

May
2011

United Benefice of Aldbrough,
Mappleton & Goxhill with Great
Hatfield & Withernwick



PARISH NEWS

Church Services in May

Everyone is welcome!

Sunday 1 May: Easter 2: white
10.30am Holy Communion Aldbrough
Celebrant: Revd Steve Foster

Sunday 8 May: Easter 3: white
10.30am All Age Worship, Mappleton
Leader: Helen Wastling
10.30am All Age Worship, Aldbrough
Leaders: Churchwardens

Sunday 15 May: Easter 4: white
10.30am Holy Communion, Withernwick
Celebrant: Revd Sylvia Rice-Oxley
10.30am Holy Communion, Mappleton
Leader: Revd Richard Rice-Oxley

Sunday 22 May: Easter 5: white
10.30am Holy Communion, Aldbrough
Celebrant: Revd Sylvia Rice-Oxley
10.30am All Age Worship, Withernwick
Leader: Revd Richard Rice-Oxley

Tuesday 24 May
10.30am Healing Prayer Service
4 Mill Lane, Withernwick with Sylvia &
Richard

Sunday 29 May: Easter 6: white
10.30am Holy Communion, Goxhill
Celebrant & Preacher: Archdeacon David
followed by a chat with him

Thursday 2 June: Ascension Day: white
7pm Songs of Praise, Mappleton
Leader: Revd Sylvia Rice-Oxley

Festival 2011

Thursday 9 June—Sunday 12 June
In the Parishes of
Aldbrough, Withernwick, Mappleton & Goxhill
Something for all the family
*To have fun together
Grow our faith in God
And enjoy our community*

Festival 2011

Final planning and prayer meeting

Everyone Welcome!
Sunday 15 May 7pm,
Wentworth House Hotel, Aldbrough

Festival 2011: Time is moving on and the Festival is getting nearer and nearer. We hope you enjoyed receiving your own leaflet through your door, with more details. (Please contact Sylvia if yours didn't arrive.) A full brochure will be delivered in May.

Mid-May Church Walk - Sunday 8 May

Join us for a moderate circular stroll
part Rail track, part edge of fields
leaving Goxhill Church 2.30pm.
Approx. One and a half hours,
suitable footwear required.
Lifts from Aldbrough Church 2pm
led by Steve Icton
All Welcome!

Following the AGMs: Many thanks to all new and re-elected Churchwardens and officers of our parishes. Your work is much appreciated and enables the churches to remain open and ready to welcome all who come to worship. **We especially give many thanks to John Hepworth**, who has retired from being Churchwarden of Mappleton and Goxhill parishes for over 30 years. He has been - and continues to be - a stalwart of the parish and has seen many changes and improvements over the years. We give thanks to God for him and his unstinting work and enthusiasm. We look forward to working with **Brian Rhodes**, the newly elected Churchwarden of Mappleton & Goxhill parish, who - with his wife Joan - have shown a new love and eagerness in the ministry of the parish.

St Bartholomew's, Aldbrough, Church Organ How wonderful it was on Saturday 9 April to hear the newly repaired and cleaned organ played so beautifully by the international organist **Paul Durrett**, who had also done the work! We continue to pray for our own organist **Nancy Fisher** health and healing at this time. When we have no organist in our three parish churches, we sing to hymns on CDs, but we like our organ! **If someone is willing to play the organ from time to time in any of the three churches, please contact Sylvia Rice-Oxley.**

Aldbrough WI met at the Methodist Church Hall on Monday the 4th April. 16 Members attended. 10 apologies were received. President Kath Moore welcomed everyone and the minutes of last month's meeting were read by Vice-President Tina Longstaff in the absence of the Secretary. They were approved and signed as a true record. Minutes arising included The Humber Bridge Walk, we had 3 members who did the walk and enjoyed the experience.

The Fashion Show at Skipsea proved to be successful and those who attended enjoyed the evening. Federation events were discussed and members invited to apply for tickets for various events. Arrangements for the Spring Council Meeting were made and tickets distributed. Members are encouraged to do the Spring Walk which is at Roos this year.

Members who are going to Hull Truck on the 6th May were to sort out transport arrangements. As it was Members Night the Committee were entertained. The evening was most enjoyable, a Game of Beetle was enjoyed creating lots of noise and laughter. A lovely supper was provided and the customary Quiz baffled everyone as usual. Vote of thanks was given by the President. Arrangements for the next meeting were made for the 9th May. *New members welcome.*

ALDBROUGH CHURCH WOMENS' FELLOWSHIP The meeting on 13th April was attended by 10 ladies. Once the business had been completed we were introduced to **Meg Croft** who led the Easter devotional. She began by asking those present to tell her what had happened on certain dates - Decimalisation day, Man's first walk on the moon, the fire of London, Queen Elizabeth's Coronation day and then she ended by asking what had happened in AD 33 - the death of Christ on the cross. What a novel way of beginning! We were all at ease, interested and attentive. We then sang the hymn "There is a Green Hill" and Meg produced a sturdy 2" high plastic cross and placed it on the table. She read from Peter Ch.2, v.24 - a simplified version which gave the message that Christ died so that our sin could be forgiven AND forgotten. Also Luke Ch.3 v.16 - God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son to save us, as we could not save ourselves. So when our turn comes and we find ourselves at the gate of heaven and we are asked "Why should I let you in?" We should answer, "because Christ died that our sins should be forgotten and we were given a fresh start." That brand new start is symbolised at Easter by eggs, new lambs and the cross. We then sang the hymn "How Great Thou Art." A vote of thanks was given by Rita. We had tea and cake and the usual raffle before the meeting closed at 3.30 pm. *Norma Potter.*

Not To Be Missed

AGM Friends of Mappleton and Goxhill Churches
Friday 13 May 7.30pm Goxhill Church
All Welcome

Christian Aid Coffee Morning
Wednesday 18 May 9.30am-11.30am
Aldbrough Methodist Church
£1 coffee and biscuits. Raffle
All are Welcome!

Ascension Day Songs of Praise
7pm Thursday 2 June All Saints Church,
Mappleton
All Welcome

An Open Deanery Synod meeting
Women Bishops in the Church of England
Tuesday 24 May 7.30pm Long Riston Village Hall
PCC members particularly invited as part of
the voting procedure
All Welcome!

Willow Garth: Sadly, until further notice, the
Songs of Praise services at Willow Garth have
ceased. We continue to remember all staff and
residents in our prayers for God's hand of healing
and peace.

Richard Rice-Oxley's booklet is finally in print:
Paradox: Life's Puzzle and pathway
He has copies for sale £3.95 or you can order on line
from sales@grovebooks.co.uk. 'Life is mysterious.
It is puzzling and paradoxical in many ways. This
booklet explores some of the paradoxes we all face
as human beings. It then considers paradoxes
encountered by people of faith - especially Christians.
The second part turns to the lessons we can learn as
Christians from the paradoxes that Jesus and Paul
presented as the ingredients of a mature spirituality.
In the last section we see how Jesus himself lived the
paradoxes he taught us to embrace. It is hoped that
the booklet will encourage those facing challenges to
their faith, as well as those wanting to grow in the
Christian life.'

Dates For Your Diary

MAY

Fri 13 M&G Friends AGM 7.30pm Goxhill Ch.
Sun 15 Church Walk from Goxhill Ch. 2.30pm
Sun 15 Festival Meeting 7pm Wentworth H. Hotel
Mon 16 PCC Withernwick 7.30pm
Wed 18 Aldbrough School Assembly: Sylvia
Wed 18 PCC Aldbrough 7.30pm at Christine's
Thurs 19 Archdeacon's Visitation: Churchwardens
Tues 24 Healing Prayer Service
Tues 24 Deanery Mtg re Women Bishops
Wed 25 PCC M&G 7.30pm
Sun 29 Archdeacon's visit to Goxhill Church

JUNE

Thursday 2 Ascension Day, Mappleton 7pm
Sat 4 Wedding at Mappleton Church 12noon
Thurs 9-Sunday 11 FESTIVAL 2011
Tues 14 Synod meeting 7.30pm
Sat 18 St Alban's Withernwick Gift Day
Tues 21 Healing Prayer Service W'wick
Sat 25 Blessing of a Marriage, Mappleton
Sat 25 Aldbrough Methodist Church 50yrs Anniv.
Sun 26 W'wick Village Fete

Confirmation Service in September

Anyone wishing to be confirmed into the
Church of England
Please contact Revd Sylvia
Rice-Oxley (529032)

Special Collect Prayer for the Year of the Environment,
Diocese of York (Details on the Diocese of York website.)

Almighty God

We praise you for the wonders of your creation.
We thank you for the beauty of the world
and the vast resources of our planet:
beauty that at times we fail to respect;
resources that we wantonly exploit.
You have entrusted us with the care of your world:
Give us wisdom and compassion,
and move us to change our thoughts and our actions,
that we and all your people
may value the whole of your creation,
serve you with responsibility, reverence and joy,
and look for that day when the whole creation
shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Festival Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you
for the beauty of our countryside
and for each village community.

We thank you for our churches,
their faithful worship and mutual support.

We pray for Festival 2011.

May it be a time of celebration,
as we rejoice in your gifts of
creation and salvation through Jesus,
a time of unity, as we work together with the team from

St Michael-le-Belfry, York,
and a time of spiritual harvest,
as faith is renewed

and your Church is strengthened.

By word and deed, may we,
through Christ, bring hope
to those who are discouraged,
and strength to those in need.

We ask this through our
Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

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 & Witherwick
village websites

www.aldbrough.org

www.witherwickvillage.co.uk

*Gift aid: If you pay tax, we can claim back money
From the Government, at no extra cost to you.
Please put your donation/collection in an envelope,
Sign it & add your name & postcode. Thank you*

Regular Church Services in the Benefice

All Welcome!

St Bartholomew's Church, Aldbrough

1st Sunday: 10.30am Holy Communion

2nd Sunday: 10.30am All Age Worship

4th Sunday: 10.30am Holy Communion

All Saints Church, Mappleton

2nd Sunday: 10.30am Holy Communion

3rd Sunday: 10.30am All Age Worship

St Giles Goxhill

5th Sunday: 10.30am Holy Communion

St Alban's Church, Witherwick

3rd Sunday: 10.30am Holy Communion

4th Sunday: 10.30am All Age Worship

Churchwardens:

St Bartholomew, Aldbrough

Mrs C. Longstaff (527190)

Mrs K. Moore (527552)

All Saints Mappleton & St Giles Goxhill:

Mr J. Hepworth (532754)

Mrs J. Vickers (Deputy, Goxhill)

Mr B Rhodes (Deputy, Mappleton)

St Alban's Witherwick:

Capt. D. Smith (527419)

Mrs Doreen Fryer (Deputy) 527332

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Items for next Parish News to Paul by 15th May, please

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

As part of my training to become a priest in the Church of England I recently went on mission to Uganda. I thought that I would share a few of my experiences and reflections with those here in my home Benefice who all mean so much to me.

Uganda is a 'Lesser Economically Developed Country' - what used to be called '3rd world.' Poverty and unemployment are high, corruption widespread and education sparse unless paid for. In the most recent census some 80% of people said they were Christians - roughly half Roman Catholic and half Anglican. The other religious minority are the 10% of people who are Muslim. Uganda has a dark past and the shadow of Idi Amin and the horrors of his actions against the Church and the innocent remain firmly in the minds of both people from the West and those who live there. But whilst atrocities are no longer committed against the population it would appear that Uganda is essentially a democratic dictatorship. Museveni has been the President for over thirty years, every office must have a portrait of him - and it must be higher than any other picture or symbol, even a cross - and any opposition demonstrations or protests are put down by armed police with AK 47's - even whilst we were out there three people were killed for protesting, and not longer after we returned the leader of the opposition was arrested and allegedly beaten. It is not surprising that Museveni was first in line to defend Gaddafi against the Western forces intervening - something that from our perspective sounded like a leader concerned the same could happen to him. We are blessed that in this country we have freedom of speech and thought, and a government not only elected by the people but which operates under strict controls to stop serious corruption or dictatorships from arising.

This was my first trip to Africa, and whilst towards the end of the ten day mission we had some time off to explore the beauty of the country - a country which is truly beautiful, green, bountiful and picturesque (in parts) - most of the time was spent seeing what tourists don't see, what the government would not want people visiting to see. As amazing as it was to walk through the real African Bush with a local guide on Safari and get within thirty or so metres of a Zebra, as great as it was to see innumerable tropical birds when we stayed at the eco-tourism resort on Bushara Island, that is how distressing it was to see, hear, smell, and touch people in real poverty.

I have come to the conclusion that it is impossible to prepare oneself for the things you will see when visiting a country like Uganda. Nothing could have made visiting the paediatric ward in the local hospital any easier, seeing fifty or so desperately sick children in a ward where 'intensive care' means a window into the understaffed nurses office, and where when we enter the doctor tells us in a matter-of-fact tone that two thirds of all these children will be dead within a month. Nor can anything prepare you for seeing the premature babies in their incubators - and then finding out that they don't even always have power. It is hard not to reflect on your life when you find out that to buy the batteries and link them to the generator so that the incubators will have power during the daily power cuts, or the operating theatre that is constantly in use will not suddenly shut down, it only costs £25 - the price of a new DVD here.

It is, of course, the children that always seem touch your heart the most, and working with the street children in Kampala, a city in which around 6000 young children aged 5-17 have no home or family and live off scraps and sleep in rubbish heaps, really made that apparent. When sat watching TV with some of them in the ReTrack shelter where they can go for shelter, food, education and Gospel outreach, a small boy perhaps only six years old came and held my hand in his, put his head on my shoulder. The Englishness in me felt uncomfortable, but that soon passed when I realised all this child wanted was a person to hold his hand and accept him as a person deserving of all the things everyone else has.

We saw a great many works whilst out there and chief among them was an organisation called 5 Talents (based on the parable of Jesus in Matthew 25) which gave very small loans (in Pound Sterling these started off at around £1) to people and gave them free business training and skills to help them set up businesses. When they paid back the money they could get bigger loans, and so on. At the same time this organisation brought hundreds to Christ and many others to a deeper and fuller relationship and respect for Him. We saw the wonders it has done when we met a lady who had been unable to send her children to school but now through slowly building up ran a school that trained local girls how to make dresses on the ten sewing machines she had managed to buy - these girls were at the school from 7-7 everyday with only a one hour lunch break all so that in the future they could provide for their families.

My college in Oxford, Wycliffe Hall, formed a partnership with a university college in Uganda which also trains ministers and we spent a lot of time with the students there. In one of the best universities in Uganda the education is still essentially Victorian: the tutor reads out a sentence from his notes five times, you copy it down, he reads the next five times, and so on. And university in Uganda is expensive, very expensive - in this nation I don't think we realise how lucky we are even with the recent rising in fees!

Among other things our team got up to was giving assemblies to different schools, one of which had 1300 pupils, speaking at a Scripture Union conference and visiting the local churches. In one of the local churches we went to the service started an hour and a half late and overran so much it ended up being a five hour service - a service filled with invigorating and lively worship, but also long and rather dull (especially for those like us who didn't speak the local language) speeches.

Ultimately we saw some pretty shocking things, the kind of things you see in the Red Nose Day commercials, but up close and very personal. We realised just how lucky we are, but also how much we can do to help our brothers and sisters - the entire hospital was almost entirely funded by donations from Western churches alone, 5 Talents was funded likewise by people in England and America, the money to help preserve the environment and the livelihoods of the locals around Bushara Island was largely funded by people abroad. I don't think I will ever be able to shake the moment I found out that the batteries to keep the incubators working only cost £25. But I do know that the people in Uganda have a fantastic and lively faith, they express it at all opportunities and encouraged us to do the same. A typical greeting even from a stranger was the question: "what has God done for you today?" - and that is something worth asking ourselves and all those we meet.

Adam Young