. None of these instances avoid times of struggle and sadness, but the cry of God in scripture is a cry echoed in the cycle of the seasons. Somehow, there is always hope.

I am currently approaching an exciting if slightly daunting time of change in my own life, as my husband Rob and I prepare for the birth of our first child. My imminent maternity leave has prompted me to look back over my time in the Harton Benefice so far, and reflect on the changes I have seen. I have heard many people express their worry about the future of the church; concerns about falling attendance, ageing congregations, and a lack of resources, all of which are very valid. But I have also noted with joy a shift towards a more hopeful outlook, and seen green shoots of new growth emerging. There seems to be an increasing sense that God may indeed be doing a new thing in this place, both within the church and beyond it, building on all that He has done until this point through many faithful people over many years. And isn't that what we would expect, from the One who breathes life into dry bones, and brought new life out of death?

My prayer as I go on maternity leave is that these green shoots would continue to grow and flourish, and that during times of change, struggle or loss, in the church and in our own lives, we would be able to put our trust in the one who promises to stand with us through it and, through his son Jesus, never ceases to hold out the hope of new life.

Hannah



Services for the Benefice of Harton

November 2018

<i>Sunday 4th November</i>	<i>4th Sunday before Advent</i>
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10.00	Benefice Holy Communion	Bossall
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Wednesday 7th November

10.00	Holy Communion	Gate Helmsley
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<i>Sunday 11th November</i>	<i>Remembrance Sunday</i>
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10.30	Benefice Service of Remembrance and Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
<i>followed by an Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, Sand Hutton at 12 noon</i>		

Wednesday 14th November

10.00	Holy Communion	Crambe
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<i>Sunday 18th November</i>	<i>2nd Sunday before Advent</i>
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9.00	Said Holy Communion	Flaxton
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10.00	Holy Communion	Buttercrambe
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Wednesday 21st November

10.00	Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
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<i>Sunday 25th November</i>	<i>Christ the King</i>
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10.00	Benefice Holy Communion	Foston
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Wednesday 28th November

10.00	Holy Communion	Howsham
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December 2018

<i>Sunday 2nd December</i>	<i>Advent Sunday</i>
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10.00	Advent Carol Service	Sand Hutton
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Wednesday 5th December

10.00	Holy Communion	Bossall
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<i>Sunday 9th December</i>	<i>Advent 2</i>
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10.00	Benefice Holy Communion	Gate Helmsley
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Wednesday 12th December

10.00	Holy Communion	Howsham
6.30	Carol Service	Foston

Thursday 13th December

6.15	9 Lessons and Carols	Whitwell
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Saturday 15th December

6.30	Carol Service	Crambe
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Sunday 16th December

Advent 3

9.00	Said Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
10.00	Nativity and Toy Service	Flaxton
6.30	Carol Service	Buttercrambe

Wednesday 19th December

10.00	Holy Communion	Gate Helmsley
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Friday 21st December

6.00	Carol Service	Howsham
7.30	Carol Service	Flaxton

Sunday 23rd December



Advent 4

10.00	<i>Benefice Holy Communion</i>	<i>Howsham</i>
3.00 – 5.00	<i>Messy Christmas</i>	<i>Sand Hutton Village Hall</i>

Monday 24th December



Christmas Eve

3.30	<i>Crib Service</i>	<i>Foston</i>
4.30	<i>Crib Service</i>	<i>Bossall</i>
11.00 pm	<i>Benefice Midnight Mass</i>	<i>Bossall</i>

Tuesday 25th December



Christmas Day

9.00	<i>Family Service</i>	<i>Upper Helmsley</i>
10.00	<i>Christmas Holy Communion</i>	<i>Gate Helmsley</i>
10.00	<i>Family Service</i>	<i>Flaxton</i>

Wednesday 26th December

10.00	Holy Communion	Holy Innocents Sand Hutton
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<i>Sunday 30th December</i>	<i>1st Sunday after Christmas</i>
10.00	Benefice Holy Communion Crambe

January 2019

Wednesday 2 nd January	
10.00	Holy Communion Foston

<i>Sunday 6th January</i>	<i>Epiphany</i>
10.00	Benefice Holy Communion Bossall

Wednesday 9 th January	
10.00	Holy Communion Crambe

<i>Sunday 13th January</i>	<i>Baptism of Christ</i>
10.00	Benefice Holy Communion Sand Hutton

Wednesday 16 th January	
10.00	Holy Communion Upper Helmsley

<i>Sunday 20th January</i>	<i>Epiphany 3</i>
10.00	Benefice Holy Communion Flaxton

Wednesday 23 rd January	
10.00	Holy Communion Buttercrambe

<i>Sunday 27th January</i>	<i>Epiphany 4</i>
10.00	Benefice Holy Communion Gate Helmsley

Wednesday 30 th January	
10.00	Holy Communion Howsham

February 2019

<i>Sunday 3rd February</i>	<i>Candlemas</i>
10.00	Benefice Holy Communion Foston

Wednesday 6 th February	
10.00	Holy Communion Gate Helmsley



Welcome to those newly baptised

2 nd September	Sophia Alice Wingfield	Sand Hutton
23 rd September	Pippa Charlotte Phillips	Sand Hutton
7 th October	India Grace Elizabeth Argile	Sand Hutton
21 st October	Connie-Rose Matthews	Buttercrambe



Congratulations to those recently married

11 th August	William Lawton and Catherine Helme	Buttercrambe
11 th August	Christopher Vine and Jennifer Blood	Gate Helmsley
1 st September	Gary Robson and Annabel Wood	Sand Hutton
8 th September	Jacob Kitt and Natalie Magill	Flaxton
15 th September	Richard Steele and Faye Salisbury	Buttercrambe
29 th September	Gary Black and Lindsey Belcher	Sand Hutton
29 th September	Thomas McBoyle and Zoe Dziemianko	Gate Helmsley



Our condolences to the families and friends of

7 th September	Agnes Joan Knights	Flaxton
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Burial of Ashes

1 st August	Earnest Kitchen	Bossall
21 st August	Tim Nicoll	Bossall

Remembrance Sunday, November 11th



A Benefice Service of Remembrance will take place at Sand Hutton Church at 10.30 am. This will be followed by an Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, Sand Hutton at 12 noon

Who Are these Men?

Who are these men who march so proud,
Who quietly weep, eyes closed, head bowed?
These are men who once were boys,
Who missed out on youth and all its joys.

Who are these men with aged faces,
Who silently count the empty spaces?
These are the men who gave their all,
Who fought for their country, for freedom, for all.

Who are these men with sorrowful look,
Who can still remember the lives that were took?
These are the men who saw young men die,
The price of peace is always high.

Who are these men who in the midst of pain
Whispered comfort to those they would not see again?
These are the men whose hands held tomorrow,
Who bought back our future with blood, tears and sorrow.

Who are these men who promise to keep
Alive in the hearts the ones God holds asleep?
These are the men to whom I promise again
Veterans, my friends, I will remember them.

Anonymous 12 year old girl 1966

100 years on, we will remember them.....





Messy seaside!

12th August

Our latest Messy Church event saw us heading to the seaside (or rather the seaside heading to us!) as we gathered in Barton-le-Willows Village Hall to explore the story of Jesus calling his first disciples to follow him by the sea of Galilee.



We did all sorts of seaside-related activities, from searching for buried treasure in the sand, and making yummy Oyster biscuits, to painting pebbles with our favourite holiday scenes. The first disciples were fishermen by trade, so we made paper fishing boats and sailed them to see who could make theirs go the fastest. We also had the opportunity

to fish for the qualities that we thought would make a good follower of Jesus. Choices included kindness, courage, boldness, joy, a sense of humour, selflessness and love. We thought about the particular qualities each of us has, that Jesus can use to help us share God's love with others.

During our celebration time some of the older children acted out a brilliant modern day version of our Bible story that they devised themselves, in which the calling of the fishermen became the calling of the ice cream sellers and the donkey owners at Whitby! We thought about the journeys we had been on over the summer, and the journey those first disciples went on with Jesus. We all agreed that there must have been something very special about Jesus to make them decide to leave everything behind and follow him!



As always, we finished by eating together. We were treated to a picnic which included fish-shaped tuna sandwiches and ice lollies to complete our seaside theme. A huge thank you goes to all those who helped with the event in any way. We had a great time, and we're very excited about our next event, Messy Harvest, which is on Sunday 28th October, 4-6pm at Flaxton Village Hall. We would love to see you there!

The Messy Church Team.



Save the date!

Sunday 23rd December

3-5pm, Sand Hutton Village Hall

Come along for Messy Church's usual mix of games, crafts, food and lots of fun, as we celebrate Christmas and explore the reason for the season!

*Suitable for children aged 4-11
(Sorry, no unaccompanied children)*

*For more information please contact
Rev Hannah Suekarran*

Tel: 07538 813079 Email: hannah.suekarran@gmail.com

SPA CHURCH

Many of you will have attended our Spa church services before. They are short services of relaxation, reflection and spiritual refreshment. Each service is themed and accompanied by beautiful music.

Come and join us!



*Spiritual Spa : Tuesday 20th November
St Mary's Church Sand Hutton at 7.00 pm
Spiritual classics to soothe and relax*

The Benefice of Harton
Invites you to

REFLECT
this **ADVENT**



Come and rest awhile. Drop the busy and just be.

Three reflective services in which words, music and lots of space and quiet will help shift our focus away from this season's endless to do lists, and towards its everlasting reason. Each service lasts approximately one hour followed by refreshments and fellowship.

4th December - St Mary's Church, Sand Hutton
11th December - All Saints Church, Foston
18th December - St Peter's Church, Upper Helmsley

All services start at 7.0 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME

Benefice PCC.....

At the last meeting of the Benefice, we discussed:

- The appointment of the Rector, Chris as Area Dean. Chris's licensing service subsequently took place at Gate Helmsley Village Hall on 26th September (see Gate Helmsley news)
- The importance of being a welcoming church, with open doors, specific signs of welcome outside each church, and providing refreshments and an opportunity for socialising after each service
- Prayer tables could also be developed to help those who come into church for quiet reflection. They already exist in a couple of our churches
- Chris and the Benefice Honorary Treasurer, David Fletcher, has had a useful and productive meeting with all the parish treasurers. There could be closer working between the parishes, especially as there is a great variation in the financial resources they each hold

Delyth Harran, Vice Chairman

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE BENEFICE.....



Ladies of the Benefice – This is for You! *CLAXTON & SAND HUTTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE*

We are a small but thriving, friendly WI who are always looking to welcome new members from all areas of the Benefice to join us. We have a varied age group of members and work hard to find interesting guest speakers to engage and inform us throughout the year. We also run workshops to challenge our inner creativity, have a monthly lunch group and look to organise additional trips out during the year.

So if you want opportunities to learn new skills, visit interesting places, attend a wide variety of sociable events around the region and yes, improve your cookery skills if required, why not take the plunge and join us.

We know it can sometimes be daunting to join something new but we can assure you of a warm and friendly welcome so, if you would like to meet new friends or catch up with existing ones, then come along to our monthly meetings. We generally meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the village hall at Sand Hutton from 7.30pm.

For further details about joining the WI or attending as a visitor, please contact Angela (01904 468396) or email a.steele1918@gmail.com

Green Finger Tips

*Sand Hutton
and Claxton Gardening Club
Events*



in Sand Hutton Village Hall at 7.30pm.
Enjoy a chat before and after the meetings.

THURS 4TH NOVEMBER – PAUL ROBINSON: "PESTS, DISEASES AND POISONOUS PLANTS"
A humorous look at the do's and don'ts when it comes to things to worry about in the garden. Poisonous plants, pests and diseases and a whole lot more Paul says that he loves to make people laugh as well as giving them horticultural knowledge and gardening tips.

Annual Membership of the GFT Gardening Club costs £10. Several garden centres in the area offer 10% discount on presentation of your membership card.

Contacts: johnshort.claxton@btinternet.com (01904 468604)
Erica.town2@gmail.com (01904 762289)



CLAXTON & SAND HUTTON HERITAGE GROUP

Remember those from Sand Hutton and Claxton
who died for their country

'They gave their tomorrow
for our today'



St Mary's Church Sand Hutton Service 10.30 am
War Memorial 12 noon
Village hall 12.30 onwards

There will be a presentation of an 80 page booklet of the WW1 Memorial
we have created, detailing research of the villagers named
on our WW1 Memorial.

This Memorial booklet will be given to every household in Claxton and
Sand Hutton, additional booklets will be on sale.

There will also be memorabilia and film gathered over the years.

A light lunch will be served.

RSVP: whites.claxton@btinternet.com or petermstott@yahoo.co.uk
Further information is available from Anne White Tel: 01904 468 550

Should you have any WW1 memorabilia that you would like to show on
the day then we would appreciate you contacting us.



All Saints Church, Foston
In aid of church funds



Friday 2nd November

7.30 pm

In Thornton Le Clay Village Hall

By popular request!
Our legendary quiz master Peter Mills

will be testing our general knowledge.
and including a Race Night element to add to the fun

Tickets £5 to include a curry supper

Please bring your own drinks

For advance tickets please contact

Karen Tel: 01653 619964

Pam Tel: 01653 618141



GIFTS for CHRISTMAS
Saturday 3rd NOVEMBER 2018

Sand Hutton Village Hall

10.00 am to 3.00 pm entry fee £1

Caroline's Kitchen for light lunches

Range of quality stalls at affordable prices for all your Christmas giving,
This year's stalls include...

**Judy's Jewels, Miss Daisy's, The Book People,
Pretty Things, Wikkon Pottery, Sloe Motion
and our very popular Sand Hutton Gifts and more.....**



We have been running for over 25 years..... never been?
come and see what you have been missing!!





St Mary's Church, Gate Helmsley

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 1st December

2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Orchard House Gate Helmsley

*Tombola * Raffle * Gifts * Cakes * Produce*

*Adults £3 * Children 50p*

Includes tea/coffee & mince pie

(or Admission by Donation)



Barton le Willows Village Hall

SATURDAY 1st DECEMBER

7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. start

Christmas

QUIZ NIGHT

Max 6 people per team

£5 per person to include snacks,

BYO drinks

Raffle prizes welcome

Tickets available at the door





All Saints Church, Foston

Saturday
8th December
11.30 am — 1.00 pm
In the village hall
Thornton Le Clay



Charity Coffee Morning
Proceeds in aid of
'Next Steps'
A Mental Health Charity,
in Malton

Come and enjoy!

hot roast Turkey sandwiches and delicious Homemade cakes.

Try your luck on the Raffle

have a good catch up with friends and neighbours

Everyone is welcome

CLAXTON CAROL SINGING

Come and sing some Carols around Claxton

Monday December 17th

to

raise money for

Macmillan Cancer Support

(meet at Anne White's house – Middle Cottage – at 6.15pm)

**All singers are invited to Vicarage Farm for refreshments
before setting off and at Abbeys farm after singing**

please let Anne Atkinson know if you can come Tel:01904 468226

This enables us to cater for the refreshments

SUNDAY 20TH JANUARY

Come and join us for the

PARISH LUNCH

12.30 pm for 1.00 pm

At Orchard House, Gate Helmsley

Tickets £15

Please contact Michael and Delyth Harran

Tel: 01759 372215

Early booking essential as places are limited

Around the Parishes.....

Sister Margaret Ann's Retirement

Dear friends



Just to let you know that Sister Margaret Ann has announced her retirement from active service in the Benefice where she has lived and worked for over 25 years. It was wonderful to celebrate her 'Golden Anniversary' within Religious Orders on 6th August this year, and we give grateful thanks for all that she has contributed to the spiritual, pastoral and worshipful life of the Benefice. She is continuing to live in Bossall and will always be warmly welcomed at all our Benefice functions. As she always says 'My door is always open' as I'm sure ours is always open too.

Once again, our grateful thanks,

The Harton Benefice Ministry Team

News, views and information from:

BOSSALL

During the summer months we have had many visitors to the church who frequently comment on how much they enjoy the peace and quiet in beautiful surroundings and afterwards will spend a little time in the churchyard followed by a rest on the bench enjoying the countryside and wildlife. During a chat with a cyclist who was sitting on the bench I learned that after his cycle ride round the area his last stop was always Bossall before returning home.

The churchyard has now been cut and once again looks tidy. The little gang of helpers who come seem to enjoy the job and their help is much appreciated.

BUTTERCRAMBE

The Church has hosted two weddings this summer with both receptions held at Aldby Park following the service. On both occasions the sun shone and the church was beautifully decorated with flowers. A big thank you to Hannah who took both services.

We had a full church for the Benefice Harvest Festival. We would like to thank Chris and Hannah for leading the service and Peter and Ellen for the wonderful music. Forty people attended the lunch afterwards at Aldby Park. A huge thank you to those that made donations towards a memorial bench for Anne Archer and I am delighted to report that the bench has already been ordered and we look forward to enjoying it in the village shortly.

The Buttercrambe Carol Service is being held on Sunday 16th December with refreshments afterwards.



R.I.P. Mrs Anne Archer, Buttercrambe

From time to time someone dies who is very special to all our Parishes.

On Mother's day this year 2018, we all lost someone who was a very special person indeed. Anne slipped peacefully away in to God's presence, after almost a lifetime of continuous services for others.

When I say that this extraordinary woman played the organ, if not every type of instrument, in the areas of Sand Hutton, Dunnington, Stockton on the Forest, Whitwell-on-the-Hill and Heworth (York), I do not exaggerate one bit. She was churchwarden at Buttercrambe church for many years, and there were very few areas where she could not be seen assisting Priest, Reader and local preacher poised ready to play at funerals etc. and often for the installation of new Priests in our area churches and chapels. Of course she did not leave it there, she played the piano at the Beaumont Nursing home for services, concerts and sing-a-longs.

Her superb arrangements of coach trips as far away as Holy Island, the Dales and to local hostelries were enjoyed by so many, and her culinary skills were legendary. She often catered for whole harvest festival celebrations, and to my surprise I learned that when she was ever ready to sell scones, fruit loaves, fairy cakes plus many more, from her various cake stalls for church and charity, she had made them all.

She was once President of the York Diocese Mothers' Union Society, and led the senior citizens group at Stockton on the Forest for many years. Sleep well dearest Anne, you have fully earned that rest.

BRL

CRAMBE

The late summer weather turned out to be wonderfully dry and sunny leading into an as yet mild Autumn with the most glorious autumn colours developing.

There have been three services at St Michael's church this quarter, including a well-attended Harvest Evensong led by Rachel Benson. Following the service we tucked into homemade apple pies and cheese and wine. The church, despite the chancel being curtained off for roof repairs, looked lovely decorated in the traditional way with an abundance of fruit and vegetables which were later taken to Spring Cottage in Norton.

The Chancel roof repairs are underway and we are grateful to the Church Commissioners for funding this work.

On the fundraising side 'A Night at the Races' was held in September at Barton le Willows village hall. The proceeds of the event were divided between the village hall and St Michael's Church. The generosity of all those

who sponsored the races and horses, attended on the night or made donations to the causes is very much appreciated.

There have been a few comings and goings in the village. Tom and Daisy Bloom have moved away after a short stay and it is understood that their predecessors Ian and Sarah are to return and take up residence again. We welcome them back! Finally Andy and Julie Robinson have moved into Milton Cottage. We welcome you and hope your stay will be a long and happy one.

FLAXTON

Saturday 8th September must have been one of the wettest days of the summer. However this did not deter the warmth of the wedding of Natalie and Jacob from Wigginton. We wish them good health and continued happiness in their life together.

At our St Crux fundraising day in September we raised the magnificent sum of £750. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make this a success. One person who deserves a special thank you is Martin who supports as many of the St Crux events as he can and helps where he can. At 8.00am he was putting out tables and chairs for us which was a great help. Our buyers were all eager to chat. One lady, an active 89 year old, had been a teacher in her working life. She and her husband moved to London where she continued teaching whilst her husband held a position in Hampton Court Palace. Another interesting conversation was trying to explain to a Chinese lady who had bought a jar of blackcurrant jam. Explaining what a blackcurrant looked like and where it grows was quite a challenge! I am not sure we got the answer but she tried the jam and thought it delicious. Another kind deed came from a buyer, who not only bought from us, but gave a monetary donation for passing on to the homeless. This was given to the Salvation Army.

Thank you to everyone who came along to decorate the church for our harvest service and to those who gave gifts so generously for the food parcel distribution programme run by the Salvation Army. A letter of thanks and appreciation has been received from Major Dunkinson at the Salvation Army. Over thirty



Bring and share lunch

people came together for the "bring and share" lunch where food was plentiful and gave us the opportunity to catch up.

On Sunday 16th December at 10.00am it is the Nativity/Toy Service. As this circular goes to print we have 6 children who have expressed an interest in taking part. It would be good to have more children from the Benefice. If you know of any young people aged 2-14 years please encourage them to come along. There will be 5 rehearsals one of which will be the dress rehearsal, times and dates to be confirmed. Also at this service we ask for donations of gifts of toys, games, books, etc. for the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. The age range is 0-18 years. There is no need to wrap the gifts. For more information please contact Ida on 01347 878432.

You are warmly invited to a service of Nine Lessons and Carols and presentation of the Crib on Friday 21st December at 7.30pm. As in previous years this will be supported by the Flaxton Singers. Following the service there will be refreshments and a time for fellowship.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of Joan Knight and Bert Hirst. Joan had lived in the village for over forty years and was supportive of village activities to the end.

Albert (Bert) Hirst passed away on 23rd July following a short illness. Bert was a PCC member for a number of years before moving to Wool in Dorset with his wife Marcelle. Bert's funeral was held in Wool.

FOSTON



'Team Foston' clean up!!

After a lovely hot summer it was a real pleasure to see our beautiful little church decorated with Harvest produce. A working party of volunteers (Team Foston) were organised and we all set on to dust, polish, scrub and brush All Saints Church. Next we all thoroughly enjoyed decorating the church to make it a worthy place to celebrate Harvest Festival.

Chris and Hannah lead a well attended service, after which many stayed to enjoy the refreshments laid on by members of our congregation. A big thank you to all who helped prepare and attended this service.



The fruit (and veg) of their labours! All Saints ready for Harvest Festival

Some dates for your diaries.

Friday 2nd November.

By popular request we are pleased to announce Peter Mills will be conducting our Quiz Night.

Saturday 8th December we will be hosting a Charity Coffee Morning, in the village hall at Thornton le Clay. All proceeds will be donated to Next Steps Mental Health Charity, which is based in Malton.

Full details of these two events are in the Events Section of this magazine.

GATE HELMSLEY

We have had a happy time in Gate Helmsley over the summer. Not only has the weather been glorious, but two weddings were celebrated at St Mary's church, both very joyful occasions. Jenny Blood and Chris Vine, relative newcomers to the village, were married on 11th August. As Chris is in the RAF, his fellow officers formed a guard of honour to greet him and Jenny as they left the church. We hope that they will be very happy in their married life in the village.

Zoe Dziemianko, who was brought up in Gate Helmsley, was married to Tom McBoyle on 29th September. The Bishop Wilton Singers (including the bride's mother) performed a medley of songs during the signing of the register. This time the bride and groom were greeted outside the church by a Scottish band of pipes and drums. We wish Zoe and Tom every happiness in their future life together.

Gate Helmsley village hall was beautifully decorated for Zoe and Tom's wedding reception, as it was for the service held on 26th September for the formal licensing of the Rector, Chris, as Area Dean for Southern Ryedale Deanery. The service was arranged by the Lay Dean, Jo Bowden, and the licensing conducted by Canon Sue Sherriff, Acting Archdeacon of York. These events show how lucky we are to have such a useful and adaptable village hall, especially now that we have a new kitchen and new lighting.

The hall was in use again for our Harvest Supper on 3rd October following the Harvest Songs of Praise Service in St Mary's Church, led by Chris, and then on 21st October for another sell-out village dance. And don't forget the monthly library on every second Saturday each month from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon, a great opportunity for socialising.

St Mary's finances remain in a perilous state in the face of the major repair works needed to the tower and church roof. We will be having our usual winter fund raising events:

Saturday 1st December 2.00 to 4.00 pm Christmas Fayre at Orchard House. Come and buy your Christmas gifts, table decorations and door garlands while enjoying a mince pie and a glass of mulled wine

Sunday 20th January 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm Parish Lunch at Orchard House.

Details of both in the events section of this magazine

We are aware that some people in the village are in poor health at the moment; we send our good wishes to them and their families, and greetings and a warm welcome to any newcomers.

A warm "thank you" to the person who pulled up the weeds between the church front wall and the pavement. We don't know who you are, but we are very grateful.



HOWSHAM

Our Bank Holiday clean up went very well (the Church and Churchyard look immaculate). Everyone worked very hard and we enjoyed a barbecue in the evening. The weather was excellent. Thank you to all who helped.

We hosted Spa Church on 11th September led by Chris and Hannah.

The annual cake stall and raffle for Church funds will be at 10am on Monday 3rd December at York Auction Centre Christmas Fatstock Show. Raffle prizes and contributions welcome.

Our Carol Service this year is on Friday 21st December at 6pm, with mulled wine and mince pies at The Great Barn afterwards. The heating in Church has still not been repaired so wrap up if you join us!

We are waiting for another quotation for repairs to the stained glass, and are hoping to get all four Church bells working before Armistice Day.

We all wish Sister a happy retirement – very well earned, and hope to see her around as usual.

We also send our best wishes to Hannah as she starts her maternity leave.

SAND HUTTON and CLAXTON

I guess most of us have benefited from a beautiful summer whether at home or further afield, and now we are enjoying the autumn with the ever changing colours in our countryside.

As the seasons change so there have been changes in our communities. Chrissie and Kel have moved back to Harton. Thank you Chrissie for your help and support in Sand Hutton especially opening the Church most mornings over the past four years and keeping the strip of garden under control outside the school to mention but two of the hidden thoughtful ways you helped in the village. We hope you both quickly settle back into your bungalow and life in Harton.



Sister chats to Rachel Hirst

In August we had the privilege of hosting a celebratory service at St. Mary's Church with Sister Margaret to mark her fifty years of being in Holy Orders.

Since the celebration, Sister has retired from active work in the Benefice. We are indebted to her for all she has done for us and wish her a peaceful and happy retirement.

On a beautiful summer day in September, our Rector Chris Wingfield, baptised his granddaughter in the font within the 12th century ruins of St Leonard's Chapel. The occasion was enjoyed by family and friends.



Around the font at St Leonard's Chapel



Chris and Sophia

Our thoughts and prayers are with our curate Hannah and her husband Rob as she begins her maternity leave in November. Her last service with us will be in Bossall Church on November 4th at 10 am. You are very welcome to come to the service to extend with us, your warm wishes to her. We will miss you Hannah, but are thrilled for you and will be looking forward to meeting your little one!

We send our heartfelt condolences to Alex, Jason, Sam and Ben of Claxton, on the passing away of Andrew, their dear husband and father. Our thoughts are with you and your extended family.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the St. Mary's Church Gift Day planned for September 29th was cancelled. We hope to now hold this event in the spring.

Our next event will be Gifts for Christmas on November 3rd in Sand Hutton Village Hall. A good place to start Christmas shopping!

To begin the Christmas season, why not come and celebrate, on 2nd December, at the Carol service in St Mary's Church led by the Benefice Choir? Following the service you are most welcome to stay for mulled wine and mince pies.

WHITWELL



Sunday 11 November
The bells of St John's Church
Whitwell on the Hill
will ring out to commemorate Armistice 100

They will be rung at 11.00 am and again at 7.05 pm.
The Church will be open for anyone wishing to light
a candle in memory of a loved one.

Whitwell on the Hill Carol Service will be held on Thursday 13th December at 6.15pm. If anyone would like to decorate a window you are more than welcome to do so. Please have your window decorated before Sunday 9th December. There will be refreshments after the service. Everyone is very welcome to come along.

We would like to thank Michael Goodwill for his continued support and hard work in keeping the churchyard of St John's and nearby verges so immaculate. His many hours of work are really appreciated. Thank you Michael.

If anyone would be interested in joining the Whitwell PCC then please give Rev Chris Wingfield a call and he would be more than happy to give you further details.

Thank you to Clive Smith for mending and positioning the church noticeboard.

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS.....



SAND HUTTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our children have returned to school this autumn full of enthusiasm and ready to get to grips with new opportunities. We began the term with a feast of experiences for everyone to try. All our children were able to make

the most of our wonderful surroundings with the Outdoor Ted team. They provided a range of exciting activities and the most exciting of these was probably the blackberry pancake competition. The children cooked these on campfires they had lit from flints.

Later in the week we experienced Rugby Inflatable assault courses and skipping and boxing fitness sessions. All this was under the backdrop of the Disney Film, Inside Out. What a start to the school year!

Since then we have been creating reflections with Tony Bower from the Yo Yo team and preparing well in advance for the remembrance 100 commemorations. We will be designing and making poppy tiles and sharing them around our community to stand as a permanent memorial.

Harvest Thanksgiving was held in Sand Hutton Church on October 23rd.



The half term break started at the end of that week. We then headed into winter as the clocks were turned back.

FOSTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

As we enter the colder months of the year we also approach the hundred year anniversary of the end of World War 1. To mark this momentous occasion our KS2 children across the federation are looking forward to commemorating the life of Arthur Walker, a local World War One soldier who signed up at just 16 years old. Letters exist from his regiment and from the King alerting his parents that he was missing in action towards the end of the war. Fortunately Arthur returned, after being kept captive in a prisoner of war camp, at the end of the war. Through his story the children will relive the patriotism and learn what life was like during this period.

We will be holding two open afternoons at school

on Tuesday 27th November from 1.30-3.00pm and
Thursday 29th November from 4.00-6.00pm.

If you have a child due to start nursery or reception please come and join
us.



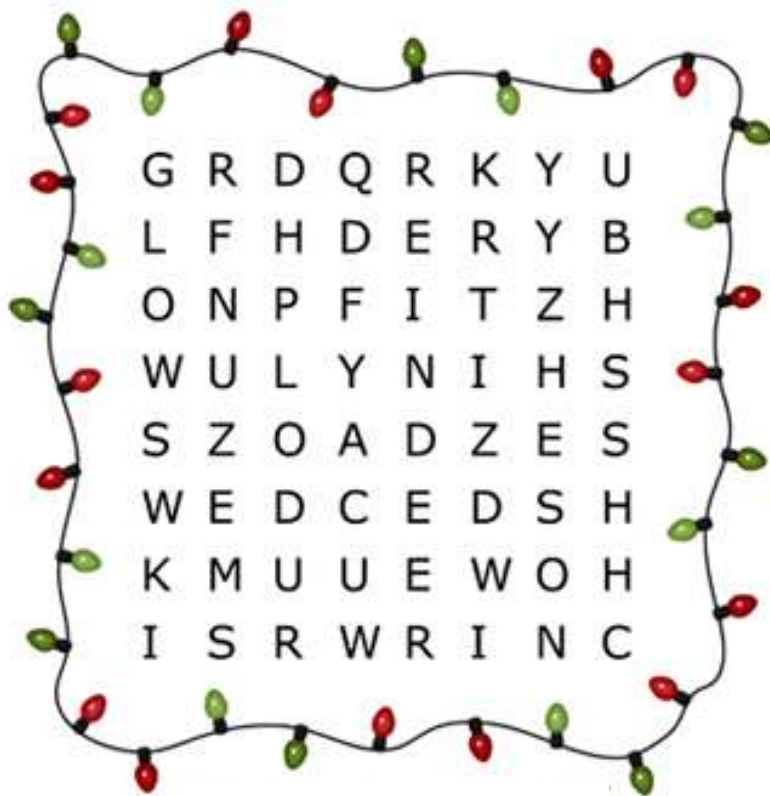
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Merry Christmas!



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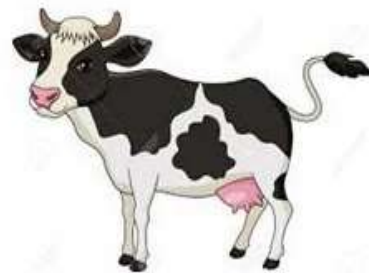


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Contact details for the churches in the Harton Benefice

Bossall, St Botolph

Churchwarden: Mary Denison
YO60 7NT
Email: marybossall@gmail.com
Tel: 01904 468203

Buttercrambe, St John the Evangelist

Churchwarden: Sara Winn Darley
YO41 1AT
Email: sara@winndarley.net
Tel: 01759 371398

Crambe, St Michael

Churchwarden: Dorothy Martin
YO60 7JR
Email: None
Tel: 01653 619133

Flaxton, St Lawrence

Churchwardens: Ida Terry
YO60 7NT
Email: idmt@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: 01347 878432
Wendy Holman
Email: wendy_e_holman@hotmail.com
Tel: 01653 618886

Foston, All Saints

Churchwardens: Karen Armitstead
YO60 7QG
Email: karen_armitstead@hotmail.com
Tel: 01653 619964
Pam Ashworth
Email: none
Tel: 01653 618141

Gate Helmsley, St Mary

Churchwardens: Delyth Harran
YO41 1NE
Email: dandmharran@gmail.com
Tel: 01759 372215
Anne Podmore
Email: None
Tel: 01759 372320

Howsham, St John

Churchwardens: Gill Littlejohn
YO60 7PH
Email: simoncklittlejohn@msn.com
Tel: 01653 618846
Judy Stephenson
Email: jfs@great-barn.co.uk
Tel: 01653 618673

Sand Hutton, St Mary

Churchwardens: Graham Baker
YO41 1LB
Email: gnrfastline@btinternet.com
Tel: 01904 468809
Ian Lyall
Email: ian.lyall2@gmail.com
Tel: 01904 468209
Deputy Warden: Ellen Stott
Email: ellenstott@yahoo.co.uk
Tel: 01904 468404

Upper Helmsley, St Peter

Churchwardens: Jane Herbert
YO41 1JY
Email: none
Tel: 01759 371310
Mari Richards
Email: mjb.richards1000@gmail.com
Tel: 01759 372757

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

Churchwarden: Janie Bell
Email: janie.bell@me.com
Tel: 01653 618270

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Rector of the Benefice of Harton

Revd. Chris Wingfield 01904 468418

Email: chris.wingfield@btinternet.com

Curate: Revd. Hannah Suekarran 07538 813079

Email: hannahsuekarran@gmail.com

Members of the Ministry Team

Lay Pastor Rachel Baker 01904 468809

For specific issues to do with occasional offices contact should be made as follows:

Funerals	Revd. Chris Wingfield	01904 468418
Marriages	Rachel Baker	01904 468809
Baptisms	Delyth Harran	01759 372215

Lay Vice Chairman of the Joint PCC

Delyth Harran 01759 372215

Editor

Fiona Le Masurier

Crambe House, Crambe, York YO60 7JR Tel: 01653 619368

Email: churchmouse@crambehouse.co.uk

Please note change of email address

Circular Printing Group members

Rachel Baker 01904 468809

Michael Harran 01759 372215

Peter Stott 01904 468404

Fiona Le Masurier 01653 619368



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