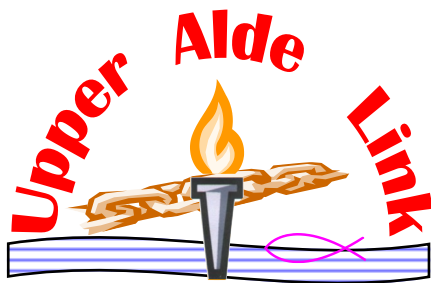


June July 2024



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

Services for June

Sunday	2nd	8.00am	Holy Communion	Dennington
Trinity	1	9.30am	Holy Com.	Sweffling
		9.30am	Matins	Bruisyard
		11.00am	Holy Com. x Ext	Badingham
Sunday	9th	9.30am	Holy Com. x Ext	Cransford
Trinity	2	9.30am	Matins	Rendham
		11.00am	Family Service	Dennington
Sunday	16th	9.30am	Holy Com. x Ext	Bruisyard
Trinity	3	9.30am	Matins	Sweffling
		11.00am	Holy Com. x Ext	Badingham
Sunday	23rd	9.30am	Holy Com. x Ext	Rendham
Trinity	4	9.30am	Matins	Cransford
		11.00am	Holy Communion	Dennington
Sunday	30th	10.00am	Benefice Service	Badingham
Trinity	5			

NOTE

The UPPER ALDE BENEFICE is now without a Priest in Charge so our Holy Communion Services may/will be by extension.

June July 2024

Abstracted from “Every summer has a story” by Sarah Lundgren:

As I look back at past summers I see a trail of beautiful and bittersweet memories. There have been summers that have overflowed with joy and summers that have been filled with deep sadness and pain. The common thread was that every summer was unique and had its own tale to tell. Just as every *earthly* summer has a story, so does every *spiritual* summer.

We will each walk through the spiritual seasons many times. Autumn is a time of change, Winter a time of barrenness and preparation, Spring is a time of rebirth and summer is a time for bearing fruit and embracing the abundant life that surrounds us.

The key to embracing our spiritual summer is the remember to seize the joy of the season. This is the time to feel the heavenly warmth on our face and revel in the beauty that surrounds us. Relax, have fun, celebrate and abide in the gratitude for all of our blessings. Autumn and winter will come, but don't let thoughts of the unknown rob you of the joy of the moment.

Summer is the season known for cultivating and bearing good fruit. There is just nothing like a sun-ripened summer strawberry – it is like a taste of heaven on earth! Our spiritual fruits of love, joy peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness faithfulness, gentleness and self-control must also be cultivated and ripened so that they can be even sweeter than the best summer strawberry. There is one sure way to do this and to remember who our spiritual gardener is, and to remain in Him always:

“I am the vine, you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit: apart from me you can do nothing” (John chapter 15 v. 15)



The seasons may change but our good and loving Father does not. Let's celebrate our summers, both earthly and spiritual, and embrace every story being written, because God's hand is in each one. *Amen*

Up-date on the Inter-regnum: Following the retirement of the Rev. Percival, two formal meeting have been held, which set in motion the search for a new priest for our Benefice. The vacant post has been advertised on the diocesan web-site and at the time of going to press one application has been received. At the beginning of June, the prospective candidate will visit the six parishes and meet with the churchwardens and PCCs, and this will be followed by a formal interview. This approach gives both the candidate and the Benefice the opportunity to assess whether they are right for each other. Hopefully we will know by mid-June whether or not we have a new priest. In the meantime, service will continue as before .

Sweffling

Lent Soup Lunch: Our annual Lent Soup Lunch, held in Sweffling Hut on March 23rd, was very successful. There were ten different varieties of soup, vegetarian, non-vegetarian and gluten free options so everyone was well provided for. It was an excellent opportunity to meet friends and chat whilst enjoying a delicious ready-prepared lunch. The proceeds from the lunch and the raffle amounted to £400 and this has been sent to Tearfund to help with Famine relief. Thanks to everyone who made soup, those who helped on the day and to everyone who supported this event.

Easter Sunday: For the Benefice service on Easter Sunday the scent of lilies filled St. Mary's church, each lily given in memory of a family member or friend. The beautiful Easter gardens reminded us of the first Easter day when Christ rose from the dead. The church was filled to capacity as we welcomed the Rural Dean, the Rev, Chris Davey and the Rev. Deidre West, who jointly conducted the service of Holy Communion. The benefice choir led the singing of familiar Easter hymns and also sang the introit "This joyful Eastertide" and the anthem "God so loved the world" It was a splendid occasion, a fitting celebration of the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. After the service there was the opportunity to enjoy refreshments and Easter eggs!! Thank you to all those who helped to arrange the lilies, to make the Easter Gardens and to everyone who took part in the service and provided refreshments.

Sweffling St Mary's Church, Annual Church Meeting:

The Annual Church meeting was held on Tuesday 6th May at 6.00 p.m. in Church. Mr. Geoffrey Abbott and Professor John Tesh were re-elected as church wardens. Each churchwarden gave a short report on the work of the church during the year. Church life in Sweffling continues to be very active both within the village and much further afield. A minimum of two services are held each month, with special services at intervals. Dr. Anne Fitzgerald holds Sunday School in conjunction with each service when there are children in the congregation. Fund raising events for the church included a very enjoyable concert by "5 in a bar", the annual "Christmas Brass" Concert by the Leiston Royal British Legion Brass Band and the Christmas Brunch and Market. The "out-reach" programme continues strongly with charity fund-raising events including the Lent Soup Lunch and the Harvest Lunch. A total of £1400 was sent to Tear Fund for disaster and famine relief. We also continue to support the hospital in The Gambia.

The programme of church and churchyard maintenance continues. A big thank you to all the willing, and usually unseen, volunteers who look after our church so well, inside and outside. The church share of £1500 from the Village Fete last year went towards payment of a bill of £6100 for repairs to the tower both inside and out – louvres, stonework and pointing, and to rebuilding the southwest buttress of the porch.

Sweffling Fete and Fun Dog Show 2024 - Update on planning:

Planning for this year's fete on **Saturday, 10th August** is well under way and we'd like to thank all the people who have already committed their time to help. As the event draws closer we will inevitably need a number of people to offer their time on the day to help set things out, man the car park, assist on stalls etc. If you are available, can you please let Steve Ashurst know, either contacting on 663232 or drop an email to ashurst.stephen@talk21.com . Steve and Sue Ashurst have picked up running the event for this year after Jill stepped down.

Dennington

While the search for a replacement for Martin goes on, thanks to the help of Mary Lamb, Chris Davey and Deirdre West we have been managing to keep to our normal routine of services, which has been very much appreciated.

Dates for the Diary

Cream Teas with Liz and David Pardey on 25th August

Harvest Festival and Harvest Lunch 22nd September

Badingham

THE DEER PARKS OF SUFFOLK BY DR. ROSEMARY HOPPITT

On Friday 28th June

has been postponed

Hopefully this will be re-arranged at a later date

Please look out for further details

Saint John the Baptist's Church, Badingham

80th ANNIVERSARY OF D DAY THURSDAY JUNE 8th

**Badingham Church Bells
will 'RING OUT FOR PEACE' at 6.30
with bells throughout the land**

**This will be followed at 7.15 pm by a short Service of
Commemoration at The War Memorial**

After the service there will be wine & nibbles in the Church Chancel
and a chance to look at The Exhibition there Commemorating The D
Day Landings

*Please join us for all or part of this special anniversary
commemoration Everyone will be very welcome*

St Michael's Rendham

We are delighted that a candidate has applied for the post of Priest in Charge of the six parishes, which are the Benefice of the Upper Alde, and look forward to an early meeting and interview.

One a lighter note, there has recently been a correspondence in The Times recently about 'All things bright and beautiful'. The usual arguments about the verse which seems to justify social inequality - long omitted from our hymn books (and not in our 1950 edition. A church organist wrote in to say that having had to play it more than 40 times for weddings, he was heartily sick of it. Nevertheless, at this time of the year, with everything green and growing, the words do still seem to express what we all feel.

The Memorial Lilies at the service on 14 April were exceptionally beautiful this year and it is always moving hearing all the names of those remembered read out. We are having a No Mow May in the churchyard to encourage the growth of native wild flowers and herbs in the designated area. The Rendham Fete will be held this year on Saturday 6 July at 12.30 in Grove Farm Meadow. Several fundraising events for our playing field, Park, have been very successful for the future projects planned.

Charles and Frances

Bruisyard news

The memorial service for Bob Foster was a very moving and appropriate reminder of his life and for all he gave to others and his unstinting work for St John's Badingham . He will always be remembered and much missed .

The season of Easter is nearly over and soon it will be Trinity Sunday and whilst the weather is warmer the rains carry on to help the churchyard flourish!

Let us remember D Day 1944 on the 6th of June .

Services at St Peter's as normal with communion by extension at 9.30 am on the third Sunday of the month .

Rupert and Sally

Cransford News

The world is full of death and horror, with storm clouds building in the north east. But in Cransford it is May, with the best blossom seen for years and new life bursting forth. I saw a grass snake last week.

There are two new services coming to Cransford shortly. Every Thursday at the village Hall there will be Dales Fresh Fruit van from 11.30, and the Mobile Library one Thursday in the month. During this time tea, coffee and cakes will be served with proceed going to the Refurbishment Fund.

Cransford Village Hall Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 15th June, 10.30 to 12 noon. Home made cakes and savouries. Do come and meet friends and neighbours, and new comers.

On Saturday 29th June between 1 and 4 pm seven gardens will be open. Tickets and a map available at the Village Hall. £ 6 per adult, proceeds as above to the Refurbishment Fund.

Finally I hope shortly the St Peters and the Benefice will have new Priest in Charge. Selection takes place next week. Watch this space.

Stop Press. Excellent news about the recovery of our stolen chair. I had given up hope. Please insert something as I am sure other parishes and Albert Lane will be pleased. Smart work by DC Fox of Suffolk Constabulary. I will learn more

Patrick Grieve. Churchwarden

Red Barn Farm, Badingham

Red Barn Farm was the focus for hundreds of people on Thursday 9th May for the Thanksgiving Service for the life of a very popular gentleman. It followed a burial service in Badingham Church Chancel.

Robert Frank Foster (Bob) came with his family to Red Barn at the age of four. The family assembled at the church on their first Sunday in Badingham and the children joined the choir.

Bob spent his life on inventfully working the farm, keeping it locally the best farm, receiving many accolades. The farm was renowned for its crops of thatching straw.

Ann and Bob were married in 1967.

He leaves two sons; Hayden and Graham.

He was on the Parish and Church Councils for many years, volunteering for various projects for both. He also did emergency work for the County Council. In between farm work, Bob and his brother John invented the Fossegent, (a mechanical scarecrow that waved its arms driven by a tractor battery).



The giant bikes down in the hedgerow 'just for fun' are also something that kept busy fingers at work. People will remember far and wide the 'carol wagon' at bye gone Christmas times. It raised funds for the Children's Society. It was an adapted and decorated tractor & trailer transporting singers around local (and not so local) villages. The November the 5th bonfires were partly thanks to Bob as were many other occasions, like the Cross on the church at Christmas.

He was voted to become Churchwarden several years ago, and though reluctant, he did this duty perfectly and fully. When we found the problems with the roof, he was the first to get to grips with situation. He and Ann took on the arrangements of meetings that were very strange to us rural people. He 'supervised' the scaffolders in the Nave to guard against damage to the other parts. He took on the maintenance of the

trees which seem not to like the climate changing or their old age! To the extent that the week before he when into hospital he and a couple of helpers burnt up the top of a tree that had fallen in a recent gale! They say; “no one is indispensable” but, have we just seen the passing of one?

Ann: You have our sympathy, our love and with your family our prayers,
God bless you all.



Threshing the thatching straw at Red Barn Farm

Services for July

Sunday	7th	8.00am	Holy Communion	Dennington
Trinity	6	9.30am	Holy Com.	Sweffling
		9.30am	Matins	Bruisyard
		11.00am	Holy Com. X Ext	Badingham
Sunday	14th	9.30am	Holy Com. x Ext	Cransford
Trinity	7	9.30am	Matins	Rendham
		11.00am	Family Service	Dennington
Sunday	21st	9.30am	Holy Com. x Ext	Bruisyard
Trinity	8	9.30am	Matins	Sweffling
		11.00am	Holy Com. x Ext	Badingham
Sunday	26th	9.30am	Holy Com. x Ext	Rendham
Trinity	9	9.30am	Matins	Cransford
		11.00am	Holy Communion	Dennington

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

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Trinity