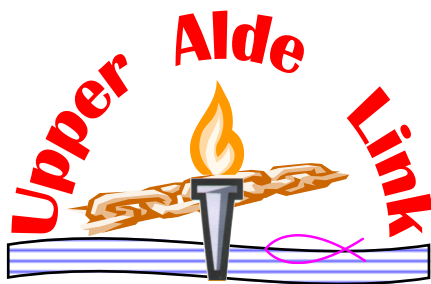


**October
November
2024**



**Revd Claire Kiddy
Licensed by Bishop Martin, assisted by the Archdeacon
of Suffolk and the Rural Dean**

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

Services for October

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday | 6th | 8.00am | Holy Communion | Dennington |
| Trinity | 19 | 9.30am | Harvest Festival | Sweffling |
| Proper | 22 | 9.30am | Matins | Bruisyard |
| | | 11.00am | Harvest Festival | Badingham |
| | | | | |
| Sunday | 13th | 9.30am | Holy Communion | Cransford |
| Trinity | 20 | 11.00am | Matins | Dennington |
| Proper | 23 | 5.00pm | Harvest Festival | Rendham |
| | | | | |
| Sunday | 20th | 9.30am | Holy Communion | Bruisyard |
| Trinity | 21 | 9.30am | Matins | Sweffling |
| Proper | 24 | 11.00am | Holy Communion | Badingham |
| GMT Clocks go back one hour | | | | |
| Sunday | 27th | 9.30am | Holy Communion | Rendham |
| Trinity | 22 | 9.30am | Matins | Cransford |
| Proper | 25 | 11.00am | Holy Communion | Dennington |

October November 2024

Letter from our Priest in Charge

Harvest festivals are an important part of the church year. It is good to come together to give thanks to God for all His provision and to express our gratitude to the farmers who work hard all year, alongside our Creator God, to produce the best crops they can, despite the unpredictability of the weather. Harvest marks the end of the agricultural year yet it also makes way for the new year to begin. These days as soon as the combines stop the cultivators and drills are put into action and the new year begins. So I figure that beginning my ministry in this season of Harvest Festivals is very appropriate. It marks the end of the Upper Alde Benefice being in vacancy following the retirement of Father Martin from his house for duty role and the beginning of this part time priest in charge role, which I am delighted to have been appointed to.

I am passionate about following the gentle rhythm of the seasons, the agricultural year runs very similar to the liturgical year. We are all part of God's wonderful creation, and the seasons come and go far too quickly. It is a time to remember all who have gone before us and we look forward to all that is to come. It seems to me that as the leaves take on the golden hues of autumn and fruits ripen we are reminded of the richness of life lived to the full. We are only here for a season so it is good to make the most of life. What do you love about autumn – the fallen leaves, the shiny conkers, the dewy spider webs?

In November we come to the season of remembrance, beginning with All Hallows Eve on the 31st October, (hallow meaning Holy) . Traditionally this was a day to prepare to celebrate All Saints Day on November 1st, a feast day when the lives of all the saints would be remembered. The day after, the 2nd November is dedicated to remembering and giving thanks for the life of all people who have died and is called All Soul's Day. Often, on this day, churches hold memorial services and people light candles in memory of loved ones. These three days are known as All Hallowtide.

We then move into a time of national remembrance culminating in the two minutes silence on armistice day and remembrance Sunday. This is an important time for the nation to come together to honour those who have

given their lives in conflicts since the start of the first world war. Here is another important reminder to make the most of life for they gave their life that we might live in peace today.

So I hope you can slow down and take time to enjoy this golden season of mists and mellow fruitfulness because all too quickly we will get to Advent Sunday, on the 1st of December, which marks a new year in the life of the church and the countdown to you know what!

Revd Claire.

Sweffling

Sweffling St Mary's Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Sunday October 6th 9.30 a.m.

Gifts of dried and packaged foods, toiletries etc welcomed to be donated to local food bank. Please leave in church beforehand. The Church will be open on Wednesday 2nd and also on Saturday 5th (for gifts and decorating. Contact Jill (663402) if you would like to help).

Followed by: Harvest Lunch in Sweffling Hut 1.00 p.m.

Adults £10.00, children £5.00.Booking essential for catering. Ring Diana (663578) or Sheila (663518)Proceeds to Tear Fund for famine relief.

CURRY AND QUIZ NIGHT FUNDRAISER FOR SWEFFLING HUT, FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER 2024. 7:00 PM.

£12.00 per ticket. This year homemade Onion Bhajis are being added to the menu. Please bring along your favourite beverage. A choice of 3 pre-ordered curries: mild (Korma), medium (Jalfrezi), and medium vegetarian (Thai). **IMPORTANT:** All dishes contain nuts

Pre-reserved tickets only. Book early. Donations for raffle prizes gratefully received. Contact Mike Smithson for reservations pre ordering food etc. mikesmithson.ms@gmail.com or 07753825938

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH AND MARKET, SWEFFLING HUT SATURDAY November 30th 10.00 A.M. – 12 NOON

Bacon and egg rolls, Freshly brewed coffee/tea

Christmas-themed stalls: Cakes, Presents, Preserves, Pickles, etc. Raffle – donations of prizes welcome

Mystery parcels: Anne and Eleanore Fitzgerald will be running this stall and are asking for donations of gift items suitable for adults and/or children. Please contact Anne on 664077.

Proceeds in aid of St. Mary's Church

“CHRISTMAS BRASS” CONCERT in SWEFFLING CHURCH

FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH, 7.30 P.M.

Leiston Royal British Legion Brass Band will play our annual concert of popular and Christmas music, with Sing-along Christmas Carols.

The perfect start to Christmas in Sweffling!

Tickets: Adults £8.00, Children £4.00 to include interval

Refreshments. Book with Diana (663578) or Sheila (663518) or pay at door. *Proceeds in aid of St Mary's Church*

Badingham

We are delighted that Claire is now officially our Priest in Charge and is able to lead our services and take part in our activities. Welcome Claire.

Just a Reminder

**Our Harvest Festival Service
is in Badingham Church
on Sunday 6th October 2024, at 11am**

*As in recent years we ask that your harvest gifts are tins and packets
which will be taken,
via the Laxfield collection point, to Eye Food Bank.*

A box for donations for the Food Bank will remain in the church through to spring of 2025.

Patricia has once again volunteered to keep an eye on the donations and make sure that they get to Laxfield for the food bank collection every other week.

Also on Sunday 6th October in The Village Hall
Harvest Lunch

12.30 for 1pm

Our guest speaker is Dennis Dewsberry who will be telling us about

'A BADINGHAM CHILDHOOD'

Tickets, adults £13.00 - all 18 years and under are free,
available from Ann Foster 638288 or Badingham Cafe.

Remembrance Day Service - Badingham Church

This year it falls on Sunday 10th November.

We will meet at The War Memorial at 10.55 for our act of remembrance which will be followed by the service in the church.

WINTER MARKET

We are hoping to have our usual Christmas Gift Table and Christmas Raffle at The Winter Market on Friday November 29th in Badingham Village Hall. Do you have any items that you no longer need but which will make a nice Christmas gift that you could donate for this event or for the draw.

Please contact Ann - 638288 if you can help either with gifts or on the night.

Suffolk Lungwort (*pulmonaria obscura*)

Do you know that Suffolk has it's own plant?

Hidden away in three woodlands, in North Suffolk, a small population of the Suffolk, or unspotted, lungwort, has been growing, largely undisturbed since it's discovery in 1842. The current situation of this species is precarious, despite being listed as a priority species within the UK. Thanks to the support of Natural England, the Otter Trust successfully bid for a 'Species Recovery Programme Grant' and have started propagating plants, with the aim of establishing populations within suitable woodland sites throughout Suffolk. From a gardener's

perspective, the Suffolk Lungwort (*pulmonaria obscura*) is a great addition to a shady border, making a fantastic groundcover plant, and appears to thrive in dry soils under trees. The Trust are asking if churchwardens might consider planting the Suffolk Lungwort in the shadier corners of Suffolk Churchyards.

We have applied to have some plants for Badingham churchyard. If the churchyard is considered a suitable site we will initially be given 1 plant to see how it survives.

We will keep you updated on progress

CRANSFORD NEWS

The season of mists and mellow fruitfulness is upon us, with the first frost reported in the east of the county. Leaves are just beginning to fall, and arguments start about whether not to put on the central heating. Some houses are stacking logs where they have open fires. The barley harvest was better than usual with prices good.

We welcome our new priest Claire who took her first service last Sunday. With six parishes to look after, she will need all her energy and strength and our full support.

Harvest Festival took place on the 22nd of September, and was well attended. Dark nights are already upon us. Another year almost done.

Patrick

A lovely afternoon of cream tea with accompanying string quartet was held on the 8th September in the village hall.

October's activities will include the regular Thursday morning visit by Dales Fruit Drop with teas and coffees available in the village hall for a natter. The library van will hold its usual monthly stop with books and periodicals available to order as well as the books on the van.

We are holding our Harvest Supper on Saturday 5th October, 7 for 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from Liza (07523024997).

The coffee morning is on Saturday 19th October at 10.30am with a plant sale.

November coffee morning will be on Saturday November 16th at 10.30 with a sale of Christmas decorations.

St Michael's Church Rendham

The Licensing Service for our new Priest in Charge, the Rev. Claire Kiddy, took place on September 11th at 7.30 at St Mary, Dennington and was attended by churchwardens, elders and representatives from all six parishes, in all about 140. The service, which was conducted by Bishop Martin and the Archdeacon of Suffolk, was both inspiring and friendly, and was followed by refreshments provided by all the parishes.

On 13th September at least 140 people gathered at St Michael's for the funeral of Bob Ditchburn, a well-loved member of our Rendham community who had lived here for so many years. The original and beautiful service was conducted by the Rev. Rachel Summers, and Lauren, Anna and Ruth spoke of their father, and sang and played the music which he loved. We all joined in the singing of the Beatles' Penny Lane.

Our Harvest Festival service will be at 5.00 on Sunday 13 October and will be a traditional Choral Evensong. Contributions for the Saxmundham Food Bank, as in previous years, will be very welcome.

Thanks to the four riders who took part in the SHCT Ride and Stride on September 14th, and to the recorders who sat in at the church.

On Sunday 22 September the Rev. Claire Kiddy was welcomed to St Michael's for her first service in our church, a very happy occasion.

Planning has started for our Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday 7th December, which will be in aid of the St Elizabeth Hospice. Do come. Contributions very welcome.

Bruisyard News

Following the Rev Claire's licensing at St Marys Dennington on the 11th, which was a very uplifting service, she took her first service at St Peter's Bruisyard which went very well. We also have a Benefice service on the 29th at Bruisyard at 10 am and with the Benefice choir.

Our Harvest Festival service is on the 20th of October at 9.30 am. Also there is our Harvest Supper in the village hall on Saturday 26th October. Ring John McKee on 663515 or Rupert on 638393 for information.

The grass has stopped growing in the Church yard and we are renewing the path to the loo and storeroom.

Let's hope we have a long autumn and enjoy the leaves changing colour.

Dennington

As many of you who have been in our Church during rain will know, the roof leaks. We have tried patching but it appears that nails are pushing though the lead from below and the ridge is cracking.

It was replaced in about 1950 and perhaps the quality was not as high as is expected now. Unfortunately the leaks have dampened the wood inside the roof and death watch beetle have been busy.

This will require a major restoration project and we will be applying to the Heritage Lottery Fund for help as well as many other charities and individuals. At some stage it will require both internal and external scaffolding. A representative from Historic England has visited the site and it will be going on their "At Risk" register over the Autumn. This will be of help in getting grant and is not a criticism of how we have looked after the fabric. We have already raised £1000 at the Pardey's garden party and will no doubt have many more such events but this article is really just to keep you informed.

I do hope that all residents of the village will take the opportunity to visit their Church. It is the embodiment of Dennington and sits so centrally in the village where it has been a "holy place" for a thousand years and most likely many more. It is a treasure trove of history;- Apart from the well known Sciapod, there are carvings of owls, a green man and most unusually a green woman, as well as the bench ends, the wonderful alabaster tomb of Lord and Lady Bardolph (Lord Bardolph, a Dennington boy, fought at Agincourt -1415 (the year our earliest bell was cast); one of the only original hanging pyx in the country, screens and then the sand table in which it is almost irresistible to write something. It also is a place with a very special sense of peace for a moments reflection. The Church is open from around 9.00 to 5.00 every day and anyone can pop in. We have visitors from around the world.

If anyone would like to help form a "Friends of Dennington Church" please could they contact Robert

What a very busy September we have had! A big welcome to Claire who had her installation service on 11th - a very happy evening with a

very special service and great opportunity for the benefice to be together. There were about 130 of us in church which produced some wonderful singing!

The Sponsored Bike Ride took place on 14th - thank you to everyone who cycled and manned the church.

Our **Harvest Festival** and lunch was on 22nd - As ever, the church was decorated beautifully and it was lovely for people to meet Claire. The Harvest lunch in the Village Hall was delicious and raised over £600 for the church. Thank you so much to Julie Steward and Penny Watts for all the hard work and cooking and thank you to everyone else who helped as well.

Dates for the Diary

Remembrance Sunday 10th November 10.55 am

Carols by Candlelight – 15th December at 5.00 pm

Reverend Claire Kiddy
Priest in Charge
07469718695
Upper Alde Benefice



STOP PRESS

Please take note of the following dates-

Bruisyard

Harvest Supper in Bruisyard Village Hall on 26th October, tickets from Rupert, tel no - 01728638393.

Christmas Coffee Morning in St Peter's Church Bruisyard on Saturday 30th November , 10 am - 12 noon

Services for November

| | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday | 3rd | 8.00am | Holy Communion | Dennington |
| Trinity | 23 | 9.30am | Holy Communion | Sweffling |
| Proper | 26 | 9.30am | Matins | Bruisyard |
| | | 11.00am | Holy Communion | Badingham |
| | | | | |
| Sunday | 10th | 9.30am | Remembrance Service | Cransford |
| Trinity | 24 | 10.55am | Remembrance Service | Rendham |
| Proper | 27 | 10.55am | Remembrance Service | Dennington |
| | | 10.55am | Remembrance Service | Badingham |
| | | | | |
| Sunday | 17th | 9.30am | Holy Communion | Bruisyard |
| Trinity | 25 | 9.30am | Matins | Sweffling |
| Proper | 28 | 11.00am | Holy Communion | Badingham |
| | | | | |
| Sunday | 24th | 9.30am | Holy Communion | Rendham |
| Trinity | Last | 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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The Editor reserves the right to edit or omit any item submitted.

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