# The Benefice of Harton The Circular



# Spring 2023 February March April

News and views in our benefice and communities

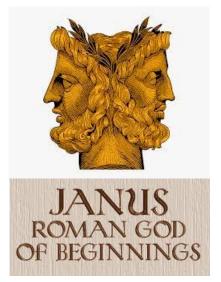
Sand Hutton Claxton Flaxton Gate Helmsley Upper Helmsley Bossall Buttercrambe Howsham Harton Whitwell-on-the-Hill Crambe Foston Barton-le-Willows Thornton-le-Clay The colour cover of this edition of The Circular Is sponsored by St John the Evangelist, Whitwell

# Dear Friends,

# January...

Well, did you all make a New Year's resolution? And have you managed to keep to it?

It is easy for me to be honest about my own resolutions because, to get this message written in time for inclusion into the Circular, as I am writing, it is still only just a few days into January!



But New Year's resolutions are a popular way of committing to changing something about us, whether it is our weight, our appearance, our activities, or whatever.

You may think that this is a modern, Western tradition but it is not by any means, because more than 2,000 years ago the Romans worshipped a god called Janus whom they considered to be the god of beginnings, transitions, and doorways. To worship him was a way not only to look forward to the future, but also a way of looking back to the past. To them he symbolised change, such as the progress of the past to the future, from one condition to another, from one stage in life to another like a young person's growth to adulthood.

This month of January is named after Janus who was depicted as a man with two faces. One face looked backwards to the past showing traces of sorrow, dismay and perplexity with the other looking forwards to the future displaying a look of hope and confidence.

We look with sorrow at what has happened over the last year; we remember the bad times and the hardships, the war in Ukraine, the man-made disasters of drought and flooding attributed to climate change, the death of Queen Elizabeth, those who we have lost and see no more – the list goes on.

But it is impossible to make resolutions for the future if we do not look back at the past and review what we feel we need to change. So often we hold to the same routines year after year and then wonder why things never change. Einstein is reported as saying "the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." So, as we go through that transition stage from the past to the future, all the goals we wished we had accomplished, we resolve to have a better and more successful year.

But stop here – if we look at the world through the eyes of Janus, the ancient Roman god, we tend to focus only on personal gain – wealth, success, and health.

As Christians, through Christ, we have our own unique means of new beginnings. While our own resolutions tend to focus on ourselves, our desires and our wants, Christ calls us to model ourselves on Him, with the transition being from living a life separated from Him, moving to one in a true relationship with Him.

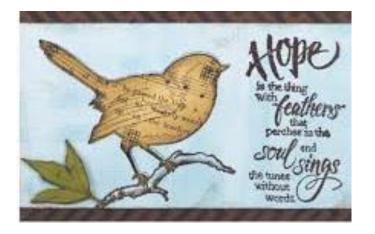
Of course, there are things in the future that we know about and can plan for – for example the retirement at the end of April of our Rector, Revd. Chris Wingfield, but we recognise that there will be many that we cannot. For our own sanity and wellbeing, we need to wear the Janus face of hope and confidence, but we need to recognise that this hope comes from Jesus, not Janus.

My response to those who say, "I hope there is a God" is, "You can hope because there is a God."

So, as we go through the transition and head into the future with hope, remember the words of Bill Keane:

"Yesterday's the past, tomorrow's the future but today is a gift. That's why we call it the present."

So, I pray that we may all be able to grasp the gift of the present with faith and love, wearing the face of hope and confidence as we move into a New Year.



God Bless you all.

Yours in Christ, Ian Lyall

# **Dear Friends**

As many of you know by now, I'll be retiring at the end of April this year. It's starting to feel a bit strange now, if I'm honest, but there's still plenty to do – and it's good to know we're only just down the road in Pocklington, so not that far away really.

I've made sure that I'll be taking a service at each of the churches during my last month here in the Benefice, with my last service being at Bossall on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 10am. It would be lovely to see as many of you as possible at one or some of the services, just to say thank you to those who have been part of my journey over the past nine years.

I'll write more in my final article for the next edition of the Circular, but suffice to say, it's been a privilege being here amongst you for this final leg of my ministerial journey.

I don't think we could have been in a better place!

Yours in Christ Revd Chris.

# **Services for the Benefice of Harton**

# February 2023

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> Fe	bruary	
10.00 am	Holy Communion	Crambe
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> Februa	ıry	Epiphany 5
9.00	Zoom Worship	
10.00	Holy Communion	Flaxton
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> Fe	bruary	
10.00	Midweek Service	Sand Hutton

Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> Fel	bruary	2 <sup>nd</sup> before Lent
9.00	Holy Communion BCP	Foston
10.00	Holy Communion	Gate Helmsley
Wednesday 15 <sup>t</sup>	<sup>h</sup> February	
10.00	Holy Communion	Howsham
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	oruary	Sunday before Lent
10.00	Holy Communion	Bossall
12.00	Baptism	Sand Hutton
Wednesday 22 <sup>n</sup>	<sup>d</sup> February	Ash Wednesday
7.00	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion and anointing with ashes	Crambe
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> Fel	oruary	Lent 1
10.00	Holy Communion	Howsham

# March 2023

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> I	March	
10.00	Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> Marc	ch	Lent 2
9.00	Zoom Worship	
10.00	Holy Communion	Gate Helmsley
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	March	
10.00	Midweek Service	Flaxton

Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> March		Lent 3
9.00 10.00	Morning Prayer Holy Communion	Foston Sand Hutton
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> Ma	rch	
10.00	Midweek Service	Howsham
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> March		Mothering Sunday
10.00	Holy Communion	Flaxton
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Ma	ırch	
10.00	Midweek Service	Crambe
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> March		Lent 5
10.00	Holy Communion	Howsham
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> Mo	arch	
10.00	Midweek Service	Bossall
	April 2023	
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April		Palm Sunday
9.00 10.00	Zoom Worship Palm Sunday Holy Communion	Upper Helmsley

Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April		Maundy Thursday
7.00 Maun	dy Thursday Holy Communion	Foston
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April		Good Friday
12.00	Devotion	Sand Hutton
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> April		Easter Sunday
10.00	Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> April		
10.00	Midweek Service	Flaxton
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> April		Easter 2
10.00	Holy Communion	Buttercrambe
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April		
10.00	Midweek Service	Howsham
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April		St George
10.00	Holy Communion	Whitwell
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April		
10.00	Midweek Service	Crambe
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> April		Easter 4
10.00	Holy Communion	Bossall



Zoom Lent Course 2023

Do come and join us via Zoom for our Lent course this year

# 'Tuesday@10 - Let's take a Luke!'

Over 5 weeks, starting Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, at 10am

We'll be exploring how Luke talks about Jesus in his Gospel, and how the early Church started in his amazing sequel, the Acts of the apostles.

We will use the Bible Project video YouTube clips, which we've often used before, to investigate how and why he spoke about Jesus in such a way. Then later, see what we can learn from the experiences of the early Church, in Living Christ's Story.

You'll find the Zoom links on the website each week, so do come and join us with a cuppa and a biscuit in the comfort of your own home!

If you'd like me to send the Zoom link direct to your email address each week, then do let me know. I'm at <u>chris.wingfield@btinternet.com</u>

It would be lovely to see you - you'll be very welcome!



# PRAY14Me

We pray for each of our villages regularly but also focus particularly on one village at a time in more depth.

# Our next focused Pray14Me will be for Foston and Thornton Le Clay.

please pray ONC for for OC

Starting on Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup> 2023 we shall distribute prayer request cards to each household and business, culminating on Wednesday March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023 with a short service in All Saints Church, Foston at 7.00pm.

The service will last for approximately 35 minutes and include offering each of the prayers requested on the cards.

Prayer cards can be written out for whatever is in people's hearts such as:

Bringing to God areas where help is needed, Personal concerns such as health issues, The wider community, Prayers of thankfulness to God. and more......

We will make every effort to call back between the above dates to collect completed prayer cards. There will also be a box in the church itself for cards to be dropped back.

Please do come along to the service and join in praying for God's blessings for Foston and Thornton Le Clay

If you would like our Rector Revd. Chris Wingfield or one of our Prayer Team to visit you, then please let Chris know. His contact details are:

Mob: 07881 721747 Tel: 01759 304063



# Congratulations to those newly married

November 19<sup>th</sup> Benjamin Atkinson and Georgina Jackson Sand Hutton



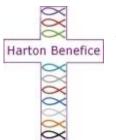
## Our condolences to the family and friends of

January 13<sup>th</sup>

Richard John Stubbs

Sand Hutton

Benefice PCC.....



The last meeting of the Benefice PCC was held on 19<sup>th</sup> January. Part of the meeting was dedicated to agreeing a future strategy for the Benefice of Harton, which will support the recruitment of a new incumbent after Reverend Chris Wingfield retires at the end of April.

Minutes of the BPCC meetings will be posted on the Benefice website.

### **Delyth Harran**

Lay Chairman

# The Benefice of Harton Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2022



A huge thank you for all the shoebox contributions received, a total of 156! They were dedicated at the Benefice service on November 6<sup>th</sup> at St Mary's Church, Sand Hutton. We are particularly grateful for your support when there are many other needs that we are also helping with and enduring ourselves.

This year's Family Shoebox Appeal continues to be operated by the Amen Trust Charity who distribute them with their church partners in Romania. Ukrainian Refugees who are being looked after by the church in Romania are being included in the distribution of gifts.

Your prayers for safe and trouble free travel were very effective and much appreciated.

Two of the AMEN trustees, Chris Chatfield and Simon Williams, were busy travelling around England in November collecting up shoeboxes. They arrived back in Worthing with a full van so thank you to everyone who welcomed them and passed on lots of donations of shoeboxes, blankets and items for babies.

The AMEN team in Worthing, left with a fully loaded lorry for Romania in December. Our grand total this year is 2645 shoeboxes (about 10% up from last year). We are also sending four pallets of aid to Tibi, Steve Potts and Sighisoara (warm clothes/blankets/baby clothes for Mia/Moses baskets etc). In addition, we are sending solar powered lanterns and candles for Ukraine and thirty personalised shoeboxes for Ukrainian orphans as well as the usual shoeboxes to the Illisua orphanage.

A team of five volunteers (including Amen Trustees Chris Chatfield and Simon Williams) spent ten days in Romania helping to distribute the boxes and minister alongside the partners. While we were all snowy they too had cold weather and lots of mud to contend with!

Thank you for all your hard work collecting boxes, donating funds and praying for their transportation and delivery. Below are some of Simon's pictures from the trip



Distribution of gifts







FORTHCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE BENEFICE......



# Barton Le Willows Sunday 26th February

come and join

# **The Great Litter Pick!**

**Around Barton Le Willows** 

Suitable for all the family **Meet at Barton Le Willows Village Hall at 10.00 am** Gloves, pickers and bags provided

Free tea and coffee at the village hall afterwards







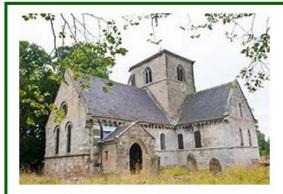


# Friday March 10<sup>th</sup> 2023

Sand Hutton Village Hall at 7.0 pm.

" at the door, come and join us for a fun filled evening! Tables of 4 at £7pp. Supper included....bring your own drinks. there will be a raffle.

All proceeds for St Mary's Church Sand Hutton



St Botolph's Church, Bossall

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30 pm.

A fundraising concert

# "Music, Wine, and Nibbles "

# Tickets £10 each with a glass of wine and nibbles will be on sale from February

Please contact Christopher and Belinda Fordy for tickets Email: dshep2312@aol.com Tel:01904 468 682 Or Chrissie Keller Email: ckeller@btinternet.com

# BARTON LE WILLOWS VILLAGE HALL

# Friday March 31st 3.00 pm to 7.00 pm

Take a table bring your unwanted items to sell boosting the funds of your church, organisation or club!



£15 per table you keep the proceeds from the goods you sell

Remember, your unwanted things may be just what someone else needs! (All goods brought for sale should be in good condition) tea, coffee and cake will be available To book a table or other info please contact Jo at

To book a table or other info please contact Jo at jdanischewsky@gmail.com or Tel: 07792 242492



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

# from Sister Margaret Ann CSPH



Hello everyone, I hope you all managed to have a good Christmas and New Year. I take this opportunity of wishing you all health, happiness and peace for the coming year of 2023. Here we are already at the end of January, where does the time go I ask myself? Don't let time slip away, make every day count as we don't know what the good

Lord has in store for any of us.

As part of a Christmas gift, earlier this month I was taken to the pantomime, 'Old Granny Goose' a great treat, I loved it. We went to the Grand Opera House in York for a couple of hours of good old fashioned belly laughing fun starring the well-known and much-loved Berwick Kaler and his amazing team, Martin Barrass, Suzy Cooper, David Leonard, AJ Powell and Jake Lindsay. It was of course a tale of good and evil with lots of booing and shouting, all good fun.

Afterwards, on reflection, I was reminded of the Bible story of Adam and Eve in the book of Genesis. Two people created by God, out of love, with all that they needed to live the ideal life. But we read how Eve was tempted by the devil to take an apple from the tree that they had been told not to touch and then having tasted it, and found it to be delicious, persuaded Adam to eat it as well. As soon as they had eaten the forbidden fruit, they were given understanding and they knew the difference between good and evil.

We are all tempted from time to time. Temptation itself is not a sin, but falling for temptation is. When God, who loves us all so much, sent his own son Jesus Christ to this earth to walk alongside us and to teach us how to live the life God intended for each and every one of us, man failed to see the goodness in him, and eventually handed him over to the Roman authorities to be hung on a cross to die. In accepting his fate Jesus took all our sins, past, present and what might be, to the cross with him and nailed them there so that we might be redeemed by his Most Precious Blood, washing us clean, giving us a new fresh start. When we resist sin, whatever it might be, whether in thought word or deed, it is the power of God's Holy Spirit deep within us that gives us the strength to decide what is good and what is bad. God so wants what is good for us all. He wants the love that Christ brought into the world at Christmas to be revealed in each heart and soul. He doesn't expect us to do it alone, but longs for us to call upon the name of Jesus so that we might be saved and live that Christ-like life he intended us to live.

At the beginning of Chris' ministry among us all in the Benefice of Harton, he talked about us becoming the Kingdom People. We can either grow the Kingdom of God in this place by overcoming evil with good, look out for each other, go the extra mile for those in need, and truly be the Family of God in this place as he intended us to be, or we can do it our own way and choose the path that Eve chose that day in the Garden of Eden.

To support, encourage, share the good news with those around us, spreading the light and power of the Christmas story is how God intended us all to live.

'When the song of the angels is stilled When the star in the sky is gone When the kings and the princes are home When the shepherds are back with their flocks The work of Christmas begins: To find the lost To heal the broken To feed the hungry To release the prisoner To rebuild the nations To bring peace among the people To make music in the heart'

Howard Turman

May this be the message for each and every one of us today. With my love and continual prayers for you all

Margaret. Unn + CSPH



# Adrian and Jezz .....

In December as part of Jezz' 50<sup>th</sup> celebrations, I treated him to afternoon tea and a tour of Howsham Hall. Jezz has always been fascinated by Howsham Hall. We were taken to our table where we enjoyed a glass of prosecco, then came a wonderful selection of sandwiches, (veggie selection for me) cakes, scones and a pot of tea The afternoon tea was amazing, the staff so attentive, and the Christmas decorations looked stunning. After tea we enjoyed a detailed tour of the Hall with a talk on its history which proved interesting; all in all a wonderful visit. The Hall is now used as a wedding venue, and for afternoon teas on key dates throughout the year such as Mothering Sunday.





BOSSALL



This photograph was taken of a beautiful flower arrangement of poppies, done by Angela Walters for the Remembrance Sunday service we had at St Botolph's Church, Bossall.

We will be taking a table at the Table Top sale at Barton Le Willows Village Hall on 31<sup>st</sup> March from 3pm to 7pm to raise funds for St Botolph's Church. If you have any items in good condition that you would like to donate, please contact Belinda Fordy at Email: christopherfordy@fordymarshall.com Tel: 01904 468 682

# BUTTERCRAMBE

The Church will be taking a table at the Table Top Sale at Barton le Willows on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March (See events section). All proceeds from the sale of our goods will go to our church funds.

# **Calling all Buttercrambe residents!**

Please let Sara know if you have any unwanted items that you would like to donate and that are suitable for sale. They must be in good condition. Many thanks, Sara

# CRAMBE



The last three months have passed in a blur of activity in the run up to Christmas. At the beginning of November St Michael's hosted the Festival of Lilies and Light at which loved ones were remembered. The displays of lilies looked and smelled beautiful. We were very grateful to Peter Stott and the Benefice Choir who through music and song created a very special atmosphere.

In no time at all the celebration of Christmas by Candlelight was upon us. This year we were back in the church having held our carol service in a tent in the churchyard last year!

The 200 Singers choir came and sang some wonderful Christmas music. Once again Peter Stott played the keyboard to provide the accompaniment for the congregation and for that a huge thank you.

It wasn't all plain sailing as one or two people had to drop out at the last



minute. We were very grateful to Clare Steele King for stepping up to sing the first verse of Once in Royal David's City so beautifully, and to Annie Harrison,

a lay reader from the Pocklington Benefice who stood in for Sister Margaret Ann who had the misfortune to be struck down with Covid that very morning having managed to avoid it for two years. We are delighted to report that having had a ropey time of it over Christmas, she is now fully recovered.

It was wonderful to see the church so full again with over 80 attendees. Somehow the vast majority of them literally crammed themselves into Crambe House following the service, and had a great time enjoying wine, refreshments and lots of chat at a very lively party!

With all the festivities over for the time being the PCC is now buckling down, and having just had a Quinquennial Inspection, trying to work out how to prioritise the inevitable catalogue of failings it showed up. So far, we have fixed the two dodgy pinnacles on the tower so no one on the ground is at risk of falling masonry.

The year ahead will be a busy one as we contemplate the essential changes which will be necessary if St Michael's Church is to survive into the future.

# However, In the immediate future:

St Michael's will be taking a table at the Barton Village Hall Table Top sale on March 31<sup>st</sup> (see events section) to help raise much needed funds. If anyone has any items that are in good condition that they would like to donate, please contact Fiona or drop them off at Crambe House.

# FLAXTON

On Remembrance Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> November, the church and lych-gate were decorated with poppies. Poems and the Book of Remembrance depicting the lives of those on the lych-gate Roll of Honour were on display. A two minute silence was observed at 11.00am by 10 people and a poppy wreath and cross were presented by the children.

Once again, we had a fantastic response for the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously. Major Kay Cullingworth and her husband came to collect the gifts on the Monday morning following the service and left with a very full car. They were delighted and a letter of thanks and appreciation has been received along with good wishes to everyone for a Happy, Peaceful and Healthy 2023.



Decorating the tree surrounded by gifts for the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

It was good to be able to welcome the children and their families and friends from Flaxton Little Green Rascals Nursery for their nativity service following a two year break due to covid. It was very well supported and they are already looking for a date for 2023.

Despite a very cold evening the support was fantastic for the service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Thank you to Dick Blackford and the Flaxton singers for once again supporting our service. Special thanks to the readers, particularly those who stepped in at the last minute, and to those who provided the mulled wine and mince pies enjoyed by all following the service.



A stable in waiting

In mid-December, during the first exceptional cold spell, we joined with St Helen's church, Sheriff Hutton and Marton Church for a fundraising event at the Sheriff Hutton Village Christmas Market. Flaxton were asked to organise the mulled wine and mince pie. Hats off, and a huge thank you to Lucy, Jenny and Lyn for manning this stall outside on what must have been the coldest day. Thank you also to those of you who baked cakes and mince pies. All gratefully received and enjoyed by many.

# FOSTON

Happy New year to all, from everyone at All Saints Foston.

We had a very nice run up to Christmas with two very well attended services. Our Carols and Lessons service was, as always, a good event. The church was looking very festive with candles and a very pretty Christmas



tree. Afterwards we all enjoyed mulled wine and festive treats. Thanks to all our readers, and everyone who contributed to the evening.

On Christmas Eve afternoon we held a Crib and Christingle service. The church was packed with very excited little ones and adults. The service started with "Hunt the knitted Nativity characters" which had been hidden around the church. Most of the characters were found, apart from one errant lamb! Thankfully, it was found later on. After singing some carols, and listening to some storytelling from Chris, the children

were given kits to make their Christingle oranges. After all the Christingle candles were lit, the children sang. Needless to say, they all enjoyed the sweets.

As we all ease ourselves into 2023, we continue to look after our beautiful little church. There will be challenges and change as there always is in life, but if we come together and help and support each other it makes the journey easier. We look forward to seeing you all in the coming months.

# **GATE HELMSLEY**

The Gate Helmsley community has been through a busy and productive time over the last couple of months.

The first - most exciting and innovative - event was a revue, "Autumn Spectacular" held in Gate Helmsley Village Hall on two consecutive evenings at the end of November. This was organised and directed by Anna Sawkins and raised almost £1300 for St Mary's Church. It comprised some local performers as well as artistes from further afield such as Chris Cade with his unique presentation of Dickens' Christmas Carol. This included some amusing audience participation. We had our eyes opened to some hitherto untapped local talent. Thank you so much, Anna, for introducing us to a new and different way of fundraising. Such success is very likely to prompt calls for more in the future. Dan and Claire Sykes ran the pop-up bar concurrently with the revue. Thank you to them and their team for these two evenings and for the ongoing monthly pop-up bar. And thank you to all the wonderful performers and the back-stage helpers.

The annual Christmas Fayre was run differently this year. We held a gettogether at Orchard House on 3<sup>rd</sup> December as well as running online sales. This was hugely successful, raising over £1300 for church funds, an all-time record. A very big thank you to those who helped with baking and running the stalls, and to all those who supported St Mary's by purchasing goods.



All Age Worship at Gate Hemsley - everyone getting stuck into the activities

Gate Helmsley Village Hall was the setting on 4<sup>th</sup> December for a service of All Age Worship led by Chris Wingfield. This was a celebration of the feast of Santa Lucia with an emphasis on the light of Christ coming into the world. Invitations had been sent out to the families of all children baptised in the benefice over the past two years. We were very pleased to see some of them at the service.

There was a good attendance at the village carols on 10<sup>th</sup> December. Everyone enjoyed light refreshments in the church afterwards. A retiring collection of £120 was sent to the Malton Food Bank.

As usual, Holy Communion was celebrated at St Mary's on Christmas morning, with a sizeable congregation. Thank you to Chris for leading the service, his last Christmas day service in the Benefice.

There was a real buzz at the Parish Lunch in Orchard House on 22<sup>nd</sup> January. It was so good to be able to gather again after missing the previous two years because of Covid restrictions. Thank you to all who came. The event raised £720 for church funds.

Forthcoming events include a coffee morning in the village hall on 25<sup>th</sup> March.

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be at Orchard House at 11.00am on 25<sup>th</sup> April. Part of this meeting is always open to parishioners should they wish to attend.

We send greetings to everyone in our community for a peaceful New Year

# HOWSHAM

We had a successful cake stall before Christmas and the Carol service was well attended, although freezing cold.

Welcome mulled wine & mince pies were enjoyed at the Great Barn by all.

Our next event will be the Bank Holiday Cake & Plant stall on Howsham Bridge from 9.30am on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May. Coffee & tea will be on sale and we hope everyone will turn out to support us as always!

We have several weddings again this year. They are always delightful occasions and provide a welcome boost to church funds. The first wedding is on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

We look forward to planning a village event to celebrate the coronation of Charles III.

The Benefice will say farewell to Chris and Thelma at Bossall on 30<sup>th</sup> April. We wish them a happy retirement in Pocklington and look forward to whatever changes are in store.

# SAND HUTTON and CLAXTON

How quickly the last three months have flown with lots going on in and around our villages.

The Gifts for Christmas event on November 5<sup>th</sup> was again a huge success with lots of unusual gifts on sale. Thanks to Rosy Miers and her faithful team of helpers for all the hard work they put in to make this a truly happy community event raising in excess of £2000 for St. Mary's Church.

The Shoebox appeal service was held on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 156 boxes were collected and delivered safely to families in Romania. Thanks to all who kindly donated.

We had a very happy occasion on November 19<sup>th</sup> when we had our last wedding of the year in St. Mary's Church. Georgina Jackson, a Claxton resident, married Benjamin Atkinson. We send our best wishes to them both, praying they will have a long and happy life together.

We started the Advent season with a joyful Carol service accompanied by the Stamford Bridge Singers. A really special start to Christmas.





The Confirmation service was held on December 19<sup>th</sup>, when Bishop John confirmed Catherine, Charlotte and Emma. We pray that each of them may know God's presence, guidance and love as they journey through life.

Residents joined together for 'Carols on the Green' in aid of Macmillan. Thanks to Brian Atkinson and those who helped to organise the evening with carols, mulled wine and mince pies and to all of you who attended. £210 was raised, thank you! Sue, from Malton Food Bank, sends her heartfelt thanks for all the donations given during 2022. Collection points will continue in St. Mary's Church, Claxton Main Street and at the 10am Sunday services throughout the Benefice.

We are planning to begin a collection for a clothes bank. Will forward details when confirmed.

We look forward once more to Dot Mills' Quiz night in March. This is always a fun evening and this year extra special! Come to find out why!!!! See the advert earlier in this Circular

St. Mary's Church continues to support two charities each year. Charities, Snappy and The Sudan have both received £400 for 2022.

The following are the chosen charities for 2023



Next Steps Mental Health Resource Centre is a charity that supports people with mental health problems, wellbeing issues and supports people to help reduce loneliness and isolation in Ryedale. They provide a drop-in centre, activities and outreach groups. It is based in Norton, Malton with a hub in Kirkbymoorside and Pickering and pop ups throughout Ryedale.

They are a user-led organisation and work closely with GPs and the community mental health teams.

Their ultimate aim is to develop self-confidence for members, improve their work prospects and access to statutory services, to help support positive family relationships and prevent loneliness and isolation.



More than 64 million primary school-age children are out of school around the world; they have to work or beg to survive. If they do make it into the classroom, hunger affects their ability to learn.

Mary's Meals serves nutritious school meals to children living in some of the world's poorest countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. The promise of a good meal attracts these hungry children into the classroom, giving them the energy to learn and hope for a better future. Mary's Meals began by feeding just 200 children in Malawi in 2002. Today, they feed 2,279,941 hungry children every school day across 18 countries.

# **UPPER HELMSLEY**

We had our first planning meeting yesterday for the churchyard allotment and are looking forward to the activities for the new season. It inspired me to write a little prayer.



# A Winter Prayer

How I love these bright cold days Underfoot crunch and snowy haze The sleeping roots readying to wake Snowdrops and crocuses trying to break Their way through soil to find the sun A sign that Spring has nearly begun.

Let's say a prayer for a better year Ask God to bless us far and near, Keep us safe, well and in positive mind Remind us all to be generous and kind To each other whenever we can And ask Him, 'well God what's the plan?'

Remember the path we choose is for Him to guide us And take comfort that he is always beside us.

## WHITWELL

A very happy New Year to everybody. I hope 2023 will be a good one for the Benefice. We don't have much to report from Whitwell except to say that Andrew Mitchell has done an amazing job clearing out our pigeon loft – he has put wire up across the openings to prevent the nesting and the partying that was going on up there. Fingers crossed this will be the last of the problems we had, and in turn this will save the damage to our clock, our bells and the organ pipes.

Andrew also cleared out the gutters which we hope will prevent the tiles lifting on the aisle from the damp. A big thank you from all of us!

We are hoping to provide a picnic bench by the side of the church for all our rambling friends this summer. The church is always open for anyone to visit.

If you are interested in joining the St John's Church PCC, please contact churchwarden Janie Bell to find out more (details on the contact page).

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS.....





Here at Sand Hutton, we are happy to be back among friends again. We were lucky enough to have great Christmas celebrations, Christmas dinners and parties, Choir and Steel Pan concerts after school, Christmas craft day and the highlight was the return to delivering our Christmas message through our Nativity, in church, with A REAL audience! It was important to remember that some families were into their third year with us and this was their first LIVE Nativity and it was FAB-U-LOUS.....to quote a difficult to please critic!

All our children, taking account of our increasingly inclusive setting, had the chance to be on stage and perform. It made me incredibly proud! It is also

necessary to draw attention to the dedication of staff in the production of this, as these things don't 'just happen'.

Looking ahead, we have visits, outside school, in the pipeline. This is new normal and we love it! One of these visits is another opportunity to sing in Young Voices where we will accompany Heather Small....no less. We will tell you all about it!



And finally, I am sure that I am not the only who took the opportunity to have a clear out over the Christmas period. If this is something that you also took the time to do, please be aware that there is a clothing bank in the school car park.

While it might mean a short journey for you to de-clutter, it also contributes to some fund raising for our school. We would appreciate any donations from you. You can just pop by and drop them in the bank just by the gate.

Thank you in advance from all of us at Sand Hutton C of E Primary School.

Kind regards,

Beverley Pawson

Headteacher, Sand Hutton and Warthill Federation

headteacher@warthill.n-yorks.sch.uk





The Governing Bodies of Foston and Terrington C of E Federation and Stillington Community Primary School are formally consulting on a proposal to federate, to become FST Primary Schools Federation.

The consultation will run from 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023 to Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2023. We are now asking parents and carers, staff and any interested members of our local communities to consider the Proposal Document which can be found on our website (www.terringtonschool.org) and share your views with us.

You can do this by completing the response form at the end of the document, or by returning a paper response form - available from the school office. Alternatively, if you prefer to respond online - you can do so here: https://forms.office.com/e/1UEs1YpX9u

Thank you for your support in considering this important decision for our schools.







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## Copy deadline for the next edition April 18<sup>th</sup> 2023

# This will cover: May, June and July 2023

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

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