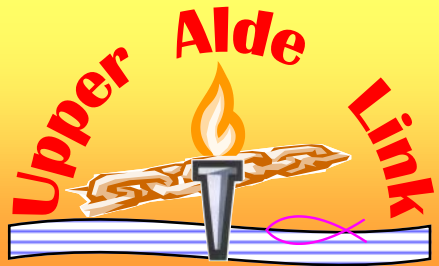


**October
November
2016**



The Oak of Mamre as at the beginning of 20th century
(see Rector's Letter)

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

Services for October 2016

Sunday	2nd	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Dennington
Trinity	19	9.30am	Harvest Festival	Bruisyard
		9.30am	Harvest Festival	Sweffling
		11.00am	CW Holy Communion	Badingham
Sunday	9th	8.00am	CW Holy Communion	Badingham
Trinity	20	9.30am	CW Trad. Communion	Cransford
		11.00am	Morning Prayer	Dennington
		11.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Rendham
Sunday	16th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Dennington
Trinity	21	9.30am	CW Holy Communion	Bruisyard
		9.30am	BCP Morning Prayer	Sweffling
		10.00am	30 Min. Family Service	Badingham
Sunday	23rd	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Badingham
Trinity	22	9.30am	BCP Morning Prayer	Cransford
Bible Sunday		9.30am	Morning Prayer	Rendham
		11.00am	CW Holy Communion	Dennington
Sunday	30th		Clocks go back one hour at 2am	
		11.00am	Benefice Service	Cransford
All Saints			Holy Communion	

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

Editor: Victor Warne 5 Mill Road Badingham Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8LG
01728 638357 or Email copy in the text, not attach: suffolkmicrowaves@btinternet.com

The Editor reserves the right to edit or omit any item submitted.

A copy of this LINK is available by Email. It is updated and in colour with electronic Links to other publications and videos. If your computer is on line, click on the coloured text to activate that link. Happy browsing!

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October November 2016

The Rectory
Tel. 01728 638823

From the Rector

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Hebrews 13:2

Said the announcer on Radio 3: “A warm welcome to this morning’s programme.” This prompted my mind to wander over the welcome we are offered from organisations such as supermarkets, pubs, restaurants, sports clubs and many others. Once a Bishop ran an intriguing day on the subject of “Welcome” helped by clergy and professionals from the world of retail. A priest I once knew returned from his holidays to talk about the warmth, conviviality and conversation that his church should offer.

After returning from my holidays, I am not so sure we are exactly on the right track by conjuring images of warmth, flickering logs in the inglenook, good food, company and glittering glasses with perhaps some snow on the bay windows. Not that we, as a church, would want to be opposite to all that but rather we need to be something more profound. The trouble with the word “welcome” is that it carries a notion of engaging a stranger or newcomer to come in and partake of our ways, to come to appreciate our pub, restaurant, shop or club in the way that we have come to like it and in the way that we conceive it.

Paul, in his letter to the Hebrews, reminds us of the visitors that Abraham and Sarah had when he was sitting outside his tent by the oaks of the Mamre, when behold three men stood in front of him, two of whom were angels and one of whom was God himself. (*Genesis 18:1-8*) “*Show hospitality to strangers for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.*”

Now, if this is so, then the idea of welcoming people so they may join in with what we do (how often when you join a club or society do you hear the phrase “we do it this way”?), so that they may join and become more like us is upside down – for if they turn out to be angels, then surely we should want to be more like them!

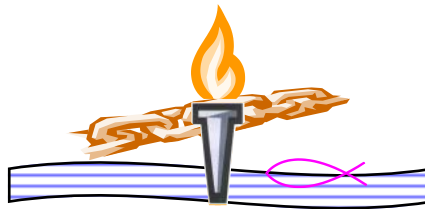
So, it is a paradox: we want to amply share the good things that we have, to mutually enjoy the things we love and take pride in but at the same time we have to leave space for you the newcomer, the stranger, the visitor to be part of what the Upper Alde Benefice is to become, so that you can infuse and pollinate us with your ideas, experience, desires and needs.

John Sentamu provocatively asks the question, “Whose church is it anyway?” The answer, of course, is that it is God’s church, which is why we open our services not by saying “A warm welcome to you” but by the priest saying: “The Lord be with you.”

I look forward to seeing many possible angels through the doors of the churches of the Upper Alde in the coming weeks, so that you may both join us and help us all to come closer to God.

God Bless.

Jonathan



There will be a meeting on Thursday 6th October at 7.00pm in Bruisyard Village Hall. It will be about -

‘Ministry & Mission in the Upper Alde Benefice’

This meeting is open to all Churchwardens and any Church Members.
The Rural Dean will be with on this occasion.

Blessings
Jonathan



HARVEST SERVICES IN THE UPPER ALDE BENEFICE 2016

BRUISYARD 2nd OCTOBER 9.30am

SWEFFLING 2nd OCTOBER 9.30am

EVER WANTED TO RING HANDBELLS?

Badingham Church has preserved two sets of the most beautiful handbells for the last thirty years. Once played regularly, they haven't been used for a long time and we'd now like to bring them back to life by getting a group of people together to



have fun learning to play with the aim of performing as part of the village Christmas celebrations. No experience is necessary and you don't have to be able to read music; young, older, middle aged.....all welcome! If you are interested in being involved please contact Martin on 638061.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH BADINGHAM

Harvest Festival and Harvest BBQ.

Our Harvest Festival service was very enjoyable and the church looked beautiful. Thank you to all those who helped to clean and decorate. The harvest produce was taken to the Salvation Army in Woodbridge.

The Harvest BBQ was again a very happy occasion and lots of fun. Although there was no rain the strong wind meant we took tables and chairs into the church for us to eat our lunch. This by no means spoiled the meal and we all enjoyed a delicious lunch with good company.

Once again thank you to everyone who helped, to those who cooked and for all the lovely puddings.

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING AND SALE

**SATURDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2016
UNITED FREE CHURCH FRAMLINGHAM
(opposite Co-op car park)**

9.30am - 12 noon

**In aid of Badingham Church and with 10% of the proceeds going to
charity**

Where does the time go? It does not seem possible that we are beginning to plan Christmas events but we are! We will be serving coffee, bacon rolls and mince pies all through the morning.

This year we are intending to have a plant stall outside so if, when you have your autumn tidy up in the garden, you have any plants that you no longer want please will you think of us and put them in a pot for us to sell.

As always we would welcome donations of gifts, raffle prizes, cakes, tombola prizes, and anything that we can sell.

We also welcome offers of help on the morning

It's usually a busy morning but with a lovely atmosphere and lots of fun so please join us if you can - if anyone would like to come and needs transport let us know

EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME

Ann 638288 - Carol 638352

Cransford News

August and September were some of the hottest and driest for many years, with the result that harvest was early and easy. Our Harvest Thanksgiving service was also early, the first for a long time when the fields around the church were still stubble as opposed to plough, or even green with young wheat. The church was full with young and old, and decked with apples, plums, wheat ears, marrows and courgettes and autumn colours .

The Roof Appeal has got under way, with a fine grant from the National Churches Trust for £10,000. and other grants in the pipeline. We are about

half way there, but still have a long road ahead. We will be having a fundraising drive in the village in the new year. Details to follow.

The Sponsored Bike Ride for The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust took place on the 10th September. It is too soon to say how it went, but there appeared to be more cyclists about than last year, and we had about 30% more signing in than last year. The rain held off with only a shower at lunchtime, but not enough to dampen enthusiasm. Many thanks to all who took part, manned the churches or sponsored riders.

We are planning the annual churchyard cutting, and have pencilled in 8th October at 10 am. Helpers needed with strimmers and shears. Refreshments provided. There will be a notice at the church gate nearer the time to remind people.

Our annual Remembrance Day service takes place on 13th November, when we recall with gratitude the young men who fell for the country in the past. It is a sobering thought that since the armistice in 1945, there has not been a single year since when a British soldier has not given his life somewhere overseas for his country. We have had 70 years of peace in this country. We owe them much. The price of peace and liberty is eternal vigilance.

It is with sadness we record the death of John Roberts, known to many as Sam, on 15th September. Sam was a well known and much loved figure in Cransford, to be seen daily on his bike. After a lifetime of farm work, he loved animals and the countryside, and he spent his retirement years as a sought after mole catcher and part time pig man. As verger, he dressed the altar and rang the bells before services at St Peter's for decades. Reliable true and kind, he was a wonderful father and grandfather, interested in everything and sharp to the very end. He will be much missed by all, and our thoughts are with his family and Brenda who cared for him devotedly at the end. He is now at peace.

Patrick

Dennington

One of our visitors to the church in the summer wrote this lovely letter and asked for it to be included in the benefice letter:

"Last week my husband, friend and myself decided to take a drive out and made up our minds to visit places we had not been to for several years. On our travels we stopped off at Dennington Church so thought we could renew old memories. I once used to sing descant in the choir with my friend Gillian Heffer (nee Wright). I was also confirmed when I was 16 years old by the Bishop of Dunwich and was married there in 1955 by the Reverend Hartley. What amazed us all was the wonderful upkeep of the church, so beautifully polished throughout. When visiting my brother Philip's (Ruffles) grave I could not quite believe how beautifully the grass was kept and not a weed growing out of any concrete surrounding the church and not a sign of any litter. The wonderful roses on the approach to the church and the gates painted white. In fact we remarked on how the whole village was litter free. Congratulations to all who are involved in keeping Dennington such a wonderful place to visit.

Yours sincerely,
Marina Mutimer (Nee Ruffles)

Suffolk Historic Churches' Cycle Ride

Once again this year in mild conditions, so pleasant for being outdoors as a family on bikes, the annual Churches' Cycle Ride is a firm favourite in our calendar of 'things to do' at the start of a new school year. Early sporting commitments precluded an early start, but, after necessary last-minute machine maintenance, we set off in a generally north east direction, with the wind behind us. Noting the new village shop in Badingham and sampling the Jaffa cakes offered in the church, the route took in Ubbeston Green, the tremendous estate roads and lake vista in Heveningham, lemon barley water in Walpole church and a guided tour and talk of Walpole Chapel, well worth a visit in its own right. We got to our final church, in the beautiful fields of the Cookley hamlet, just before 5.00 p.m. Here there were lead roofing panels on display, rich in graffiti and very jolly company. We turned south through Cratfield to Laxfield for a Low House feast, richly deserved we

thought and of good value, before ambling back in the sunset to Dennington and a log fire. Lots of fresh air, tired but happy children and minimum financial outlay for a great outing. What a fantastic event each September which all too few enjoy. Aren't simple pleasures some of our best? And, incidently, we love that fine building in the middle of the village which our sponsors helped support: a big thank you to them and all the church recorders we met on route. Much appreciated. As Arnold Schwenegger once said, 'We'll be back!'

The Kendall family

PS. Dennington recorded 28 cyclists during the day

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH RENDHAM

The third edition of our Church Guide, by Carol Twinch, is now on sale. It has attractive colour illustrations on the front and back covers, and some additional material which makes it 25% larger. Full of interest to family researchers, historians, and Rendham people, it is still only £1.00, thanks to the generosity of Carol who has donated it to the Church after giving so much time and scholarship to compiling and revising it.

The SHCT Bike Ride took place on 10 September, when 34 riders visited St Michael's. A big thank you to the recorders who sat in for the event, at which our star rider achieved a record of 60 churches.

Charles and Frances

Juniper Barn Rendham Village Shop and Café

Opening: Saturday 8 October

Opening hours: 8.00 am – 4.00 pm Monday – Saturday



...the newest place in the area to get your essentials – milk, bread, local eggs, meat and those bits and pieces you forgot to pick up at the supermarket ...a stunning café with inside and outside seating

While you're here **meet** with friends, **enjoy** delicious hot drinks, **browse** the shop **fill up** on home-made cakes, scones or a full English breakfast **stop** for a while, **read** a book, the paper or catch up with work on our free wifi.

Rendham cyclists Helen Payne, Albert Lain and Richard Shattock made 108 church-visits during Suffolk's 35th Annual Ride & Stride sponsored cycle event on Saturday 10 September.

Cyclists chose their own route during the 8-hour ride and expect to raise over £1,000 for Suffolk Historic Churches Trust.

Thanks go to Lesley Bennion, Frances Hill, Jenny Shattock and Terry Titmus who recorded the 34 cyclists who visited St Michael's during the day and, of course, all those who sponsored the event.

Richard Shattock

Sweffling

Sunday October 2nd

Harvest Lunch

in Sweffling Hut at 1.00p.m.

Adults £7.00, children under 12 £3.50.

Proceeds to TEAR Fund for famine relief.

Please contact Diana (663578) or Sheila (663518) to book.

Advance Notice

Christmas Market in the United Reform Church Hall, Framlingham on Saturday December 3rd, 9.30 a.m. until 12.00 noon. Variety of Christmas Stalls, Christmas Draw, tea/coffee and mince pies

Link to Hope

Thank you for last year's boxes; we were able to send 23 boxes. There is lots of information on Link to Hope website, www.linktohope.co.uk or for those who use Facebook there is a page on there. They have lots of ideas for filling the boxes including where to find bargains to put in the boxes. Leaflets are in the churches.

If anyone likes to knit, the charity has asked for adult hats and gloves particularly but child size ones are still needed too, also knitted toys and lap size blankets. Blankets need to be separate from the boxes. I will need the boxes by October 31st please. I do have a number of empty shoeboxes if they are needed.

Sue Olanczuk

[Link to Hope](#) Video

Services for November 2016

Sunday	6th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Dennington
Advent	-3	9.30am	BCP Morning Prayer	Bruisyard
		9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Sweffling
		11.00am	CW Holy Communion	Badingham
Sunday	13th	10.55am	Remembrance Service	Badingham
Remembrance		9.30am	CW Trad. Communion	Cransford
Advent	-2	10.55am	Remembrance Service	Rendham
		10.55am	Remembrance Service	Dennington
Sunday	20th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Dennington
Advent	-1	9.30am	BCP Morning Prayer	Sweffling
Christ is King		9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Bruisyard
		10.00am	30 Min. Family Service	Badingham
Sunday	27th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Badingham
Advent		9.30am	BCP Morning Prayer	Cransford
		9.30am	Morning Prayer	Rendham
		11.00am	CW Holy Communion	Dennington
Sunday	Dec 4th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Dennington
Advent	2	9.30am	BCP Morning Prayer	Bruisyard
		9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Sweffling
		11.00am	CW Holy Communion	Badingham



Tanya and Karen receiving the Suffolk Coastal District Council Chair's project Award. Awarded for being the best out of 118 projects.

"Our shop and café is a real community venture run by a fantastic group of volunteers who support in a variety of ways from building and setting up the shop to others who delight us with their regular custom; all have such a key role to play and have been integral in developing further the great community spirit existing within Badingham.

We are indebted particularly to Cllr Carol Poulter and to Cllr Susan Harvey who, from the outset, has given us her support, enthusiasm and sound advice. We are delighted to receive this award on behalf of the Badingham shop and café volunteers.

Our opening times are 11am to 1pm Monday to Friday and the first Sunday of every month 3pm to 5pm. Please come and visit our quirky, wonderful café. You are assured of a warm welcome".

Fresh fish every Tuesday morning at Badingham shop and cafe 10.45am to 11 am. Then why not enjoy a coffee and slice at shop after your fish shop!