

June July 2023



Church News and Views for the Parishes
of
Badingham Bruisyard Cransford Dennington Rendham & Sweffling

Services for June

Trinity Sunday 4th		8.00am	Eucharist	Dennington
Pentecost		9.30am	Eucharist	Sweffling
		9.30am	Matins	Bruisyard
		11.00am	Eucharist	Badingham
Sunday	11th	9.30am	Eucharist	Cransford
Trinity	1	9.30am	Matins	Rendham
Proper	5	11.00am	Family Service	Dennington
Sunday	18th	9.30am	Eucharist	Bruisyard
Trinity	2	9.30am	Matins	Sweffling
Proper	6	11.00am	Eucharist	Badingham
Sunday	25th	9.30am	Eucharist	Rendham
Trinity	3	9.30am	Matins	Cransford
Proper	7	11.00am	Eucharist	Dennington

June July 2023

From the Reverend Martin Percival

07789 417050

A few years ago we spent a holiday in the south of France. We stayed quite near to a very famous town called Avignon. Apart from being a beautiful and interesting place, it is also a centre for other interesting places. First of all there is the Pont du Gard, an ancient Roman aqueduct built in the first century AD to carry water to the Roman colony of Nemasus (Nimes). Second., there is the town of Nimes itself with its amphitheatre and gardens. Both of these are man-made structures, but equally impressive was a striking natural phenomenon. This was the Fontaine de Vaucluse near the village of the same name.

This was well worth a visit as it turned out not to be an ornamental fountain and gardens but a rushing torrent proving power for turning wheels and for local industry. The frothing, fast running water was a source of fascination for all who were visiting the spot.

If you follow the bank away from the village you eventually reach a dark, calm pool, encircled on three sides by very high cliffs. Surprisingly, it was impossible to go any further because this was the end of the river. Actually, it was its beginning!



The source of the river is underground and the spring forces its way up, forming a pool. Its most striking feature is its absolute stillness, in contrast to the powerful torrent downstream. There was not a ripple to disturb the surface and yet, as it flows out, it becomes a feature capable of accomplishing many things and providing invaluable power to the people who live nearby.

On reflection, I thought about God's Holy Spirit whose coming we celebrate particularly at this time of year. As Christians we know that when we have God's Holy Spirit in our lives we can be tranquil and at peace. Paradoxically, there is a driving force within us which channels God's power.



St Michael's Rendham

Our service on Easter Sunday 9th April was taken by Rupert Wallis with Holy Communion by extension, and the choir sang *All in the April evening* and *Come ye faithful*. There were lovely arrangements of spring flowers throughout the church. On May 6th we were all enthralled by the magnificent spectacle of the Coronation of H.M. King Charles III and Queen Camilla. To mark this historic occasion, a truly glorious assembly of flower arrangements was displayed in the Church, together with a splendid Crown and a portrait of our new King. The outside work necessary to stop damp entering has now been done, and the internal re-plastering will take place later in this year.

Our AGM took place on 24th April, when the churchwardens, treasurer, secretary and other members of the PCC were re-elected.

Charles and Frances

Bruisyard News

The flowers in St Peter's at Easter were wonderful , many thanks to our decorators and also for the Coronation weekend . On that wonderful day the village hall held a barbecue followed by a very good band , the evening was well attended and the children were presented with a Coronation mug .

Throughout the rather cold spring the churchyard has produced many lovely wildflowers and now cow parsley has taken over !

After many years we have replaced the old ruffled worn carpet so the beautiful St Peter's is even more inviting , please come and visit.

A happy summer to everyone in the Benefice.

Rupert and Sally .

Dennington

What a wonderful day we had on Sunday 7th May to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. Over 50 people came to our family service which was followed by a picnic lunch on the Village Green with an even larger crowd! It was particularly lovely to see so many groups of people gathered together – some family groups of multiple generations and other groups of friends and indeed people meeting and making new friends. Best of all it actually stopped raining and the sun came out! During the picnic we were treated to the melodious sound of the church bells ringing – thank you so much to all the ringers who had a very

busy day visiting different churches, and to all who helped move bales of straw and tables and chairs for the picnic.

Garden Party – Last minute chance for tickets to the Garden Party on 10th June – please see details below.



Saturday June 10th

Oaklands, Dennington

From 3pm

to chill out and enjoy garden games

followed by a Traditional High Tea served at 5pm

with a selection of delicious savoury dishes and cakes.

A marquee will be available in case of wet weather.

Garden games will be provided –

but do bring your favourite games too!

Tea, coffee and homemade soft drinks provided throughout.

If you would like to bring drinks, alcoholic or otherwise, we will provide glasses.

£10 / head, £5 for under 13s, 5s and under free.

Advance booking only, by June 3rd, please. (Pay on arrival.)

To book, contact Janet and Simon Cox 01728

638242 email: simoncox42@btinternet.com to book.

Oaklands bungalow ~2 miles north of Dennington on the B1116.

Access through the driveway entrance to ample parking.

All proceeds to the charity, Mind, and St Mary's Church.

Badingham

Roof Repairs

As we have previously reported our main hope of raising enough funds to have our medieval and very special roof repaired is with a grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund. The first step to obtain this is to submit an Expression of Interest which we did in February. We are very pleased to say that this has been successful and we have been invited to submit a Development Phase Application for the funds needed, we have crossed the first hurdle. We now have 12 months to submit our full application. We will keep you posted.

Coffee and Bacon Roll Mornings

We have had a busy 4 months this year with our coffee and bacon rolls, but as the weather warms up (we hope) and people begin to have their holidays we will take a break until Saturday, September 16th when we will hope to welcome our customers back.

I know people are interested to know how much we have made. Through January, February, March and April 2023, with the help of our supporters and volunteers, we have made a profit of £586.00. which has been shared between the Roof Repair Fund and the running costs of our village church.

Thank you Everyone.

Ann.

Food Bank

Thank you everyone who has supported the food bank collection in the church through the winter months and a big thank you to Patricia who has looked after it and made sure the donations get to the right place. We will hope to re-instate it in October after the Harvest Festival.

Dates for your diary

Next Coffee and Bacon Roll Morning Saturday 16th September 2023.

Harvest Festival and Harvest Lunch - Sunday 1st October 2023 - please make a note.

Badingham Churchyard.

Merlin is doing a fantastic job keeping the churchyard grass cut but would anyone be able to spare an odd hour or two to do some strimming. Strimmers and cutting cord will be supplied and I am happy to meet you in the churchyard to look at what needs strimming. If you think you could help please give me a call - Bob Foster 638288.

The Student Cross

The Student Cross is an annual pilgrimage that happens over Holy Week. Several groups, or 'Legs', carry a big cross to The Shrine of Our Lady in Walsingham, walking from different places all over the country and arriving in Walsingham on Good Friday. Although it is called The **Student** Cross it is by no means just students or younger people, but people from all walks of life and very different ages. The groups stay at different places over night and stops for meals at various places along the way. These stops are organised by the local church and are often in church halls or churches but sometimes peoples homes. The Essex Leg walks from Colchester, 192 miles, and among other places passes through Framlingham, Badingham, Laxfield, Fressingfield and Harleston en route to Walsingham. We were privileged to once again entertain the group of about 25 people in Badingham for their coffee break this year on their way from Framlingham to Laxfield. The picture, is of them just as they were setting off for the next bit of their pilgrimage



CRANSFORD NEWS

In a depressing world beset with war, industrial strife and natural disasters, the Coronation of King Charles III came as a welcome ray of sunshine. His words ***“I come to serve, not to be served”*** rang true. His transparent honesty and good nature shone through the inevitable pomp and ceremony that the occasion demanded. His care for the environment was well ahead of his time. We as a nation benefit from a head of state who is above politics and who unites and binds our very diverse society. Some may carp, but just consider the alternatives.

In Cransford there were flags and bunting everywhere, and a jolly lunch in the Village Hall with over 40 people. Excellent food was provided by the Village Hall committee, with wine, live music and noisy good cheer. Many thanks to all who contributed so generously, with excess funds going to Ukraine. Those new to the village and many old stagers got to know each other and drew closer together.

With Pentecost, we can dress the altar with our glorious red frontal which appears, and is gone after one service. Pentecost hymns are a delight.

The trees, hedgerows and fields are bursting with life, and swallows and martins are seen. The wheat is looking good. We in Cransford know we are in a good place, especially as we can hear the distant cuckoo from down the hill. Otherwise, only pigeons and a profound silence.



Sweffling News

On Easter Sunday St. Mary's Church was resplendent with more than 70 longiflorum and oriental lilies, each one bought in memory of a family member or friend. Many thanks to Jill Abbott, who wrote and decorated the beautiful memorial scroll. The Easter Sunday service was a joyful celebration of Christ's resurrection.

On Sunday, May 8th the village came together to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III with a "Bring and Share" tea party on the Townland meadow. It was a fun afternoon, with a decorated crown competition, scavenger hunt, craft activity and field games for the children (and some energetic adults). It was a time for getting together to celebrate a milestone in our country's history, only a few of us had seen the coronation of our late Queen. Thanks to the Parish Council, the Townland Trust, the ACC and everyone who worked together to make this possible.

The Church Annual Meeting was held in church on May 17th. Mr Geoffrey Abbott and Professor John Tesh were re-elected as churchwardens and the members of the PCC were re-elected *en bloc*. Professor Tesh gave a short report of the church activities during the year and presented the audited accounts and thanked the Rev. Percival for his ministry and pastoral support during the year and Mrs Percival for her continuing support for the parish.

BOOK THE DATE: Sweffling Church and Village fete will be held on the Townland meadow on August 12th, starting at 1.00 p.m.. More information in the next edition of The Link.



Services for July

Sunday	2nd	8.00am	Eucharist	Dennington
Trinity	5	9.30am	Eucharist	Sweffling
Proper	8	9.30am	Matins	Bruisyard
		11.00am	Eucharist	Badingham
Sunday	9th	9.30am	Eucharist	Cransford
Trinity	6	9.30am	Matins	Rendham
Proper	9	11.00am	Family Service	Dennington
Sunday	16th	9.30am	Eucharist	Bruisyard
Trinity	7	9.30am	Matins	Sweffling
Proper	10	11.00am	Eucharist	Badingham
Sunday	23rd	9.30am	Eucharist	Rendham
Trinity	8	9.30am	Matins	Cransford
Proper	11	11.00am	Eucharist	Dennington

Articles for publication should be with the editor by the 15th of the preceding month.

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