

BOSTON DEANERY PARTNERSHIP

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE QTR 2023



I hope you all enjoyed reading a bit about the Church in Frampton from our March Quarter newsletter, some interesting snippets there, and a superb Bird and Bat's Eye View video.

I went along to Frampton's Pancake Night, and I must say, I had a really fun evening, as well as consuming 3 delicious pancakes. Thank you. (I didn't win on the raffle though!).

It has been nice to meet a lot of the people on my distribution list, and I look forward to meeting more of you all as the year goes on.

This quarter, we have a write up from the Coastal Cluster, you never know, you may decide to visit one of the churches whilst up at the coast this summer.

So, welcome to issue number 3 which will take us to the end of June 2023, by which time we will have celebrated Easter, and crowned a new Monarch....Busy times.



FOCUS CHURCH FOR JUNE QTR 2023

HOLLAND DEANERY COASTAL CLUSTER OF PARISHES

The seven parishes along the A52 out of Boston from Fishtoft to Friskney formed the Coastal Cluster of Parishes around 20 years ago. (Fishtoft St Guthlacs, Freiston St James, Butterwick St Andrews, Leverton St Helenas, Old Leake St Marys, Wrangle St Mary & St Nicholas and Friskney All Saints).

Essentially it became what we are now calling a local mission partnership. It however did not start the way it is now, and some valuable lessons were learnt early on that could be pertinent today as we move forward in the diocesan “Time To Change Together “ (TTCT) process.

Benington Church closed in the early 2000’s but the churchyard remained open. This contrasts with Friskney where the churchyard is closed but a cemetery operated by the Parish Council is established and indeed an extension is likely to open in the near future. All other parishes have a parish church and churchyard, and a greater number of people visit the churchyards than frequent the church buildings. The contacts made through funerals, burials and memorials are probably the most important in the ministry of these parishes.

History

Throughout the 21st century there have been many times when a good number of parishes in the Holland (East and West) deaneries were vacant. Consequently, the parishes in this area have had to work together over a long period out of necessity which laid the foundations for forming the Coastal Cluster of Parishes. They are called a cluster as there is no legal framework for a cluster compared to a “team” or “group” of parishes. The philosophy was to co-operate on those things that seemed good to the parishes and to God and to continue to be distinctive in those things that are not shared in common.

In the beginning Revd Marc Cooper, the Rector of Fishtoft, was incumbent for all the parishes supported by other priests’ resident in the various parishes. However, this placed a lot of legal responsibility on one incumbent and disabled other priests who may have had closer relationships with certain parishes. The main issue was that people did not really know who their vicar was. Other priests had to refer to the incumbent for legal matters and hampered the relationships between the other priests and their parishes such that within a few years the whole cluster apart from Fishtoft became vacant as priests sought a more fruitful ministry elsewhere. So, in 2007 the whole structure of the cluster was reviewed, and three benefices were formed. Two priests-in charge, Fiona Cotton-Betteridge and Andrew Higginson, were recruited on that basis with a commitment to working together with the ministers of the cluster – both lay and ordained and also made a commitment to be a long term presence in the cluster (Bob Jackson’s research had suggested that anything less than seven years was not fruitful).

This arrangement of three Priests meeting, praying and working together as part of a much wider ministry team has served the cluster well over the last 15 years and is now the model of ministry that whole diocese is being encouraged to adopt as local missionary partnerships.

Ministry Team

The development of each person's gifts has been encouraged and as a result we are blessed with an array of readers, local minister's pastoral and group leaders as well as retired priests. Marc Cooper and Andy Higginson are stipendiary priests with David Kendrew and Tom Page as active retired Priests. Sue Kitchen, Sally Hall, Susan Horle, Janice Elley, Angela Gilbert and Helen Moore are readers, Robin Sands and Jenny Hampstead are local ministers, but Jenny has also done the module on funeral ministry which resulted in her being asked to be the Mayor of Boston's Chaplain when councilor Frank Pickett of Old Leake became Mayor. We must not forget the ministry of all our churchwardens and treasurers who enable the church to exist and flourish today.

Life in the Coastal Cluster

With a falling interest in Sunday activities for children during worship, work has progressed with schools and developments in Messy Church whose pioneer, Lucy Moore, grew up in Butterwick and the RoadHog Youth Bus. The age profile of the cluster is such that 80% of the residents are over the age of 55 and people who have sought confirmation or participated in Alpha courses have mainly been over 50 years of age, reflecting the demographics of the parishes with contacts predominantly made through funeral ministry. The ministry provided though churchyards is also important in most parishes. The annual candle services to remember the departed attract the many recently bereaved family members. Baptisms and Weddings feature less but strong links remain between families in the various parishes.

Distinctiveness

Whilst much is shared, the nature of each parish is different and so the type of contact and the events that feature in each parish vary.

Fishtoft St Guthlacs



This parish has the outer part of Fishtoft not covered by Holy Trinity and St Nicholas. The commitment and generosity of its congregation means it has regular morning and evening worship and sees itself as a local mission church and a focus for ministry in the cluster. It has a community room at the back of the building that is now used for worship in the colder months of the year. They host Lent groups and quiet days that are open to the whole cluster and have some community events such as a Jazz concert near Christmas and have hosted summer flower festivals. There is an active “Open the Book” group that do assemblies in the local school. The Parish started broadcasting an online service during lockdown for the cluster (and anyone else who wants to join them on a Sunday morning!) with a Facebook chat alongside. This has now moved to a once a fortnight frequency. (Facebook - St Guthlac’s Church Fishtoft). Fishtoft St Guthlacs is open during the week to provide a Sanctum - a place of peace, quiet and prayer for anyone to drop in and be still.

Freiston St James



This parish, as well as having lots of prime farmland for growing vegetables, has five distinct areas comprising Haltoft End, Freiston Village, Freiston Shore, Scrane End and of Course HMP North Sea Camp! Freiston Shore is the home of both the heritage “We’ll Meet Again” Museum and the RSPB reserve, whilst the village hosts an enterprise park, a well-known butchers, a post office and three pubs.

The Church is best known for its Christmas tree festival, Arts festival and Heritage weekend events and provides valuable ministry in a weekly social coffee morning every Thursday from 10am to 12pm.



Christmas Tree Festival.

Remembrance Sunday is also a major event with the Salvation Army Band and sometimes the Coastal Community Choir. Holy week features a Maundy Thursday evening meal that combines the Passover liturgy and excerpts of the gospels relating to the last supper. Easter Sunday begins with a celebration of the rising of the Son of God at Sunrise at Freiston Shore where we light the paschal candles followed by breakfast in Freiston Church.

This is open to anyone in the deanery willing to join us at around 5:30am on Easter morning.



Easter Sunday sunrise service

More information about the history of this church can be found on www.stjamesfreiston.com

Butterwick St Andrews



This is a joint parish with Benington. It has seen a gradual transfer of agricultural activity to become a delightful village that has attracted many retired people in the residential developments which continues to expand. Many people in Butterwick therefore originate from other parts of the country and so this community has a very different feel to other villages in the cluster. Notable events are the Remembrance Day service on 11th November that attracts ex-forces personnel in particular. Butterwick church is the cosiest church and so is used in winter. The church is open during the day for quiet reflection. It is used weekly for both training and practice for Bellringers and is the base for the Coastal Community Choir. There is a coffee morning held on every 3rd Saturday of the month from 10am to 12 noon. Butterwick also has an endowed church of England Primary school that experienced significant growth when Boston Schools were near full capacity a decade ago. The school population grew by over 50% and whole school services in Butterwick Church became impracticable.

Benington BEONNA

Now part of the Butterwick with Benington Parish, it has experienced the closure of its own parish church, but thanks to the persistence of some local people the church has undergone a 15 year transformation. It has become the "BEONNA" - a combined worship, community and function venue with under floor heating – making it one of the most attractive spaces in the whole cluster and provides inspiration for the future of church buildings. If only the transformation could occur before worship becomes unviable. The churchyard is still open, and services can be held in the building, but not weddings yet. Occasional pastoral offices, Baptisms, Funerals and Post wedding blessings seem to be a feature here. The venue hosts the local scout group, events, coffee mornings and the BEONNA ladies community choir.

Leverton St Helenas



This is a church where festivals have been well supported as has a regular worship together service once a month in the Church Hall where there are toilets, kitchen and it is far warmer. These services are informal, starting with a short service and then followed by a discussion over tea and biscuits. Leverton has a vibrant Harvest Festival meal and Auction. It also has a wonderful Carols by Candlelight service with the community choir and carols at the local equestrian centre.

Old Leake St Marys



Old Leake is the largest parish in the Cluster with both the largest village and Leake Commonsides. The village also hosts a secondary school, a primary School, doctors' surgery, residential home and group of shops in addition to the farmland and agricultural businesses. Once a month on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 9.30am the church hosts a "Messy Breakfast", which is a hybrid between a cafe church and messy church and is open to the whole cluster. Those interested can receive a text reminder of details for the next service. Old Leake hosts a Stations of the Cross service on Good Friday and whole school end of term services with Old Leake Primary. Coffee mornings are held every second Saturday, from March to December at 10am to 11.30am. There are a variety of stalls, including homemade cakes, vegetables, bric a brac and a raffle.

Wrangle St Mary & St Nicholas



Wrangle has some large hidden businesses as well as some retail outlets. It has an annual show on the first Sunday in July. Every year on the last Sunday in January, they celebrate Plough Sunday, a traditional service that dates back to medieval times. The congregation gathers to take the plough out of hibernation and bless the plough, the farmers, the soil and seed. An 'Oliver' plough is kept within Wrangle church dating from the 1800s. This belongs to the Barnett family. Farmers are encouraged to turn up with their tractors to this service. Over the years, the local Mayor and councilors have attended.



(Pictures courtesy of Mr G Barnett)



Traditionally, they have had a carol service with the Skegness Silver Band and a concert by the Military Wives Choir is being held on Friday 16th June in the church at 7.30pm. Tickets for this event are £12, to include light refreshments. These are available from Kevin - 01205 870886, email kevin.sands123@btinternet.com. Wrangle has shared events & services with the Wrangle Methodist Chapel such as Harvest and a Community Christmas Carol event prior to lockdown. Wrangle also hold coffee mornings on the first Saturday of every month from 10am to 12 noon.

Friskney All Saints



Friskney is midway between Boston and Skegness and is in the District of East Lindsey. Friskney church is open to the public during the day. There is a church primary school opposite, which has enabled close links between school and church. As a prayerful Community Church, they have midweek 9am communion service. Once a month a year group from the school join them and participate in sharing something of faith they have been studying in school. This is in addition to taking assemblies in school. There is an annual Friskney show in June where the church organises the scarecrow competition to raise money for the church. Other events, such as the Queen's Platinum Jubilee were celebrated in flowers and art in church. There are coffee mornings every 4th Saturday in the month from 10am to 11am, with proceeds going to a different charity each time. This hosts a tombola, homemade refreshment stall and a bric a brac stall. On March 25th, the charity will be the National Autistic Society, and the following month on April 22nd, it will be Bransby Horses Rescue and Welfare, near Lincoln. During Lent, the congregation all fill a jar with loose change, and these proceeds go to Water Aid. Bell ringers have just started practising ringing the bells, which will hopefully become a regular event. The church has been offered to various groups to use as a venue, in the hope of using the facilities more and introducing more people to the church.

DEANERY CONFIRMATION SERVICE TO BE HELD ON 28TH MAY 2023, 5PM AT FREISTON CHURCH

KIRTON HOLME

CHRIST CHURCH KIRTON HOLME



COFFEE MORNINGS

Monday 13th March 2023
10th April 2023
8th May 2023
12th June 2023

10.00am - 11.30am

COFFEE/TEA & CAKE

£1.50 per person

RAFFLE
SALES TABLE

Garden Fete Kirton Holme Church PE20 1SY

Fun and games for all the family
Garden Fete Games
Children's Fancy Dress (Coronation Theme)
Tombola Stall & Raffle



Refreshments



Saturday 8th July 2.00pm
(Inside if wet)
(Proceeds to Kirton Holme Church)



7	13	37	52	83
9	20	48	58	64
	28	39	65	73
				84

PRIZE BINGO
FRIDAY
21st April
2023 7.00pm
start

KIRTON HOLME
CHURCH HALL
GOOD PRIZES
REFRESHMENTS

WILDMORE – ST PETERS

GAMES AFTERNOON

Sunday 16th April at 2.00pm
LANGRICK VILLAGE HALL

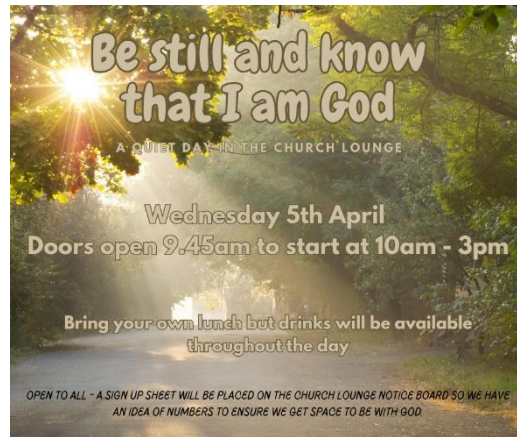


Beetle Drive Whist Drive Bingo
Mini Quiz (Adult & Children)
Prize for each session
Best looking Beetle

FAMILIES WELCOME
REFRESHMENTS

Tickets Adults £5.00 Children £3.00
Tickets from Marilyn 01526 342039
Proceeds for St. Peter's Church Wildmore

HOLY TRINITY BOSTON



Maundy Thursday 6 th April	9.30am – 12 noon at the Trinity Centre
	Childrens Easter Activity Day
Good Friday 7 th April	2pm – 3pm Reflections at the Cross
Easter Sunday 9 th April	8am Holy Communion
	10.30am Family Celebration with Communion

ST BOTOLPHS & ST THOMAS, BOSTON

Saturday 1 st April	'Celebrate Boston' at Boston Stump – stalls & exhibitions of all that is good in our town. The Community Garden will also be open for anyone to have a look at the progress that has been made. All welcome. Free Event.
Thursday 6 th April	Fun @The Stump – childrens craft and fun day 10.30am to 2.30pm – Free Event.
Saturday 15 th April	Charity Vintage Fashion Show 2pm to 4pm to raise funds for the Mayors Charities -Boston Foodbank and Guide Dogs - £15 per ticket - available from the Stump Shop.
Saturday 22 nd April	Sinfonia at St Botolphs – tickets available from the Stump Shop - £12.00
Friday 28 th April	Friday Night @The Stump Come along and have a fun night with us! SEE POSTER FOR DETAILS
Friday 12 th May	Boston District Cub Scouts camping in St Botolphs. (possibly not a lot of sleep that night and definitely no campfire!)



Saturday 20th May Craft Market at St Botolphs - Free Event.
SEE POSTER FOR DETAILS

Saturday 27th May Summer Fayre at St Thomas Church 11am -3pm

Saturday 10th June Sinfonia at St Botolphs 7.30pm – tickets available
at the Stump Shop.

Saturday 17th June Celebrate the Fens Day at the Community Garden
at St Botolphs. Fun activities for all the family from
10.30am to 2pm – Free Event.



ST PETER & PAUL KIRTON

Saturday 25th March to Saturday 8th April – The BIG Easter Egg Hunt for primary school age children. There are 37 egg shapes to be found around the Church, shops and businesses within Kirton. Pick your entry form up at Paulas Gifts or the Church. There will be a prize for the first two correct answers, and in the event of a tie, a draw will be held in the church to decide the winners.

Wednesday 10th May Bat Night at 7.30pm in the church, and then out into the church grounds.

The May Music Festival – Celebrate a weekend of marvellous music with us at Kirton Church.
(Under 16's free of charge to all Festival Events this weekend)

Friday 19th May Peterborough Steel Band – 7.30 pm tickets £15.
Refreshments served in the interval.

Saturday 20th May 12 noon, refreshments, followed at 1pm by an Organ Concert featuring
talented organist Anthony Baldrey from the Centenary Methodist Church in
Boston – tickets £10.
7.30pm, Kirton Brass Band in Concert – refreshments served in the interval –
tickets £10.

Sunday 21st May Songs Of Praise at 6pm with the Boston Community Choir featuring Soprano
Emma Scott.

If you would like to attend all of these wonderful events, you can block book your
tickets for just £30!

ST GUTHLACS FISHTOFT

Saturday 13th May Household Bric-a-Brac Emporium Style Sale and Coffee Morning 10am in the
church – open to all to come along and enjoy.

Saturday 24th June Summer Fair from 10am to 3pm. Craft stalls, raffle, bric-a-brac, plants and
lots of fun. Free event, and all are welcome to come along, meet us and join in
the fun.



Thank you to everyone who has supplied information – it is really lovely to see all the wonderful activities that our Deanery Family are providing for the local communities.

Please continue to let me know what is happening so that I can populate the next newsletter, thank you.

My email is Jayne.maddy@parishofboston.co.uk

or

telephone 01205 310929

Mon-Thur 9am – 2.30pm

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEXT ISSUE.

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE OUT DURING THE LAST WEEK OF JUNE, AS I WILL BE AWAY ON HOLIDAY DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY

(RECOVERING FROM A HUGE LINCOLNSHIRE WIDE CUB CAMP WITH AROUND 1000 8-10 YEAR OLDS, NO, I'VE NO IDEA WHY EITHER).

THIS EDITION WILL COVER ALL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES FOR JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER SO PLEASE LET ME HAVE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE

BY **JUNE 15TH** LATEST

THANK YOU.

Have a wonderful Easter.