

The Circular

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This will cover: August September October 2021

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

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where you can read The Circular in full



The Benefice of Harton

The Circular



Summer Edition 2021 May June July

News and views in our benefice and communities

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

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Dear Friends,

“Is this it?”

In preparation for writing this short item on behalf of the Ministry Team here in the Benefice of Harton, I had a look back over the archive copies of The Circular.

For the last year or so we have been hoping and praying for the day when Covid-19 pandemic restrictions will be lifted, gatherings allowed and when we can sing again in church. In other words, back to “normal.”

I have listened intently to the Government’s broadcasts and more recently they have been far more upbeat and full of promise. But we ask ourselves, “is this it?” Are we going to be under the social limitations caused by the virus for much longer? Will we still have to cover our smiles with a facemask?

However, I do think we can all congratulate ourselves on how we have coped with the lockdowns and the enforced isolation, especially with the aid of modern technology. Will you continue to make “ordinary” telephone calls to your family in the future or will you use the technology to see them as well?

The Zoom church services we have been enjoying have been a real life saver for many people and I believe that, to some extent, they are here to stay. We have learnt so much over the last year and seen so many new faces on our screens that this pandemic driven experience must not be lost.

Yes, normality is almost visible over the horizon (courtesy of the vaccination programme), but it is bound to be a “new” normal with some sort of hybrid outcome and a virtual church worship which will continue to enrich our whole Christian community. Watch this space!

As we leave Easter behind us with the promise of new life in the Risen Christ and Pentecost with the assurance of the presence of the Holy Spirit I pray that we can all maintain our hope that the promise of the “new normal” will be fulfilling to you all in the way that Jesus would want for us.

Yours in Christ

Ian Lyall



Services for the Benefice of Harton

May 2021

Sunday 2nd May

9.00	Holy Communion	Bossall
10.00	Zoom	

Sunday 9th May

10.00	Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
5.00	Evensong	Upper Helmsley

Thursday 13th May

Ascension Day

10.00	Holy Communion	Howsham
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Sunday 16th May

9.00	Holy Communion	Buttercrambe
10.00	Zoom	

Sunday 23rd May

Pentecost

10.00	Holy Communion	Whitwell
5.00	Evensong	Sand Hutton

Sunday 30th May

Trinity Sunday

9.00	Holy Communion	Bossall
10.00	Zoom All Age Worship	

June 2021

Sunday 6th June

10.00	Holy Communion	Foston
5.00	Holy Communion	Upper Helmsley

There will be a 5 week block of sensory play sessions in the summer term for parents and children.

Please email: terringtonoffice@foston.n-yorks.sch.uk to find out more and book a place.

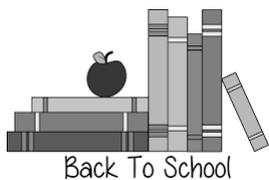
Please get in touch on fostonoffice@foston.n-yorks.sch.uk if you would like to visit our school to see what we have to offer in our flourishing Early Years Setting.



Gazette and Herald

FOSTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Foston and Terrington Federation News



The summer term has arrived and we are extremely pleased to welcome all our children back at Foston and Terrington Primary Schools. We thank the families, staff and community in supporting us through these challenging times. There is a 'buzz' around school with happy children, who are pleased to see their friends and teachers. We are extremely proud at how resilient and adaptable our children have been, they are a credit to their families.

Although we have not been back long our children have already been busy! They have taken part in a sports enhancement day, completing activities such as dance and den building. They have also completed drama workshops over Microsoft Teams, made ramen noodles and led a French Café. We celebrated Easter this year in an online Service, where all children were actively involved in pre-recorded readings and singing, thank you to all the families who joined in this celebration and to Revd Chris for leading the service. We hope for the day when we can return to church for our services.

We have three exciting topics this half term to inspire the children with their learning. In the Early Years the children are learning about Superheroes and people who help them.

In Key Stage 1 the topic is, *What was it like to be at our school when it opened?*

In Key Stage 2 we have the gruesome topic of, *How has crime and punishment changed?*

We welcome any pupils who previously attended school to share their memories with the children.

Please email: fostonoffice@foston.n-yorks.sch.uk for Foston or terringtonoffice@foston.n-yorks.sch.uk if you are able to contribute.

We would also like to share the exciting news that the workshops babies and toddlers will be returning in the summer term. These will be **FREE** interactive sessions led by Miss Birdsall at Terrington Primary School.

Sunday 13th June

9.0	Holy Communion	Gate Helmsley
10.00	Zoom	

Sunday 20th June

10.00	Holy Communion	Flaxton
5.00	Evensong	Crambe

Sunday 27th June

9.00	Holy Communion	Sand Hutton
10.00	Zoom All Age Worship	

July 2021

Sunday 4th July

10.00	Holy Communion	Gate Helmsley
5.00	Holy Communion	Bossall

Sunday 11th July

9.00	Holy Communion	Foston
10.00	Zoom	

Sunday 18th July

10.00	Holy Communion	Upper Helmsley
5.00	Evensong	Sand Hutton

Sunday 25th July

9.00	Holy Communion	Flaxton
10.00	Zoom All Age Worship	



Should you have access to the internet and would like to join one of these services please let Chris know via email at:

chris.wingfield@btinternet.com
or Tel: 01904 468418

For those new to Zoom you will first have to download the free App from the app store on your iPad, phone or computer.

The App symbol is a white camera on a blue background. Once you have downloaded it, Chris will send you via email an invitation to join the 'meeting', together with a meeting ID and a password.

It is easy to use; just follow the steps as they appear. Chris will guide you through any technical difficulties you may have once you have joined the 'meeting'.

On Wednesday mornings at 10am
you are warmly invited to join us for
'Conversation at 10',

also by Zoom. Relax at home with a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit as we enjoy discussing a range of topics. As for Sunday morning worship, contact Chris to receive an email invitation.

Details are in the Calendar section of the Benefice website.

WhatsApp



Chris has also set up a WhatsApp group chat. If you have a smart phone and would like to join this group please contact Chris via his email or phone. You will have to download the WhatsApp app from the Apps store on your phone if you haven't already got it.

Despite the restrictions, we have managed to worship together through the internet and create our own Easter Services which were shared with our parents through our Remote Learning Platform.

Our families have been able to participate in a Treasure Hunt, albeit in their own family groups. We are certainly hoping that we may be able to make other plans later in the term to socialise with one another; something I think we all need in our lives.

We do have vacancies for additional members of the Governing Body at Sand Hutton and so I add an advert with school contact numbers, should you think this is something you would like to consider.

We hope that your Easter was pleasant and you enjoyed all the seasons throughout the fortnight as we did, from sunbathing to snow in a few days. Difficult to believe!

Our very best wishes from the staff and pupils at Sand Hutton School

Kind regards,
Beverley Pawson

Sand Hutton and Warthill Federated Schools

The Governors of our schools are committed to supporting the provision of an engaging and inclusive curriculum. We are fortunate to include many enthusiastic parents among our members. We are incredibly grateful for their hard work and input. However, we also know that our committees benefit from the contributions of others beyond the school community.

Does this sound like you?

We have vacancies for community and LA governors.

Are you interesting in becoming a school governor?

Can you contribute to our committed team?

If you are interested in finding out more about our schools or what it means to be a school governor. Please telephone:

**01904 468308 or 01904 489296 or contact us on
headteacher@warthill.n-yorks.sch.uk**

The food bank collections in Claxton are continuing and gratefully received every 4/6 weeks. Thank you to all who have contributed and transported the goods to Malton.

July 17th is the provisional date for the annual 'Strawberry Teas' event at Holderness House in Claxton.

More details will be circulated nearer the date when/if restrictions are lifted.

Again we thank all those who help and care for neighbours during these strange days, not forgetting those who deliver goods on our doorsteps.

UPPER HELMSLEY

The weather is warming and we all look forward to sunny days and catch-up with family and friends albeit outside. As with most of our churches, it has been a quiet quarter. We joined in with the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter weekend and it went well with visitors new to our church.

We have been enjoying the Sunday Zoom services, especially the all-age worship. The flat bread and pancake baking sessions were great fun and a lovely way to worship together.

Our planning and development of the Messy Allotment project is progressing and we hope to have more to report in the next Circular.

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS.....

SAND HUTTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Already into the Summer Term and we do hope that the sun continues to shine upon us. Following our enforced 'lockdown' in January, all our pupils are back at school.

We were pleased to see a three week period of undisturbed curriculum time and we hope that we continue to be as lucky.

School was a very unusual place to be when half our pupils stayed at home and it is heartening to see our classrooms busy and buzzing with enthusiasm once again. We are looking forward to the time when we can allow all our children to worship and play together in our usual way.



Our condolences to the family and friends of

11 th February	George Bratley	Flaxton
4 th March	Freda Barker	Flaxton
12 th March	Betty Cooper	Flaxton
March	Sheila Jackson	of Prospect House Gate Helmsley



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



Time marches forward, and nothing reminds us of this more than the welcome signs of spring appearing in our gardens and hedgerows.

Myself, and my very dedicated team Phil and Mari, Alan and Michael have been busy establishing a community allotment in the churchyard of St Peter's Church at Upper Helmsley. This is hopefully going to be operational from May time, and is for the use of all the children in the Benefice villages. People have already been incredibly generous and have donated all sorts of useful items from hand tools and pots to garden sheds, a green house and an IBC water container.



It has been so heartening after the months of lockdown to have a positive project to raise everybody's mood and to feel enthusiastic about. We have some older children who are keen to take part in a volunteering role and we are putting on some training for them in the next few weeks.

We have a give.net page for donating to this project. Please do contribute if you feel able to.



Sophie flipping her pancake

Earlier on in the season, we held a Zoom pancake bake off, which was well supported. As well as taking part in a pancake flipping competition, children were given a Lent kindness challenge to complete, along with a Smartie tube to fill with loose change to donate to Malton food bank.

The Messy church team have been busy as usual. They put together 160 'Holy week at home' Messy bags to deliver out to the families in the Benefice, with all sorts of craft activities in them relating to Holy week themes. Many thanks team!

We were delighted with how well the Easter egg hunt was supported over the Easter weekend. We managed to set up a hunt in all of the churches and in total they received 108 visits from 67 families.



Sophie, Pippa and Toby



Beatrice



Edward, Genevieve and Patrick



We were delighted to be able to hand over a basket of chocolate. Alex and Harriet and were very worthy winners as they went around 5 churches in the

A huge thank you to all the churchwardens who helped me to put this together.

**The winners of the Easter egg hunt prize draw were
Alex and Harriet from Whitwell.
Well done to you!!**

SAND HUTTON and CLAXTON

It seems such a long time since we were able to be alongside each other to share our lives. As someone said today, 'We will have to learn to hug each other again!' We are so privileged with the rapid roll out of the vaccine making the future look brighter. Yet we cannot forget many other people in other countries who struggle to live from day to day with so few resources and no health care.

During these past few months we have emerged from winter into this beautiful spring, having the opportunity to walk in our local areas and to absorb the nature around us.



Photographs by Vanessa Fitzpatrick

The snowdrops and daffodils in the hedgerows and gardens have been stunning and especially in the churchyard where many have been able to enjoy tranquillity and peace and to chat with some of the visitors.

It was good to worship together on Palm Sunday albeit with the restrictions. During the Holy week and Easter weekend St. Mary's was open for prayer and meditation with the opportunity to follow the Stations of the Cross displayed along the pathway to the church.

Thanks to Rachael Harrison for organising the Egg Hunt for each of the ten churches... a great time was had by many children!

The memory tree at the church gate has become laden with ribbons and will remain until all Covid restrictions are lifted. Ribbons are still available in the church porch on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Most of this year, because of Covid, we have not been able to hold services in any of our churches. We are grateful to the Rector, Chris Wingfield and to Ian Lyall for organising our Zoom Sunday services with the technical expertise of Ruth Wells, and for the conversations at 10 each Wednesday.

There are some very welcome plans afoot to hold a village gathering in the summer when such events are permitted - something to which we can all look forward.

On a sadder note, we were sorry to learn of the death of Sheila Jackson, resident in Prospect House for the last few years, initially with her husband, Colin, who died a couple of years ago. Previously Sheila and Colin lived in Stamford Bridge, and, prior to that, in Claxton where they supported the Methodist Chapel. Sheila was a real bookworm, loved puzzles and was a keen scrabble player. She will be sadly missed. We send our sincere condolences to Sheila's daughter, Christine, and all the family.

HOWSHAM

We enjoyed the delightful Evensong last Sunday with 22 in the congregation. Many thanks to Ian and Rachel for taking services again.

The Easter egg hunt was a great success, we had 18 children. Three cheers for Rachael Harrison for organising it so beautifully.

We have four weddings booked for the summer, we are delighted to welcome all the couples and the fees are very much appreciated.

On May 3rd we are holding our usual bank holiday cake and plant stall from 9.30am on Howsham Bridge. We hope everyone will support this as we have been unable to fundraise for so long.

On May 13th there will be an Ascension Day service at Howsham at 10am.



Howsham Bridge

Benefice. A special mention must also go to the Moore family in Buttercrambe, and the Robinson family in Upper Helmsley who visited ALL the churches!

We continue to produce a monthly newsletter for the families, to keep everyone up to date with events, and our monthly Zoom All Age Worship service is now a regular fixture in the Church Service schedule; with children making up prayers and doing readings. There is always a fun craft activity too!

Please let me know if you would like to be on the mailing list for the Zoom Services or for any other notices Email:rachaelyouthharton@gmail.com

We are really looking forward to be able to hold Messy church sessions in the Village halls again, and to re-starting 'Play and Pray' for the pre-schoolers in Sand Hutton church. In the meantime we look forward to welcoming families to our Messy allotment! Look out for an open day later on in the summer.

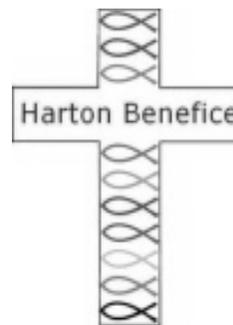
Please join our Family and Carers facebook page

www.facebook.com/groups/Hartonbenefice

To contact Rachael: Tel: 07847 329015

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to these Services and events, especially the children who did readings and made up prayers.

Benefice PCC.....



There have been no recent meetings of the Benefice PCC. Hopefully we will be able to reconvene in person before too long.

Delyth Harran

Vice-Chairman



Reflections on the pandemic ***Sister Margaret Ann CSPH***

People who know me well know that I keep a journal and have done for many years. I have been looking over what I've written during the past year and the period of the Corona Virus Pandemic.

The first few weeks of staying at home were a novelty with time to do a lot of those jobs we have been putting off forever! These activities covered decorating, cleaning, clearing out drawers and cupboards, sifting through all those unwanted things that we amass over the years.

We were blessed with some beautiful weather so were able to spend time outside, tidying up our gardens, watching the new life of spring burst into all its beauty and just enjoying the open space and fresh air.

Like a lot of people I was blessed by being accepted into a 'Bubble'. In my case it was in the village of Crambe, being cared for, provided with all that I needed and enjoying the company of friends throughout this incredible year.

I feel that living in such a beautiful part of the country, with its large skies and open spaces went a long way to providing a certain amount of protection for us from this, then unknown virus, something for which we must all be thankful.

As part of our 'Bubble' we have played Scrabble to keep the old grey cells alive, broken open the odd bottle or two and just enjoyed each other's company. We have talked and tried to put the world to rights, watched endless political updates on television, laughed and cried together, and generally supported each other as Covid 19 took its hold on us all. Trying to accept the national and local restrictions and to understand what was really happening during some very trying days as life generally locked down.

I don't know about you but for me it has been such a positive time. Keeping in touch with family and friends, making sure people were coping OK and had everything they needed. I discovered too that it was a two way thing. I heard from all sorts of people who were concerned and thinking about me, enough to telephone, text or send cards. Then there were those who called and left parcels at the door. I believe it brought out the best in us all.

Things have been fairly calm, and the community has continued to support one another through the latest lockdown. Our church has been very quiet, and is ready to be filled with people coming together to enjoy the fellowship it's always facilitated.

To mark the life and death of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, our Churchwardens rang a single church bell 99 times. This was done on Saturday 10th of April at 12 noon.

We were delighted to be able to take part in the Easter Egg hunt, expertly organised by Rachael Harrison. Everyone enjoyed themselves, and it showed how resourceful we can be despite all the restrictions of social distancing.

As things gradually ease we really do look forward to welcoming you all back into our beautiful little church. Until then love to everyone from All Saint's Foston.

GATE HELMSLEY

Thankfully, with the easing of lockdown, some services have been held in church since Easter and more are planned over the coming months. Rachel Benson led a service of Holy Communion at St Mary's on 11th April, the first service in our church since Christmas morning.

Over the Easter weekend, each church in the benefice hosted an Easter egg hunt arranged by Rachael Harrison who is doing so much good work with children and young people in our communities. The event was a great success, blessed with good though rather windy weather. Sixteen children and their families visited our church.

For their chocolatey reward the children had to answer a series of questions about some of the features in the churchyard and on the outside of the church building. The questions for our church were about one of the grotesques, the water pump, the war grave from World War 1 and the Ordnance Survey mark on the church tower. I wonder how many adults would have been able to complete the answers. Thank you, Rachael, for organising this and, with your team, all the other Messy Church events.

The return of Spring, with the bulbs bursting into flower and the new born lambs in the fields, has been especially welcome this year – even if Winter has been trying to stage a comeback with some very cold and frosty nights and early mornings. The daffodils in the village verges have made a stunning display.

Sunday worship has been delivered largely through Zoom although more church based services are now being held due to the relaxation of restrictions. Here at St Michael's we have had two services. On Good Friday a number of us spent an hour in quiet reflection with Rachel Benson, and on Sunday April 18th we welcomed almost thirty people from the village and around the Benefice to a service of Holy Communion which was taken by Chris.

On the administrative side we have had our APCM at which Dorothy after many years' service as churchwarden retired. Two new churchwardens and a new PCC were elected. The church is grateful for the time and effort that Dorothy has put in over the years and to mark the occasion of her retirement Chris presented her with a bouquet of flowers at our last service. We all wish her well for the future.

FLAXTON

On Easter Saturday, like other churches in the Benefice, we were very happy to host the Easter Egg Hunt organised by Rachael Harrison. Rachael, Wendy and Ida were the "meet and greet" team between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm giving us the opportunity to meet new people, old friends and to enjoy bird song and the peace and quiet on a beautiful sunny day.

We were delighted to be able to hold an Easter Day service with Rachel Benson officiating. There were 20 people in attendance. We had three hymns, for two of which we followed the words in the hymn book, and as the weather was kind to us we were able, whilst social distancing, to sing our final hymn outside.

Update - Church Services: Services in churches are now able to take place. We look forward to welcoming you. A service schedule, covering June-August will be put up on the lychgate notice board.

FOSTON

Hello from All Saints, Foston.

There are now definite glimmers of hope, that we can all resume a more sociable way of coming together. This combined with the spring weather, certainly lifts the spirit.

Somehow it helped us/me to put my priorities in order, discovering that there is more to life than money and possessions. We clapped regularly for the NHS and learnt to be thankful again for so much that we had just taken for granted.

Each day there has been a time of quiet reflection when I have tried to communicate with our God and in doing so I've held people I know, who are struggling for whatever reason, all those who have lost loved ones to the pandemic and perhaps have not been able to say 'goodbye' as they would have wished, the elderly in care homes who perhaps didn't really understand why they couldn't see loved ones and friends as before, then there are those who have lost their job and are without incomes, dependent upon food banks, and all those, who because of the restrictions and lockdowns, suffered from fractured relationships and mental health problems, people suffering everywhere one way or another, holding them all, them all, in the light and presence of our Heavenly Father.

Passages of scripture have taken on a new meaning as I have had time to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them. God has spoken so loudly through them all. Some words I read early on have kept me going:

PUT LOVE IN WHERE LOVE IS NOT

Whether you have a faith or not, or like Thomas you doubt your faith in God and are asking questions of God or don't believe at all. To put these words into actions could do so much to heal our nation and the whole world. We have all seen situations, people, places that need healing and love can do just that. There is a God, who created us and he knows exactly what he is doing with us all, for

GOD IS LOVE.

As we all gradually receive our Covid 19 vaccinations and lockdown is lifted bit by bit be thankful for all those who have made that vast programme possible. The scientists, and researchers into new vaccines, doctors, nurses, armed and emergency services, the many willing volunteers, and all those who have brought our food and needs to us. Enjoy your new found freedom but remember to be thoughtful of others, both near and far. Wear your masks, keep your distance and give thanks for what we have, and above all continue that community spirit in looking out for others.

PUT LOVE IN WHERE LOVE IS NOT

And in doing that, our world will be a better place for us all.

Margaret Ann
+ CSPT

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

BARTON LE WILLOWS



Plant Sale at Barton le Willows Village Hall

Tuesday 18 May 4.30 – 7pm

On behalf of North Yorkshire Music Therapy Centre

The charity, North Yorkshire Music Therapy Centre, runs a project called “Growing the Charity”*, in which we grow plants to support NYMTC to raise funds (and we like the image of caring and nurturing – it’s at the heart of therapy).

We will be selling plants in the garden outside the Village Hall, with refreshments available, weather permitting.

Come and hear more about the role of music in life and buy plants to help us get rooted in the community.

A similar event will be held on Claxton Village Green on Saturday 12 June 10am - 2pm.

*See our website for further information: www.music-therapy.org.uk



BUTTERCRAMBE

The egg hunt held over the Easter weekend was brilliantly organised by our fantastic Youth Worker Rachael Harrison. It was a huge success and so lovely to see the church open and so many happy and excited children keenly working out the quiz.

One of the clues was ‘Find the gravestone celebrating the life of someone who looked after other people’s children’ and here is the stone they had to find.

Gladys as she was known was Nanny to George and

his sisters Rosie and Iris at Aldby Park. She then went and looked after the Goodhart children at Givendale and ended her working days helping with the five Willoughby children at Birdsall! She was a wonderfully old school traditional nanny and would only be seen pushing a Silver Cross pram!

Looking forward to welcoming you back to our first Holy Communion service on Sunday 16th May

BOSSALL

From Mary Denison.....



‘I am now in my new house in Malton after nearly five months during which I stayed with my sister. She lives in Castle Howard Road so it was very handy for me for keeping an eye on the work that was being done on my house on Middlecave Road.

Due to the Covid pandemic the house was empty so work was able to go ahead unfettered. The work was done by Carr’s

Builders from Barton Le Willows a well known and respected firm of local builders. They and their workforce did a sterling job on all the various renovations and I am grateful for, and delighted with the result.

After May 17th, when the rules regarding visiting in homes are relaxed, I shall look forward to people being able to come and see me. The house is very near the hospital so if you have had to go there for an appointment I shall be very pleased to give you a reviving cup of teas afterwards!

CRAMBE

‘How was your lockdown?’ is almost becoming a regular greeting these days. In fact however things are looking up. The vaccine rollout has made an amazing difference and the Covid numbers are all heading in the right direction – downwards. It has been wonderful how the village has embraced the need to help each other even more than usual during these difficult times.