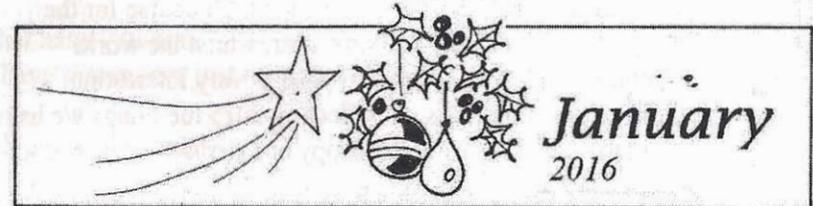


The Parishes of Aldbrough,
Mapleton & Goxhill with Great
Hatfield & Witherwick



Withernwick Ladies Group

The last month of the year has been a busy one for the Group. We enjoyed a return visit from Kath and Clive Richardson with 'The Fate Of The 8' a follow up to their previous talk 'The Woman Who Didn't Exist'. What fascinating history is to be found in some families when their ancestry is researched. A visit to Burton Constable to see the decorations was followed by afternoon tea and proved to be a really good start to the festive season. We met for lunch at Spring Garden Centre and took advantage of the vast array of tempting gifts to complete last minute shopping. We have shared much laughter, friendship and each others company and long may it continue.

A message [and a challenge] from the Church Buildings Council on 6 November 2015

With the approval and agreement of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Church Buildings Council is encouraging every parish church in England to organise a festival on the weekend of 10-12 June 2016 to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday and her role as head of the Church of England. This will coincide with official celebrations taking place in London.

The variety of potential forms for the celebrations is huge, from flower festivals to organ recitals, bell-ringing or choir festivals, food or even beer festivals! – and it is hoped that, wherever possible, every church will take part.

In addition, to coincide with the Queen's birthday we hope that every church will be able to organise an exhibition of the life of its parish over the previous 90 years. Such exhibitions should, by charting the changes in the lives of our communities since 1926, highlight the ways in which parish churches have been and remain the focus of those communities, and be a celebration both of our churches and of the people that they serve. We hope that most parishes will be able to find photographs, artworks and oral history connected with their church and the local area.

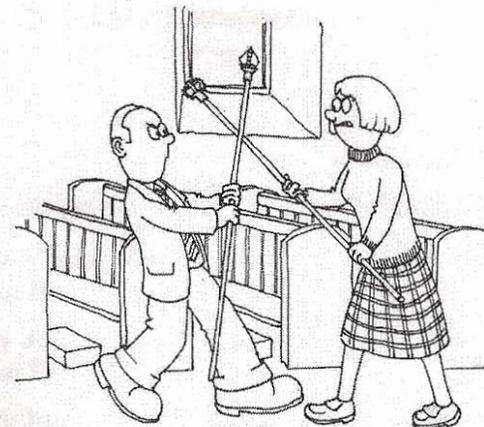
SO WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO??

Events at ALDBROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

Coffee Morning Saturday January 2nd 10.00 - 11.30

Bible Study Tuesday January 19th 2.00pm
Everyone welcome

Network resumes on January 26th at 2.15
All ladies welcome



In a tradition dating back to 1977, the churchwardens re-enacted "Star Wars"

Sent in by Ann Woollin (author unknown)

Thank GOD for dirty dishes!
They have a tale to tell
While others may go hungry
We are eating well
With home and health and happiness
I shouldn't really fuss
By this dirty stack of evidence
GOD's been very good to us.

From the Vicar January 2016

'So this is Christmas, And what have you done
Another year over, And a new one just begun'

So begins the John Lennon song Happy Xmas (War is over) and it's interesting that Christmas (now over for most of us) was seen for Lennon as the end of one year and the beginning of the next. Of course for the Church, Advent is the beginning of the New Year, whilst the world celebrates on January 1st. But the song also poses a very interesting question: 'what have you done?' As we reflect on 2015 the things we have done have been many and varied – some happy and perhaps some not so.

I believe that one of the strengths of this Benefice is doing things together, and in a way this reminds me of the visit of the Wise Men, or the Magi, to Jesus and his parents. We celebrate this event, the Epiphany, on the 3rd January this year – the Sunday nearest to the 6th. These wise men, Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, names given to them in the 6th century, travelled from various parts of the east to worship him. It is unlikely that they knew each other beforehand and yet they had a common purpose. They were the first non-Jews (Gentiles) to worship Jesus yet they had no evidence of his kingship – what faith they must have had. To me it's fascinating that not one Jewish leader travelled to see this infant king – and it was only 6 miles down the road!

Like the Magi we too have a common purpose. A comment made regularly to me is the fact that because we worship together we know each other really well now, despite the fact that we might live 6 miles down the road from the church that particular Sunday!

Our common purpose is to live our lives as faithfully as possible recognising that we can do little on our own. Fortunately we have a variety of ways in which this can be done, recognising that one size does not fit all! The churchwardens and I have, therefore, made some adjustments to the 4th Sunday routine, starting this month. At 9.00 there will be a said Holy Communion, at 10.30 a Communion service with hymns and at 4.30 (6.30 in the summer months) Evensong according to the Book of Common Prayer – all these will rotate across the Benefice so please check the notices! The increasingly popular Wednesday morning communion will continue and the Pilgrim Course will start again in February.

Other plans for 2016 are embryonic at this stage but if we are to continue to grow together then it is important that we know what people think. Later in the year this question will be put to the PCC's: 'What one thing would you like to see happen/change/make a difference' – now is as good a time as any to start thinking about that!

'What have you done?' I hope and pray that the answer to that will be that we have grown, not just numerically, but spiritually as well.

With every blessing

Revd Anne

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a very peaceful and happy new year

We at Bempton, had a day out to Fairburn's Inns. A great day out, it was an open coal cast mining, so now mostly large lakes. It was very full when we were there & we saw long tailed tits, coal tits, kingfisher and Golden eye ducks, teal, pochard, goosander, coot, moorhen & lapwings, hundreds of them. Also

greylag geese, great crested grebes, plus the birds of prey kestrel & sparrow hawk at the bird feeding station ever though it is sheltered by some bushes, its just nature.

Back home now, Bempton, some gannets are back on the sea, only very few, also guillemots have been back to the cliffs for a few days in their winter plumage to claim the same nest site for next year. Very cold up there this time of year, I was up there for a one to one meeting

God bless Ann
and all who read this
regards
John

Want to meet new people this year?

A recent survey offers you two solutions: start going to church – or start playing football. It seems that a recent analysis of the friendship networks of more than 4,000 people identified church and sport as the last bastions of neighbourliness and integration in Britain.

The research, done by the Social Integration Commission, found that churches and other places of worship are more successful than any other social setting at bringing people of different backgrounds together. Churches came out well ahead of gatherings such as parties, meetings, weddings, pubs and clubs.

A spokesman for the Church of England said: "This heartening research reflects the reality of church life across the nation with people from all ages, races and backgrounds united by their faith into a wider welcoming family."

Epiphany Questions (Mt 2:1-12)

Those men from eastern lands –

Were they kings?

Were there only men?

Were there only three?

Where did they find the child?

So much we don't know.

But we do know they left their homes and travelled far,
searching for truth and meaning.

We do know they brought three gifts, fit for a King.

We do know that the Star led them to Jesus –
that, filled with joy, they worshipped him,
and left Herod to his schemes at the end of their visit.

Oh yes, we know that they tuned in to God
and rejoiced in the revelation of his Son-King.

Some things we do know, then.

Certainly, we know they were Wise.

By Daphne Kitching

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

EVENT	DATE	WHERE
Ash Wednesday	10th February	10.00 Aldbrough 7.30 Hornsea
Coffee Morning	27th February	Hornsea Parish Rooms (in aid of Mappleton and Goxhill)
Withernwick Annual	13th March	
Parochial Church Meeting		
Mappleton Annual	20th March	
Parochial Church Meeting		

Services in the Benefice for January 2016:

EVERY Wednesday

10.00am Holy Communion followed by Coffee: Aldbrough

Sunday January 3rd: Epiphany

10.30am Parish Communion: Aldbrough

Sunday January 10th: Baptism of Christ

10.30am Parish Communion: Mappleton

President: Revd Sidney Fox

Sunday January 17th: Epiphany 2

10.30am Parish Communion: Withernwick

HEALING COMMUNION: Tuesday January 19th

10.30 for 11.00 at *Mill Lane, Withernwick*

Sunday January 24th: Epiphany 3

9.00 Holy Communion: Aldbrough

10.30am Parish Communion: Mappleton

4.30pm Evensong (BCP): Withernwick

Sunday January 31st: Epiphany 4

10.30am Parish Communion: Goxhill

Sunday February 7th: 1 before Lent

10.30 Parish Communion: Aldbrough

FROM THE REGISTERS:

MARRIAGE - 27th November: Angela and John White (Aldbrough)

FUNERAL - 7th December Rita Consitt (East Riding Crematorium)

Priest in charge

Revd Anne White

01964 527230

Churchwardens:

St Bartholomew, Aldbrough

Mrs C. Longstaff (527190)

Mrs K. Moore (527552)

All Saints Mappleton & St Giles Goxhill:

Mr B Rhodes (533954)

Mrs R. Skinner (534580)

St Alban's Withernwick:

Capt. D. Smith (527419)

Mrs Anne Wood (527947)

Recognised Parish Assistant:

Mrs Antoinette Butlin 527438

See your Parish church on the websites;

A Church near you: www.acny.org.uk

Also Diocesan website: www.dioceseofyork.org.uk

Why not try the Aldbrough & Withernwick

village websites ;

www.withernwickvillage.co.uk

www.aldbroughparishcouncil.co.uk

Editor P. Soltys soltydog@madasafish.com

Items for next Parish News to Paul by 20th January, please