

**The Benefice of Harton**

# **The Circular**



**Winter 2022**

**November**

**December**

**January 2023**

*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 Mary's Church Sand Hutton

**Dear Friends,**

**Remember, Remember.....**

As I'm writing this article for November, I reflected on what a disturbing, unsettling and challenging time our world is going through.

It seems that every continuing action of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and every reaction by 'the west' has a profound impact on so many daily lives. All this compounded locally, by an ever-changing government in the UK. And of course, in the midst of this turmoil, the one seemingly ever-present Monarch that we that relied upon for decades, Queen Elizabeth, suddenly isn't there anymore.

It's as though our world is shifting out of kilter and we're stumbling around in the autumn and winter gloom, trying to regain our balance, desperately trying to find something firm to hang on to.

Perhaps these feelings can be best summed up by Thomas Hood's famous poem from 1844:

*'No sun – no moon!  
No morn – no noon –  
No dawn – no dusk – no proper time of day.  
No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,  
No comfortable feel in any member –  
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,  
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds – November!'*



And yet, for us as Christians – as a church – our seasons and feasts remind us that there is a hope and a presence we can hold on to, whatever state of stability or fragility our lives may be in.

At All Hallows (All Saints and All Souls) we remember that life doesn't end in death, but is transformed into new life; Remembrance Sunday reminds us of the sacrifice of others who enabled disorder to become a new and better order; and of course, Christmas reminds us that belief in the one who came to save and guide us can bring peace to the storms of troubled minds and lives if we follow his pathway.

Jesus helps us, encourages us - enables us - to become advocates and agents of change for good; to bring calm to places of anxiety; to be present in times of uncertainty; to be a light in the gloom and darkness of life.

So, let's turn to another poet, Elizabeth Stoddard, to help us through this winter of discontent and help us remember the hope that is set before us.




*'Much have I spoken of the faded leaf;  
Long have I listened to the wailing wind,  
And watched it ploughing through the heavy clouds;  
For autumn charms my melancholy mind.  
When autumn comes, the poets sing a dirge:  
The year must perish; all the flowers are dead;  
The sheaves are gathered; and the mottled quail runs in the stubble,  
but the lark has fled!  
Still, autumn ushers in the Christmas cheer, The holly-berries and the  
ivy-tree:  
They weave a chaplet for the Old Year's heir; These waiting mourners  
do not sing for me!  
I find sweet peace in depths of autumn woods, where grow the ragged  
ferns and roughened moss; The naked, silent trees have taught me  
this, —  
The loss of beauty is not always loss!'*

***Yours in Christ  
Revd Chris Wingfield.***



# Services for the Benefice of Harton

## November 2022

<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b>		<b>All Souls</b>
<b>7.00 pm</b>	<b>Festival of Lilies and Light</b> <i>(Full details further on in The Circular)</i>	<b>Crambe</b>
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November</b>		<b>3<sup>rd</sup> before Advent</b>
9.00	Zoom	
10.00	Holy Communion Dedication of Christmas Shoeboxes	Sand Hutton
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November</b>		
10.00	Midweek Service	Flaxton
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November</b>		<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>
<b>10.30</b>	<b>Remembrance Holy Communion</b>	<b>Bossall</b>
<b>12 noon</b>	<b>Act of Remembrance</b>	<b>War Memorial</b>
<b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>		
10.00	Holy Communion	Howsham
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>		<b>Christus Rex</b>
10.00	Holy Communion	Gate Helmsley
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b>		
10.00	Midweek Service	Bossall
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November</b>		<b>Advent 1</b>
<b>10.00</b>	<b>Advent Carol Service</b> <b>with Stamford Bridge Singers</b>	<b>Sand Hutton</b>
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b>		
10.00	Midweek Service	Crambe

## December 2022

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December**



**Advent 2**

9.00

Holy Communion (BCP)

Bossall

**10.00**

**Santa Lucia All Age Worship**

**Gate Helmsley VH**

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

10.00

Midweek Service

Howsham

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December**



**Advent 3**

**10.00**

**Nativity and Toy Service**

**Flaxton**

**6.30**

**Carol Service**

**Buttercrambe**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

10.00

Midweek Service

Sand Hutton

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December**



**7.30**

**Carol Service**

**Flaxton**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December**



**6.00**

**Celebration of Christmas by Candlelight**

**Crambe**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December**



**Advent 4**

10.00

Holy Communion  
and Confirmation

Sand Hutton

**6.00**

**Carol Service**

**Howsham**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December**



10.00

Midweek Service

Crambe

**6.30**

**Carol Service**

**Foston**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December**



**Christmas Eve**

**2.00**  
**11.00**

**Christingle**  
**Midnight Mass**

**Foston**  
**Bossall**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December**



**Christmas Day**

**10.00**  
**10.00**

**Christmas Holy Communion**  
**Christmas Family Service**

**Gate Helmsley**  
**Flaxton**

**January 2023**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January**

**Christmas 1**

10.00

Holy Communion

Sand Hutton

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January**

10.00

Holy Communion

Flaxton

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January**

**Baptism of Christ**

10.00

Holy Communion

Crambe

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

10.00

Midweek Service

Howsham

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

**Epiphany 2**

10.00

Holy Communion

Foston

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

10.00

Holy Communion

Gate Helmsley

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January**

**Epiphany 3**

10.00

Holy Communion

Howsham

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January**

10.00

Holy Communion

Sand Hutton

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January**

**Epiphany 4**

10.00

Holy Communion

Gate Helmsley



**Welcome to those newly baptised**

7<sup>th</sup> August

Edward Stephen Midgley

Howsham

14<sup>th</sup> August

Arlo Christopher Brierley

Howsham

11<sup>th</sup> September

Hector Henry Richardson

Flaxton



**Congratulations to those newly married**

25<sup>th</sup> August

John Johnson and Louise Frances Davey

Howsham

2<sup>nd</sup> September

Luke Hempel and Samantha Leigh Power

Howsham

9<sup>th</sup> September

Luke Riley and Lucy Markham

Sand Hutton

10<sup>th</sup> September

James Ward and Camilla Mitchell

Flaxton

1<sup>st</sup> October

Andrew Scanlon and Anna Dziemianko

Bossall



**Our condolences to the family and friends of**

2<sup>nd</sup> August

John Sawkill

Bossall

4<sup>th</sup> September

Patrick Morris

Whitwell



**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>** A service of Remembrance with Holy Communion will be held at Bossall Church at 10.30 am followed by a short service at the war memorial between Sand Hutton and Claxton at 12 noon.



### ***A Lament***

*We who are left, how shall we look again  
Happily on the sun, or feel the rain,  
Without remembering how they who went  
Ungrudgingly, and spent  
Their all for us, loved, too, the sun and rain?*

*A bird among the rain wet lilac sings –  
But we, how shall we turn to little things  
And listen to the birds and winds and streams  
Made holy by their dreams,  
Nor feel the heartbreak in the heart of things?*

***Wilfred Wilson Gibson***



***Lest we forget***



## St Michael's Church, Crambe

### Festival of Lilies and Light with The Benefice Choir

Wednesday November 2nd at 7.00 pm



An opportunity to celebrate and remember those who we have loved and lost  
If you would like a name or names to be added to the roll that will be read out  
during the service, either complete one of the forms which can be found at  
the back of a church near you or contact Fiona

**Email: [churchmouse@crambehouse.co.uk](mailto:churchmouse@crambehouse.co.uk) or Text/phone 07774 886 833**

The church will be decorated with arrangements of lilies. If you would like to make a small  
donation towards the lilies it would be much appreciated.

You will be invited to light a candle in memory of your loved ones during the service.

**If you are unable to attend the service, you can still add names to the roll.**

**Please let Fiona know by Sunday October 30th. The church will be open every day  
following the service so you can visit and light a candle at a time to suit you.**



***From Rachael Harrison  
Benefice Children and Youth Worker  
Children and Family report***

Like everyone reading The Circular no doubt, I cannot believe how fast 2022 is going! Reading back over my article from this time last year we were only just beginning to take the tentative steps to ease ourselves out of lockdown and looking forward to having a Christmas with family and friends. Luckily this year has gone well in terms of us being free from further lockdowns or school closures and our children and families are managing to re-establish routines and get back to a sense of normality. However, we remember in our prayers those families who are incomplete because they have lost loved ones, or have family members who are continuing to shield.

Over the summer months The Play & Pray group continued to have fun meeting at Upper Helmsley allotment, planting, watering and weeding. Unfortunately, due to the drought we experienced in June and July, (and our far from ideal watering system in the allotment), we didn't fare as well this year in terms of produce from the allotment. Water butts ran dry and we had to resort to bringing water in. A massive 'Thank you' to Phil, Mari,

Alan, Katie, Carolyn, The Robinsons, Emma, Lucy, Elisabeth, Catherine, Toby, and all of the Aubergines who valiantly kept things watered as best we could. Luckily the Fire Service came to our rescue once again, and a massive 'Thank you' has to go to them for kindly visiting us back in Summer. We need to put our thinking caps on for next year, or maybe more water butts.....

This years 'Wonderzone' Summer club was another great success; running over three days. It was a joint venture between ourselves and Lisa Horton, Benefice of Rural East York. We had over forty children attend on each day, and were delighted to welcome Marion from Yoyo and Mary from Dunnington, who ran drama workshops in the afternoons. Lisa and I aimed to run a holiday club that would be inexpensive, safe, and most of all fun for the children, with a strong Christian message. We feel pleased that we achieved this. Hopefully it also helped parents out with the tricky conundrum of holiday childcare too!

The Aubergines have kept busy also. They continued to meet fortnightly right up until the summer break, and some of them came along to help at the Summer Club. Now that we are in a new school year, we have recruited more new members and are looking forward to having a stall at the Sand Hutton Christmas Crafts Fayre in November. They are also keen to engage in any Community projects that are taking place locally, so please bear them in mind as you plan events.

I am currently on sabbatical. However, there are events happening between now and the end of the year so please do keep an eye on the Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/groups/HartonBenefice](http://www.facebook.com/groups/HartonBenefice)), local notice boards, village WhatsApp groups etc for more information. Hopefully the newsletter will also resume in the New Year.

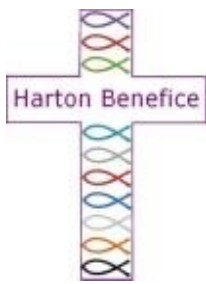


*Cleared beds in the allotment*

*Harvesting the last of the potatoes*



## *Benefice PCC.....*



The Benefice PCC last met on 4<sup>th</sup> October, when discussions centred on the following areas:

- Rachael Harrison is currently on sabbatical. A strategy for the future of the Children and Youth post has been developed by the mentorship team
- The parishes should submit their Free Will Offering as soon as possible
- Benefice finances: parishes will be given a 50% rebate in 2023. The Rector will explore the possibility of obtaining extra funding for the Children and Youth post from “Multiply” monies.
- Deanery development: the Deanery plan proposes a division of the Southern Ryedale Deanery into 3 areas – Harton, Howardian and Street; Malton and Norton; Wolds, Buckrose and Buckrose Carr. More details can be found in the full minutes of the meeting (available from the Honorary Secretary).
- Developing a cohesive benefice strategy: to this end, each PCC was asked to develop their 5 local priorities, which will subsequently be combined into a benefice-wide strategy.
- Safeguarding: details of PCC members from every parish to be made available to the Safeguarding Officer (Emma Allen-Goss) for 3-yearly DBS checks.
- Plans to be made to display the vestments of the late Reverend Jeremy Valentine to determine their future use.
- Statistics for Mission: The Rector agreed to submit a single benefice return to make the statistics more meaningful

**The next meeting will be held at Holderness House, Claxton at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Please send agenda items in advance to the Honorary Secretary, Ellen Stott.**

*Delyth Harran*

*Lay Chairman*



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

### ***The Benefice of Harton Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2022***



**A huge thank you for all the shoebox contributions already and being prepared to be received ready for their dedication included in the Benefice service on 6<sup>th</sup> November at St Mary's church, Sand Hutton at 10am.**

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.

The Chairperson of trustees of Amen Trust, Chris Chatfield who operates from Worthing in Sussex, sends his warm thanks for all the efforts from around the Benefice, and will be picking up the shoeboxes from our area in the week after our dedication service and supervising their transport to Romania so we can be assured they arrive safely. Your prayers for safe and trouble free travel will be much appreciated.

You may like to look at how thankful the recipients of last year's shoeboxes were by watching this video clip: <https://www.amentrust.co.uk/relieving-poverty/romanian-shoebox-appeal/>

A recent news input of the additional work with Ukrainian refugees has also been received ....

“Two Ukrainian ladies had their babies in our city hospital, far away from home and their husbands. Not an easy thing to do but God .. our God .. is taking care of them in a wonderful way. We had the opportunity to bless them with babies’ items and bring hope in their soul.”



*Grateful recipients of the donated baby clothes*

REMEMBER, REMEMBER.....  
THE 5<sup>th</sup> of NOVEMBER!!

**GIFTS for CHRISTMAS**  
**Saturday 5th November 2022**

SAND HUTTON VILLAGE HALL  
10am to 3pm

Quality stalls at affordable prices for all your Christmas gifts

**Stalls include...**

Sand Hutton Gifts (handmade gifts / pots and planters) Jewellery, Sarah Stoker Ceramics, Pretty Things, Delicious by Clare and more!

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

Entry £1

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



**Foston and Thornton Le Clay  
Village Hall**

AN EVENING OF LIVE MUSIC

WITH A FUNLOVING ROCK PARTY COVERS BAND  
PLAYING SONGS FROM THE 70'S TO THE PRESENT DAY

**SATURDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

**AT 7.30 PM**

**HOT DOGGERS**

BAR SERVING BEER WINE AND SOFT DRINKLS

FREE GOURMET HOT DOG SUPPER

TICKETS £8 PP

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE VILLAGE HALL

OR NESS TEL: 07968 390 509



# Wayward Gallery

Christmas exhibition & shopping event  
*Ros Walker & Heather Niven*  
November 19th & 20th



11am - 4pm



*Ceramics Painting Sculpture Jewellery Prints*  
Station House, Kirkham Abbey *All welcome!*  
YO60 7JS

## Autumn Spectacular

25th & 26th November - 6.30-10pm

Gate Helmsley Village Hall

The village warmly welcomes you to a fun filled night of  
**Music/Comedy/Story/and Chris Cade Finale**

Our host for the evening is Chris Wingfield

- Pop up Pub from 6.30 (plus interval)
- Lucky ticket prize draw
- 1st prize Christmas Hamper

**Tickets £10/children £5 - All ticket proceeds to St Mary's Church GH**

**Please contact for tickets;**

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

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

Tel: 07900 998378

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

Tel: 01759 372215



**ADVENT CAROL SERVICE**  
at  
**ST MARY'S CHURCH, SAND  
HUTTON**  
on  
**SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER at 10.00a.m.**



Readings, congregational carols and choir pieces  
to mark the beginning of Advent.

**GUEST CHOIR : STAMFORD BRIDGE SINGERS**

Seasonal Refreshments to follow service.

**PLEASE DO COME ALONG AND JOIN US**

**St Mary's Church Gate Helmsley**

**Christmas Fayre**  
**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2-4 pm**  
**Orchard House**



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



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

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



**St Michael's Church Crambe**

come and join us on

**Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup>**

**at 6.00 p.m.**

**'CHRISTMAS AT CRAMBE'**

A Celebration of Christmas

by candlelight

in carols, prose and poetry

with

**THE '200 SINGERS'**

And afterwards for mulled wine

and refreshments

at Crambe House

All are very welcome



**CAROL SINGING AT CLAYTON**

Come and join us on the village green

**on Monday 19th December**

For some Christmas Carols

Sing along with our choir of grownups and children

As usual we shall be raising money for

**Macmillan Cancer Support—York Branch**

Your support would be very much appreciated

For further information please ring

**Brian Tel: 01904 468 226**



*from Sister Margaret Ann CSPH*



*My Dear friends,*

One of my visits to the Arboretum at Castle Howard last week got me thinking about the season of Autumn. The trees adorned in their glorious apparel and the beauty of it all aglow in the sunshine. The falling leaves of red, orange, browns and yellows. Freshly ploughed fields ready for next year's crops. The purples and pinks of the Michaelmas daisies in people's gardens. The bright red berries on the holly bushes that the birds love so much. Birds lining up on the wires ready for their long journeys to foreign lands. All signs of this amazing season.

As I grow older, with each passing year I realise that I too am in the season of the autumn of my life. Not being able to move about as easily as I did in my younger years, those extra aches and pains, falling asleep after lunch, and not finding it as easy to get out of bed in the morning. All signs of the Autumn of life. I ask you not to waste this God given opportunity to draw close to God. Remember the verse, 'Draw close to God and He will draw close to you'

No excuses now, we have that extra time to be still and quiet and listen to what the Lord is saying to us, for our work is not yet finished, he still has that special job for us to do. Time, too, to take out that precious book the Bible, the greatest story book of all, to look in depth at the message of our Salvation. To read, mark, learn and inwardly digest its message, allowing God to speak to you through it. And to pray, building up that relationship with our Heavenly Father. Talk to Him, ask for his help as old age begins to take over, he wants to know, he longs to help, but never pushes himself upon any of us, but waits, loving us and longing for us to come to him. As Canon Vanstone once said 'Loving itself is a beginning, an invitation, an offering for the receiving which it invites but does not compel, love can only wait, and to wait not longer is to cease to love.'

So, when things get hard, ask for help - there is no shame in that. Call upon the Lord when it becomes difficult to lift one foot in front of the other, or you struggle to get out of that chair. I know when I'm in the bath I call upon the Lord to lift me out and I feel those loving arms around me as he gently lifts me up.

Remember we are never on our own; he is always there for us. I remember telling the children, 'if you stay here in this beautiful part of the world or if you go to the other side of the universe, you are never on your own' And do you know, there have been times in my life when things have felt hard and I have felt alone, when suddenly I turn and catch a glimpse of him sitting on my shoulder.

'All things bright and beautiful  
All creatures great and small  
All things wise and wonderful  
The Lord God made them all'

What a great and wonderful God he is. So, share the days that are left to you with Him, he wants to be a part of your memories, your thoughts, your feelings and your struggles. He held you at the beginning of time, led you through the bright days of your life and he is not going to let you go now as life starts to fade. Lean upon Him as hard as you need to and allow his strength to flow through you. Have faith and learn to trust the one that will never let you go. Until at last we see Him face to face, what a great and wonderful day that will be. To be with him in the heavenly Jerusalem for all eternity.

'He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God almighty  
Who has made all things well'

May God bless you and keep you all, and all those whom you love, in his loving care.

Margaret Ann  
+ CSPT



## ***Adrian and Jez.....Congratulations!***



**On September 11<sup>th</sup> there was a wonderful party to celebrate Jez's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday and Adrian and Jez also renewed their marriage vows.**

It was held in their friends' beautiful garden in Malton. Lots of guests, lots of sunshine, lots of emotion and lots of lovely food and drink!

Rev Chris Wingfield started the celebrations with a prayer of thanks for our late HRH Queen Elizabeth. Celebrant Anna Wallace officiated. Adrian and Jez read their newly written personal vows and

Rev Douglas Robertson blessed their original rings. Rachel Baker read a bible passage. Dot Mills recited a poem she had written specially for the occasion. Several of their friends spoke about how special Adrian and Jez are, their friendships, their work, their commitment to the community and involvement in the churches.

Sister Margaret Ann ended the ceremony with a special blessing for them. Aria their rescue dog enjoyed herself too! It was a truly enjoyable occasion and a day to remember.

## ***Wayward Gallery Christmas Event***

***Saturday November 19<sup>th</sup>, Sunday November 20<sup>th</sup> 11.00am - 4.00pm***

Wayward Gallery is a small gallery based at Station House, Kirkham Abbey and is a showcase for ceramics and paintings by Ros Walker and Heather Niven. The gallery is open for specific events and by appointment, and occasionally at busy times in Kirkham.

There will be a varied collection of artwork, including functional ceramics – mugs, cups, vases, oil lamps and bowls, and unique art pieces fashioned from clay dug up at Kirkham, and fired using the ancient method of pit firing or raku.

There will be paintings and sculptural pieces by Heather Niven in mixed media and acrylic in her vibrant bold style.

We have some super gift ideas for all budgets from tiny glazed stoneware birds and pendants to statement vases, paintings, prints and cards featuring the artwork.



**There will be an invitation-only preview on Friday evening November 18<sup>th</sup> between 6 and 9pm, with wine and nibbles to accompany your viewing. If you would like to attend, please email [ros@roswalker.com](mailto:ros@roswalker.com) and we will add you to the mailing list and send out an invitation.**

Heather and Ros are looking forward to seeing everyone and talking about our latest work, and hopefully finding new homes for some of our artwork. A warm welcome awaits everyone who visits - there is parking at the house, and we offer a very civilised alternative to Christmas shopping in the city.

## **BARTON LE WILLOWS**

For the first time ever, Barton Le Willows welcomed a relatively local 'busker' band to perform at its recent Pop-Up Pub event held on September 17<sup>th</sup>. The band, Clúrachán, consisted of five band members playing a variety of toe tapping, hand clapping tunes and those who ventured to the pub all appeared to have a fantastic evening enjoying the atmosphere, cheap drinks and the community being together.

We are working with the band in the hope they will return for the next pub night on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> of December as they have some exciting Christmas material they want to share.

The pub evenings offer a great opportunity to welcome new comers to the village and to meet up with friends in a relaxed, cosy environment. We welcome anyone who would like to come from other villages in the area.

**Pub nights run from 7pm through to around 10pm and all are welcome.**

***We look forward to seeing you there on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>.***

## **BUTTERCRAMBE**

By the time you receive The Circular our Harvest Festival service on 30<sup>th</sup> October will have been and gone. In preparation for decorating the church for the service, we managed to gather some conkers, some still in their shells, before the squirrels got to them! Fruit has been abundant this Autumn, and in the orchard at Buttercrambe the trees are laden with apples, crab apples and quince. As a reminder that Advent is not far away the holly trees are also covered in red berries. **We have our annual carol service at St John's on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm, refreshments afterwards in the church. Everyone very welcome.**

## CRAMBE



We have had a busy few months! We had six services for a start. Over the August Bank Holiday, we ran a cake and coffee stall at Kirkham Bridge in the beautiful garden of Bridge Cottage, courtesy of John and Lynda Teale. It was a successful day and helped to raise much need funds for St Michael's Church. We are very grateful to John

and Lynda for enabling this event to take place.

On September 2<sup>nd</sup> we held our Harvest Festival which was taken by Sister Margaret. Though we were relatively few in number, we more than made up for it through the generous gifts that were brought. These were distributed afterwards to the Ryedale food bank and Next Steps café in Norton. Following the service everyone tucked into homemade apple pies and a glass of wine, which had been kindly donated by George and Millie McCallum.

In early October we welcomed Chris Cade the popular actor and storyteller to relate the story of 'Arthur Walker's Great War'. This was a fascinating and moving account of Arthur's experiences during the 1914-18 war. It was especially poignant in that Arthur was born in Crambe, and remained in what is now the Harton Benefice all his life. It was an excellent evening well attended by a very appreciative audience.

**On 2<sup>nd</sup> November St Michael's will be hosting 'The Festival of Lilies and Light'** we look forward to welcoming as many of you as are able to this very moving and uplifting service at which the Benefice Choir will be singing.

**December 17<sup>th</sup> will see the return of our Celebration of Christmas in Carols Prose and Poetry at 6.00pm.** A popular event, last year held in a tent in the churchyard, but this year we will be back in the relative warmth of the church! **Details of these two events can be found earlier in the Circular.**

## FLAXTON

It was good to be getting back to a bit of normality. On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October we held our Harvest Festival Service followed by a "bring and share" lunch in the village hall. This was the church's first social gathering since 2019 due to

covid restrictions. Though we see one another at services and during walk about around the village, it was good to be able to chat and catch up in a relaxed atmosphere. A huge thank you to everyone in the community and others in the Benefice who gave harvest gifts. As in previous years these were passed to the Salvation Army who will distribute them as they see fit to those in need. A letter of thanks and appreciation has been received from Major Kay Cullingworth at the Salvation Army.

**On Remembrance Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> November**, the church will be decorated with poppies. Two minutes silence will be observed at 11.00am at the Lychgate. There are usually only 3-4 people. If you are able, you are welcome to join us.

**There will be a Holy Communion Service on 11<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00am** at which a collection of new toys and other gifts suitable for 0-18 years of age will be gratefully received on behalf of the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. Monetary donations will also be gratefully received. Every year the numbers of families increase, and your support for this Appeal is very much appreciated by the Salvation Army and Social Services.

**On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm** in church there will be a service of 9 Lessons and Carols. Once again the Flaxton Singers will be joining and leading us with carols old and new. There are 20 plus members in the singing group and the music, some of which is written by Dick Blackford from Flaxton is a joy. Please come and join us at this relaxed service as we prepare for Christmas. Following the service there will be refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies. We look forward to welcoming you.

**On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am – 1.30pm Sheriff Hutton Village Christmas Market.** On this occasion refreshments will be provided by St Helens Church, Sheriff Hutton and Marton Church. Flaxton PCC have been asked if we would like to join in this event. Any money raised would be shared between the three churches. This is an opportunity to bring communities together. The PCC have accepted this kind invitation and would very much appreciate your support and help for this fundraising event. Cakes are the main items for sale. If you feel you can commit to providing a cake/cakes please would you contact me, Ida Terry on 01347 878 432 Cakes can be collected from you on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December or, if you are coming to the Market on the 18<sup>th</sup> you can bring them then.

We, the PCC, very much appreciate the people who support us in lots of ways on a regular basis but we could do with more help. Please would you give some thought as to how you may be able to help and support us. It doesn't matter if you feel it is only in a small way. Any support is gratefully received.

There are vacancies on the Parochial Church Council, Flower Rota, Church Cleaning Rota. Please contact me, Ida Terry on 01347 878432

During advent there will be no flowers in church as we prepare for Christmas. Decoration of the church will be on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December between 10.00am and 12 noon. If you would like to put flowers in church in memory of a loved one or just for yourself, please come and join us.

**There will be a short Family service in church on Christmas Day at 10.00am. We look forward to seeing you.**

## **GATE HELMSLEY**

What a wonderful community we have in Gate Helmsley. We've always known that, but it has become even more apparent over recent months. People supported each other during the pandemic, we have a popular and thriving pop-up bar, and Anna Sawkins has volunteered to keep us entertained with an exciting 2-night revue, the "Autumn Spectacular", in the village hall at the end of November (see separate notice).

To cap it all, the churchyard has served as a "green gym" over the last few weeks for a group of very hard-working people who have given up their Saturday mornings to clear out the brambles, ivy, and unwanted saplings. You are too numerous to name individually, but St Mary's PCC is very grateful indeed to you all for the clearance and for the disposal of the green waste. Thank you!

Thank you to the Rector, Reverend Chris Wingfield, for leading a harvest festival service on 29<sup>th</sup> September. It was a joy to hold this service in church again after covid, and to see the church beautifully decorated with flowers and harvest gifts. A supper was held afterwards in the village hall. A big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this event a success, by decorating the church, setting up and clearing the hall, preparing and serving the food – and especially to those who did the washing up. Your efforts enabled us to raise £540 for church funds.

We now look forward to a busy season over Christmas and the New Year, with the following events planned:

- Saturday 3 Dec 2.00 to 4.00pm Christmas Fayre at Orchard House (this will also be run online – see separate notice)
- Sunday 4 Dec 10.00am AAW (All Age Worship) celebration of the Feast of Santa Lucia in Gate Helmsley village hall
- Saturday 10 Dec 12.00 noon to 1.00pm Village Carols in St Mary's church followed by light refreshments in the village hall



- Christmas Day 10.00am Holy Communion at St Mary's

There will also be a parish lunch at Orchard House in January on a Sunday to be agreed. Please do join us in support of these events.

For anyone who has recently come to live in Gate Helmsley, we hope that you feel welcome in this friendly village.

We send warmest good wishes to those who have been ill, some with covid, but one or two people have recently undergone surgery. We especially keep them in our thoughts and prayers at what is a difficult time for them and their families.

## **HOWSHAM**

The August Bank Holiday clean-up and BBQ went very well and a tremendous amount of work was done in both the Church and Churchyard. Many thanks to everyone. We had a great BBQ afterwards with delicious salads and puddings. Thankfully, the weather was very kind.

Our three weddings and two baptisms have all gone well and also a burial of ashes of a member of a Howsham family who had emigrated to Canada.

We are most grateful to everyone who helps with keeping the Churchyard tidy, cleaning the Church and providing flowers.

**The annual Cake Stall and Raffle  
will be at York Auction Centre Christmas Fatstock Show  
from 9.30am on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December.**

The Christmas Carol Service will be at 6pm on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

We were all saddened by the death of our beloved Queen Elizabeth and are looking forward to the reign of King Charles III.

## **SAND HUTTON and CLAXTON**

Looking over the last edition of the Circular, we are reminded of the celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee...never a thought that this edition would remember the sadness throughout the nation and indeed the world, of the passing away of our amazing monarch on September the 8<sup>th</sup>. Especially for those of us that remember the Coronation, we have not known a time without her and so reflect often on her steadfast and faithful service to her people, and to her strong faith in God. A Book of Condolences remains

in St Mary's church until after the Remembrance Service for anyone wishing to add their thoughts.

A big THANK YOU to Jez and Adrian for hosting afternoon tea early in September in Sand Hutton Village Hall. Also, thanks to all who contributed lots of good food and their time to make the afternoon a very happy occasion. £200 + was raised for St Mary's Church.

Sue Fitter from the Ryedale Community food bank sends her heartfelt thanks for the ongoing generous contributions made by the Benefice especially through this Harvest time. The food collection box will continue to find its way to the Sunday 10am services for your contributions.

We look forward to the annual 'Gifts for Christmas' event in the Village Hall on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

**This year the Christmas Shoe Box service will be held in St Mary's Sand Hutton on November 6<sup>th</sup> to which all are welcome.** The church in Romania that distributes the boxes are hoping and praying for lots more as they are caring for 100 Ukrainian friends. Still time to fill a box!!! Contact David Fletcher, details on back of Circular.

**You are very welcome to come to The Advent Carol Service on November 27<sup>th</sup> at 10am with the Stamford Bridge Singers followed by refreshments.**

### *Tree Planting.....*



October 8<sup>th</sup> in Sand Hutton saw the planting of the Queens's Platinum Jubilee tree, a Sorbus Aria Lutescens on the Church drive. The tree, was pushed in a wheelbarrow and was followed by many villagers as it was piped down the road from the village hall to the Church, by Tim Bayley.

Thanks go to Caroline Hall for organising this. The Hog Roast followed, with nearly 100 villagers of both Sand Hutton and Claxton dining in the village hall.





The feasting continued with cake, a magnificent tree cake, masterminded by Caroline Goodrick. The children were entertained with a colouring competition, and a Platinum Jubilee ticket hunt with lots of Haribo prizes!! The day finished with a group photo taken by Matt Prescott of sixty nine villagers, a lasting memory of a happy day. Thanks go to the NYCC for its funding and to all those involved in creating a memorable and enjoyable event.



## UPPER HELMSLEY

As we say goodbye to the warmer days, Autumn arrives and we welcome the myriad of colours as the leaves change. Harvest time is almost over. Our main activities have been in the churchyard. Recently, we had some clear up sessions of the allotment for the winter, clearing beds and the greenhouse, weeding and tidying. The Aubergine Operations group have worked very hard this year again and we are so grateful. Many thanks also to the adults involved, parents, neighbours, helpers on the watering rota and organization from Rachael Harrison and Katie Hopkins with back up from Michael Harrison, Carolyn Rickleton and Phil Richards.

We are now meeting up to make items to sell at the Gifts for Christmas event in Sand Hutton Village Hall on 5<sup>th</sup> November. Please come and meet some of the Aubergines on the day. It will be great to see you.



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**Our big news is that we entered a competition set up by CPRE for Best Churchyard.**

Part of the CPRE's vision is

- *working for a countryside that's rich in nature, accessible to everyone and playing a crucial role in responding to the climate emergency.... We stand for a countryside that enriches all of our lives, nourishing our wellbeing, and that we in turn nourish, protect and celebrate.*

Some of the elements they were looking for were, eco-friendly using no chemicals, wildlife friendly, and the facility being used for community education and involvement.

**We are so pleased to report that St Peter's churchyard won a  
*'highly commended'***

**We have been invited to their AGM in November to receive the award.**

Some comments from their published report are:

*'Some churchyards were formal and majestic and of great scale whilst we also had some edgy "guerrilla garden" type churchyards. All rich with wildlife and providing a quiet spot for contemplation. The entrants exemplified the diversity and scale that we can find in and across Yorkshire churchyards.'*

Some specific comments about St Peter's are as follows:

*'This is hidden away and is what I would term our guerrilla churchyard as it is busy and exciting, and surprising, to say the least. It is rich on conservation and as a meeting spot – multi use churchyard. It does have gravestones in as well!'*

We are so proud to have won this and say thank you to all the young people and families for their commitment and hard work.

Please come along and have a wander round the plot to see how we are doing and have a cup of tea in the church anytime. In the Spring we would welcome other adult volunteers to support the next growing season

## **WHITWELL**

### **Greetings from Whitwell:**

We are very sad to have to report that Patrick Morris (Emma 's husband) died on 4<sup>th</sup> September. Patrick celebrated his 100th birthday on 8<sup>th</sup> August and had a very happy day with many visitors, a large cake and a wonderful card from Her Majesty the Queen. His funeral took place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Once again the immaculate churchyard had many compliments, (even from the grave preparers.) Thank you again to Michael Goodwill for his dedication.

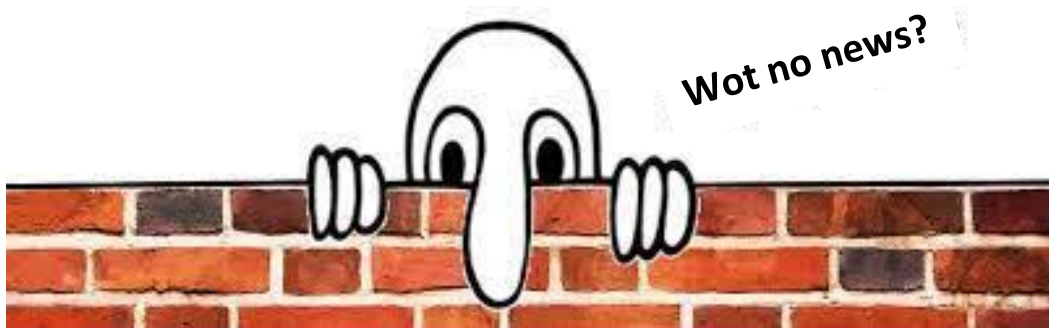
We have decided not to hold a carol service this year, there seem to be plenty of other carol services in the Benefice during the early weeks of December to choose from, and we will be supporting other churches instead.

We now provide drinks and biscuits for weary travellers in the church porch!



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

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



**We look forward to hearing from you in the Spring edition of The Circular!**

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***From The Churchmouse,***

It is great to be able to say that we have now been back in print for a whole year! The pandemic years were trying ones for everyone but we have done our best to keep you all up to date with what news, and limited events we were all able to share and enjoy.

I remind you that this is your community magazine in which you are invited to share news, views and information along with the church community under whose auspices we are able to print and distribute it free to every home and business in the Benefice of Harton. Keep those photos and stories coming!

***The Circular printing team wishes all our readers a very  
HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.***





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**The Circular**  
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**This will cover: February, March, and April 2023**

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

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