



# The Hexagon

## Benefice Magazine

JUNE 2024

### Preaching Cross

When I lived in France, I had a friend called Paul. He was an outdoors man - a hunter, shooter, and fisher. He worked in the French equivalent of B & Q in their ironmongery section, stacking shelves, advising people about the right screws, bolts and hinges they needed, just a regular working man.

Paul never darkened the door of a church. It wasn't really his thing. But he was very kind and helpful to me and I got to know him.

One day he took me into his back garden to show me his new chickens. As we went to the top of his garden, I noticed something a bit odd. It was a sort of little shrine, built out of rocks with a statue of the Virgin Mary in it. I said, "What's that Paul?" He said, "Oh, one day I was in a nearby town, and they were doing some renovations in a church and there was a skip outside. As I walked past the skip, I saw there was a broken statue of the Virgin Mary in it, and I just felt that's wrong. So, I rescued the pieces and got my neighbour to repair it. Then I built this little place for it. Each morning, when I come to feed my geese, chickens, and pigeons, I just stop, and I have a moment here."

It occurred to me that what Paul had done effectively, was to build a preaching cross in his garden.

In Saxon England around 800 A.D. most people lived in isolated, small settlements of about 4 round wooden houses. As monasteries, or minsters, were established, the monks, nuns or priests would visit the nearby settlements and tell people about Jesus.

When communities decided to become Christian, they were too few and too poor to build a church building, so they would erect a preaching cross. That wooden, or stone cross, served as the focal point for the life of faith. People would stop as they passed by the cross in the course of their working day and say a prayer. When the nuns, priests, or monks visited, they would preach and baptise in front of this cross.

For Paul, his little shrine served as a focal point for his life of faith. It made more sense to him than going to church.

I wonder if you have a preaching cross in your home or garden? A place you can make special as a space to spend time with God. A way for you to build faith into your everyday life? And, of course, we would also love to welcome you to church!

Rev Stephen John MARCH – Pioneer Curate in the Hexagon Benefice

[www.fuelforpilgrims.org](http://www.fuelforpilgrims.org)

### Ministers and Churchwardens

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St Mary Magdalen Church, Shearsby:  
David Durran 0116 247 8708

All Saints Church, Theddingworth:  
Avril Bailey 01858 880236  
Janet Lewis 01858 881188

## HEXAGON NEWS

### St. Peter's Church, Arnesby

#### Film Planning Evening

We are holding a meeting in **Arnesby Village Hall at 6.30 pm on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2024**, to suggest and vote on films to be shown at Flicks in the Sticks from September 2024 to April 2025. Do, please join us and bring four things....

A contribution to a Bring & Share supper. Suggestions of films to show next season (Please check they are available on DVD). Your diary. Alcohol, if you wish. (Soft drinks, tea & coffee will be provided) *If you cannot come on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2024, but would like to suggest &/or sponsor a film, please contact Brian & Sue Spriggs – 0116 2478559*

#### Fruit & Vegetable Stalls

We will once again be putting surplus flowers & produce from our gardens onto 3 stalls: - at the corner of South Close and St Peter's Road, in Robert Hall Road and Chestnut Lane. Please put any donations for the items through the letter box of Cambridge House, or the donation boxes provided. The money collected will be divided between selected Charities. Please return any pots, trays or containers back to the stalls when you have finished with them.

#### Sponsored Swimathon for Macmillan Cancer Support

Thank you to everyone who sponsored me for my 1.5km swim. I have raised a magnificent £1,245 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you. *Sue Spriggs*

### St Peter's Day 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Residents of Arnesby who like to support St Peter's on the Patronal Festival can put their donation into the envelope delivered with this newsletter and return it to Brian Spriggs (Treasurer), Cambridge House, South Close. Please complete the Gift Aid Form if you are a taxpayer. (*Cheques payable to St Peter's Church, Arnesby*)

#### SUNDAY TEAS IN CHURCH 3.30am TO 5.30am

Please join us for tea & a chat each Sunday from 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024 CASH SALES ONLY

#### Arnesby Baptist Chapel

Sunday morning service 10.45am -12noon with refreshments.

Including Sunday Club for all aged children.

Sunday evening service 6-7pm.

Monday evening Ladies Group, 7.30-9pm.

Tuesday Evergreen Coffee Time, 10.45-12. (In The Barn)

Tuesday evening, 7.30-9pm, Men's Group. (2nd&4th Tues. in month)

Tuesday evening whole church prayer, 3rd Tues of the month.

Wednesday Parents, Babies & Toddlers, behind chapel 10am-12noon.

Friday Café at The Barn, 2.30-5pm.

Friday 6-7.15pm, Explorers. (School years 1 - 6).

Friday Youth Club, 7.30-9pm.

Real Lives event behind chapel (marquee) June 25-30th. Details to follow.

### St Mary's Church, Bruntingthorpe

#### Bruntingthorpe Village Hall Drop In

Weekly on Thursdays at 10am to 12 noon. Coffee, chat, and biscuits. £1 towards costs.



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### All Saints Church, Husbands Bosworth

All Saints Husbands Bosworth held a Pudding Evening in the village hall on Saturday 27 April. We raised an amazing £500 from generous donations in the space of 2 hours!! It was a fun evening for everyone, and we were delighted to see everyone tucking into a vast array of delicious puddings. We had absolutely no idea how many would support the event, whether our catering would meet demand, or send us all home with pudding to spare. Amazingly, everyone had their fill, some enjoying second and more helpings. ...one person, nameless, spooned out the trifle bowl! Special thanks to those who prepared and served the puddings and custard, for the raffle prizes and our entertaining quiz master. The photographs tell the story!

### St Nicholas Church, Mowsley

Our next service will be on 2nd June 2024 at 10.30am

### St Mary Magdalen Church, Shearsby

RIP Peggy Wildey

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Shearsby's oldest resident Peggy Wildey at the age of 101. Peggy had lived in Shearsby for 52 years, despite being house bound in her later years was always supportive of events in village. She always looked forward to reading the Hexagon so she could keep up with events. Peggy was a character and will be sadly missed.

### Shearsby Village Hall Talks

Legacy Fortress for Generations - Mon 9th September 2024  
Fieldwalking - Mon 11th November 2024  
All talks start 7.30pm in Shearsby Village Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Ticket per talk per person: £5 minimum donation.

Details and tickets, please email [shearsbyhall@gmail.com](mailto:shearsbyhall@gmail.com) or see any of the Committee Trustees.

Do come and support these new fund-raising events.

### All Saints Church, Theddingworth

A big thank you to all who supported the Spring Cafe in the church last month. We raised an amazing £486 for the church building fund, and an enjoyable time was had by all. If you haven't yet had a chance to visit the Memorial Garden in the churchyard it is well worth the visit. A lovely oasis of peace overlooking the Laughton Hills, with its newly installed bench in memory of Michael Rainey.

### Foodbank News

I would like to thank you on behalf of the Foodbank for the 272kg (wow) of food collected by your Churches during March (Husbands Bosworth - 145kg / Arnesby - 120kg / Shearsby - 7kg). Also, the 71 kg (Arnesby- 52kg / Shearsby - 19kg) of food collected by your Churches during April.

Barry McHugh, Lutterworth and Villages Foodbank



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## ADVERTISING WITH THE HEXAGON

We currently have space for adverts in the Hexagon Magazine. Prices start from £10 per issue. We have 10 issues per year from October. December and January, along with July and August are double issues which is why we have 10 issues instead of 12. Our advertisers are what keep the Hexagon being published and bringing the latest Benefice and community news and events to your door.

We would like to thank our loyal advertisers for making our magazine possible.

If you would like to advertise with us please get in touch by email: [hexagonbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:hexagonbenefice@gmail.com) or for urgent enquiries call 01858 880530 or 07391784168.

All advertising and community news submissions, please submit by 10th of each month for the following month. All issues will be sent to print typically by the 3rd Friday of the month.

Blessings

from

The Benefice Team

## BENEFICE COMMUNION SERVICES

JUNE / JULY 2024

Sunday 2nd June 2024, 10.30am Mowsley

Sunday 9th June 2024, 10.30am Shearsby

Sunday 16th June 2024, 10.30am Bruntingthorpe

\*Sunday 16th June 2024, 3pm Knaptoft Church Ruins

Sunday 23rd June 2024, 10.30am Theddingworth

Sunday 30th June 2024, 10.30am Arnesby

Sunday 7th July 2024, 10.30am Husbands Bosworth

Sunday 14th July 2024, 10.30am Mowsley

Sunday 21st July 2024, 10.30am Shearsby

\*Sunday 21st July 2024, 3pm Knaptoft Church Ruins

Sunday 28th July 2024, 10.30am Bruntingthorpe

Midweek Service 10:00am every Wednesday

at

Husbands Bosworth

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### Hexagon Benefice Team

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All JULY/AUG 2024 issue submissions by: 10TH JUNE 2024