

The Benefice of Badwell & Walsham

Rural Dean: Rev'd David Messer **01359 250239**
(contact in case of emergency)

Deanery Reader: Freddie Montgomery 01359 240271

Benefice Reader: Ian Jackson 01449 781392

Benefice Elders: Janet Kerridge 01359 259563
Jill Scarfe 01359 258849
Andrew Strickland 01449 781487

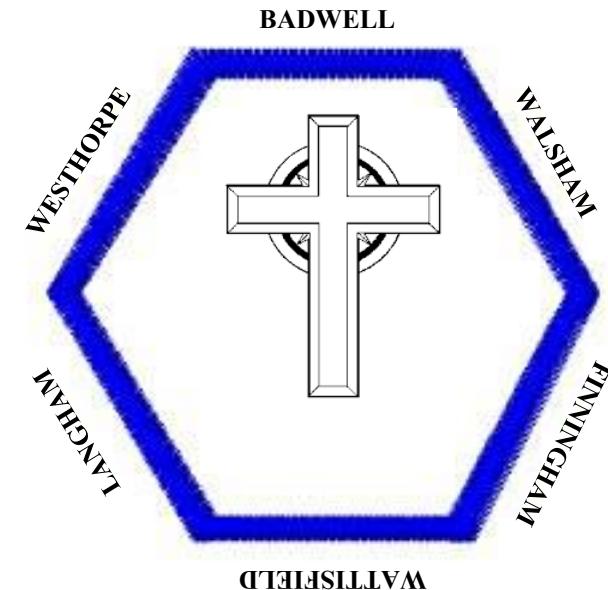
Please send your articles, jokes, fundraising event reports, puzzles, recipes and Church announcements for inclusion in this magazine (or anything else you fancy) to Rowena @ rowenagavars@gmail.com or ring 01359 259385

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Advertise your fundraising or community event for free.
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**Last date for items for inclusion in the next issue is
Monday 9th January, 2017.**

The Benefice of Badwell & Walsham



Hexagon
December 2016 – January 2017

Message from Liz Thornton

I am collecting stamps [any country, any value] for the Royal National Institute for the Blind [R.N.I.B] and Action on Hearing Loss [formerly R.N.I.D].

Please leave [1cm] around the stamps if possible and put them through my letter box at:

**Church House,
The Street,
Badwell Ash.**

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Finningham / Gislingham
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to rent or buy.

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please phone: Irving
07784983814
Thank you

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Non-profit-making organisation or fundraising event adverts are free.

Contact Judith on 01359 258251 or judith@gharlow.plus.com

HEXAGON COPY DEADLINE

The deadline for the next issue is **Monday 9th January 2017**.
Please send items for inclusion to the Editor: Rowena Gavars
(rowenagavars@gmail.com / 01359 259385)

Christmas reflection

There's little doubt about what most of us will be doing in the next four weeks – the Christmas rush to get everything organised, cards written, gifts bought and wrapped, the preparation of food, etc. etc. The rush is on to prepare.

In four weeks it'll all be over, in five a new year will have brought us another set of resolutions, in six the decorations will have come down and we'll be back to – what? Will the celebration of Christmas have made a difference? I hope it will. I hope we will have found time to reflect, if only for a brief moment, on what it means to say that God came into the world in the humility of the birth at Bethlehem, and that he still comes into the world in all its mess and pain and joy, longing for us to recognise him.

We sometimes complain about the commercialisation of Christmas and say that the real Christmas isn't about that. But in a sense the real Christmas is about precisely that: it's about God coming into the real world, not to a sanitised stable as we portray it in carols and on Christmas cards, but to a world that needed and still needs, mucking out.

So as we make our way to Bethlehem this Christmas may we in our busyness find time to reflect on its true meaning – the celebration of God's gift to us of Jesus our Saviour.

Wishing you all a very joyful and peaceful Christmas
Pam



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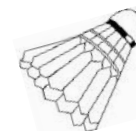
What's on:

Monday: Dog training 6-8pm



Tuesday: Coffee Morning 10am-12

Tuesday: Badminton 6-10pm



Wednesday: Yoga 10.30-11.30am and 6-8pm

Thursday: Carpet bowls 7.30-9.30pm

Anyone wishing to hire the hall or for further information please visit

www.wattisfield.org.uk or call 07539 352722

Wattisfield Village Fete Sunday 16th July 2017 – We are looking for stall holders/charity fundraisers who would like the opportunity to join us at the Village Fete or volunteers to run a side show please call 07539 352722 or email bookings@wattisfield.org.uk



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Village News

BADWELL ASH

Christmas Party, Saturday 3rd December, 5.30pm. See Advert for further details. ***

Coffee and Crafts, Saturday 10th December, 2-4pm St Mary's Church. Help to decorate the Christmas Tree. Exhibition and church clock renovation update.

Spud Lunch, Wednesday 14th December, 9am-12 noon in Village Hall. £5 includes Baked potato plus filling and desert. ***

Carols by Candle Light, Christmas Eve, 5pm. All welcome.

FINNINGHAM

Christingle Service, Sunday 11th December, 3.30pm followed by refreshments. "Candles at Twilight" All welcome, especially children.

WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS

Epiphany Singers Carol Concert, Saturday 7th January, 7.30pm.

Epiphany Choral Eucharist, Sunday 8th January, 11.00am St Mary's Church. All Welcome. ***

WATTISFIELD

On The Spot Nativity and Festive Fun, Saturday 10th December, Wattisfield URC. 2-5pm. Lots of free activities for all the family ***.

***See event posters for further details.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, CONFIRMATIONS, FUNERALS

If you would like to include an announcement in the next issue, please contact the Editor: Rowena Gavars (rowenagavars@gmail.com) / 01359259385

Wattisfield Relief in Need Charity

Distribution of income from the above Charity will take place on Saturday 10th December 2016 from 11am to 12 noon.

People who are over 60 years of age and have lived in Wattisfield since 1 January 2016 are eligible.

Only one person per household can apply.

Venue: Common Room, Victoria gardens, The Street, Wattisfield.,

CHRISTMAS EVE by Christina Rossetti

Christmas hath darkness
Brighter than the blazing moon,
Christmas hath a chillness
Warmer than the heat of June,
Christmas hath a beauty
Lovelier than the world can show:
For Christmas bringeth Jesus,
Brought for us so low.

Earth, strike up your music,
Birds that sing and bells that ring;
Heaven hath answering music
For all Angels soon to sing:
Earth, put on your whitest
Bridal robe of spotless snow:
For Christmas bringeth Jesus,
Brought for us so low.



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SPUD

Lunch

Dec 14th

9am - 12pm

Badwell Ash Village Hall

£5 - Baked Potato plus filling and desert



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Christmas
Party 3rd Dec
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Badwell Ash Village Hall

Saturday 10 December
2:00 – 5:00pm



FESTIVE FUN & on the spot Nativity Play

Join us for an afternoon of **Christmas Craft Activities**, carol singing, and our spontaneous

Nativity Play with costumes
(bring your cameras!!).

Afternoon Programme

2:00-3:30 Crafts and fun activities

3:30-4:00 Festive Refreshments

4:00 – 5:00 Nativity play and Carol Singing

A fun free event for anyone of any age!!!

United Reformed Church, Chapel Road
Wattisfield

Great War Battlefields Tour

After the success of the Barnham Tour in 2014 another visit to the Battlefields in Belgium is being organised. We shall leave Barnham on Friday 21 April returning on Sunday 23 April. We will visit familiar places such as the Menin Gate, Hill 60 and Hooze Cemetery as well as Essex Farm, Talbot House and much more !

The excellent guides we used before will be with us and will give an overview of key aspects of the War and explore personal stories such as Tubby Clayton and Neville Talbot

The cost is dependent on numbers but is expected not be more than £195. This will include accommodation for the two nights, breakfasts and lunches.

I can strongly recommend this trip. We had a wonderful yet poignant time two years ago and it would be marvellous to have friends from other villages with us. We took people aged 14-82 and everyone seemed to cope very well. If you would like to know more please contact Sue Nutt on 01842 890409/07818670124 and hopefully I will be able to answer your queries !!

theWI
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Christmas Party December 9th

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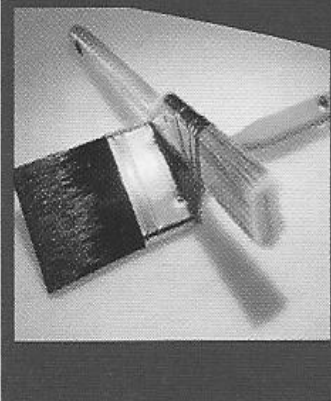
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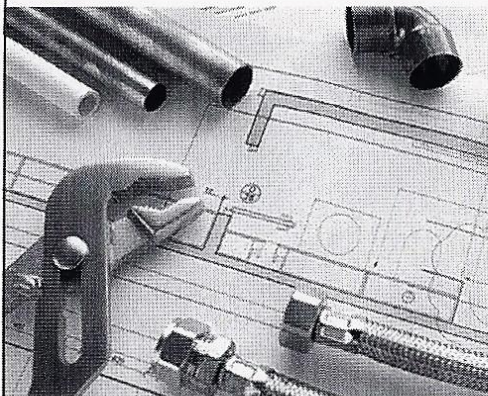
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The Epiphany Singers

To anyone who has not attended this event in the past, please read on ...

For many years we in Walsham have been really privileged to have this very talented group of people come and sing in our church. They arrive from all over the country and from abroad, many of international fame, and sing for us in St Mary's Church, Walsham le Willows.

It really is a very special evening. You don't have to be a church-goer, just someone who enjoys beautiful music and the most wonderful singing. Some of the pieces you may recognise, others will be new, but all will be memorable.

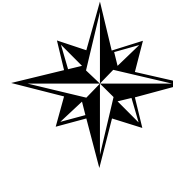
The concert is free although a retiring donation would be much appreciated.

The singers stay with families in Walsham and sing the Eucharist at church on the Sunday morning. Drinks will be offered in the church after the service, to which everyone is also very welcome.

Carol Concert Saturday 7th January at 7.30pm

This year the Conductor will be Simon Carrington, Yale Professor emeritus, and the Organist will be David Hill of the London Bach Choir

Epiphany Choral Eucharist Sunday 8th January at 11.00am



THE EPIPHANY SINGERS

EPIPHANY CAROL CONCERT

Conductor: Simon Carrington
Yale Professor emeritus

Organist: David Hill
Conductor, London Bach Choir

**Saturday 7th January 2017
7.30pm**

St Mary's Church, Walsham le Willows


For many years we in Walsham have been really privileged to have this very talented group of people come and sing in our church.

They arrive from all over the country and abroad, many of international fame.

This is a very special evening. You don't have to be a church-goer, just someone who enjoys beautiful music and the most wonderful singing. Some of the pieces you may recognise, others will be new, but all will be memorable.

Tickets are not required but there will be a retiring collection .

**EPIPHANY CHORAL EUCHARIST
Sunday 8th January 2017 11.00am**
Drinks will be offered in the church after the service.



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IPSWICH AND SUFFOLK CREDIT UNION

The Parish of Walsham-le-Willows has joined with the Archbishop of Canterbury in his initiative to offer an alternative to Pay Day Loan Companies.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has endorsed and promotes Credit Unions nationwide. We had visits from the Ipswich and Suffolk Credit Union during the year 2014. As a result we now have two Walsham-le-Willows Parish members as Credit Union Representatives for anyone in the Benefice with any interests.

They are as follows:

Fred Bloomfield
1 Church View Cottage
The Causeway
Walsham-le-Willows
Bury St Edmunds IP31 3AB
Tel: 01359 258 596
E-mail: bloomfield644@btinternet.com

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St. Mary's Church Badwell Ash awarded National Lottery Grant

You will have probably have noticed that work has started on the restoration of our historic turret clock in St. Mary's church. Hayward Horological have already started work on the restoration, which will be carried out in their workshops in Felixstowe. As well as repairing the clock and providing an automatic winding system, Hayward will be restoring the clock face which will be re-painted and re-gilded. It's also planned to refurbish the striking mechanism so that the clock will once again sound the hours. A night silencing mechanism will also be added to the mechanism so villagers aren't kept awake all night!

The work is being funded with help of a significant grant of £23,300 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) who, in association with donations given to the Badwell Ash Parochial Church Council are financing this project. This is a joint project promoted by the Parochial Church Council with help from the The Badwell Ash Local History Society. We're confident that the clock will be restored back into good working order by the Spring of 2017.

We're looking to share this exciting restoration project with the village and believe that by taking this on we can further engage with those people who have already shown interest in our historic clock and its history which is inextricably linked to the history of our Grade I church itself. We're therefore looking for volunteers to help with the historical research as well as help with filming the various aspects of the restoration which will then be featured in an exhibition to be held in the church in the Spring and on a new website, specifically designed for St Mary's.

For further information, please contact either

Badwell Ash Parochial Council

Churchwarden, Stephen Rose, tel: 07714 273669 or sjrose surfacing@btinternet.com

Badwell Ash Local History Society

Chair, Pat Monk, tel: 01359 258538 or patmmonk@gmail.com

Secretary, Julia Evans, tel: 01359 259158 or julie_evans2579@yahoo.com,
Treasurer, Howard Newman, tel: 07770 400349 or howard@hanasos.co.uk

'Housbondes at chirche dore she hadde fyve'

Wattisfield church has two porches, but only the more convenient north porch is open. The sunnier south porch was probably more used in earlier times. It displays a terracotta shield of the de la Poles, Dukes of Suffolk until William de la Pole's murder at sea in 1450. Shakespeare gives a grisly version of this event in 'Henry VI part 2'. On the porch shield a de la Pole polecat emblem remains. An unusual sun-dial was added a few centuries later. It shows a 'celestial' globe and quotes Psalm 19, tunelessly rendered by Haydn: 'The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.'

Another church with two porches, with only one in use, is Finningham. The richly carved 15th century south porch is the earlier of the two, although it was much restored in Victorian times. It has been enhanced in recent years by parishioners.

Walsham has only a north porch, alongside a road with two nearby hostleries. Inside the porch, a wooden panel bearing 'mccccxli' (1541 in modern numerals) refers misleadingly to the wall benches, not the porch itself. Outside, the high stone niche shows a Yorkist rose, dating the flint flushwork structure to before the Battle of Bosworth in 1485.

Badwell's porch, below the present street level, is also from the 15th century. Horse-shoes and hammers carved in the stonework indicate that it was financed by the local blacksmith. Most porches protected the ancient oak doors. This can be seen by the weathering on the original door arches at five of our churches. Langham, seemingly so medieval, and indeed of ancient foundation, is mostly a clever rebuilding of 1876.

At Westhorpe porch we have the impression of a small room, and that was the original nature and purpose of these substantial buildings. They were something of a church annexe. Business transactions, even weddings, were conducted here from early days. Chaucer's comic creation, the Wyf of Bathe, like the unfortunate Woman of Samaria, was married five times. Chaucer's description of her points out that 'housbondes at chirche dore she hadde fyve.'

Brian Turner



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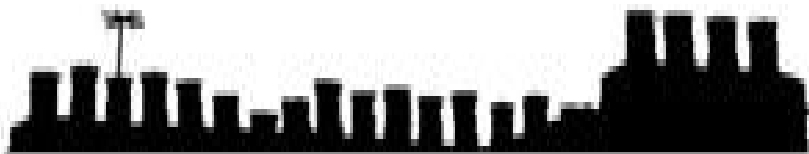
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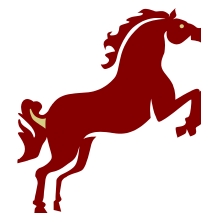
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THE WESTHORPE TRUST

HISTORY OF THE TRUST

The Westhorpe Trust [formerly The Westhorpe Charity Trust] is made up of several historic funds. The oldest is from the will of Richard Brown, which dates from 1641. He was a gentleman who lived in Westhorpe and on his death left ten shillings a year from the rent of his property, to the poor of the parish to be administered by the Rector and churchwardens. Income also came from the properties at Town Yard which in the 19th century contained the parish workhouse. A separate strand of income came from Botany Farm. This is the last house as you leave Westhorpe on the Walsham le Willows road. The rent from a parcel of land in Walsham was part of the income for the Westhorpe Charity but eventually it was swapped for 14 acres of arable land at Botany Farm.

THE TRUST IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Over the last few years a lot of work has taken place to streamline the Trust. Some of it has been compulsory due to regulations introduced by the Government and the Charity Commission and some has been at the instigation of the Trustees to improve the income and make the distribution simpler. All of the property at Town Yard has been sold over the years and the money has been invested on the Trust's behalf. The arable land is let on an agricultural tenancy at the going market rate and is reviewed every three years. However the Trust is not permitted to spend the capital, "*the Endowment*", but only the interest accruing from it. Since the income rises and falls according to the market and interest rates the Trust retains a professional independent financial adviser.

In 2014 the Trustees changed the name to The Westhorpe Trust and amended the governing schedule. This can be viewed by anyone on the Charity Commission website, www.charitycommission.gov.uk – either put Westhorpe or the registered charity number: 263332, into the search box. This will give you an overview of the Trust's charitable status, a financial summary and its compliance history as well as a list of trustees.

COMEDY CORNER

 <p>What do you get if you cross Santa with a detective ?</p> <p>Santa Clues!</p>	 <p>What is a snowman's favorite lunch?</p> <p>An Iceberger!</p>
 <p>What do vampires put on their Christmas turkey?</p> <p>Grave-y.</p>	 <p>What do you call a snowman party?</p> <p>A Snowball!</p>
 <p>What did the Gingerbread Man put on his bed?</p> <p>A cookie sheet!</p>	 <p>What did the big candle say to the little candle?</p> <p>I'm going out tonight.</p>
 <p>What kind of ball doesn't bounce?</p> <p>A snowball!</p>	 <p>What is green, white, and red all over?</p> <p>A sunburnt elf.</p>
 <p>What do call Santa when he stops moving?</p> <p>Santa Pause!</p>	 <p>Which of Santa's reindeer has bad manners?</p> <p>Rude-alph!</p>

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THE WESTHORPE TRUST (continued)

The Trust's net income has always been divided into three:

- i) One third is paid to **Westhorpe Parochial Church Council** towards the up-keep of the fabric and the provision of services for St Margaret's Church.
- ii) One third goes into the **Education Foundation**. This was originally set up to repay parents for keeping their children in school rather than sending them out to earn money bird-scaring, stone-picking or gleaning. Now the **Education Foundation** gives everyone in full-time education a book token at Christmas. Those going on to university, college, other forms of Further or Higher Education or apprenticeships are also given grants each academic year towards tuition fees, travel expenses, books, computers and other necessary equipment. In addition help can be offered with other expenses such as school uniform, books and possibly school trips for those in nursery, primary and secondary school as well as others taking educational courses.
- iii) The final third of the income goes into the **Village Fund**. This provides family and personal grants for any kind of assistance, emergency payments, help with transport and heating costs, grants towards village events and many other things which need funding.

An application form is available to download from the village website if you feel the Trust can help you or your family.

www.westhorpe.onesuffolk.net.

All applications are treated in the strictest confidence and grants are made at the discretion of the Trustees.

Claire Barker - Secretary

Reg. Charity No: 263332

Registered Address: WESTHORPE LODGE, WESTHORPE, STOWMARKET,
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At this time of year we have given grants to help with expensive extra costs that wintertime brings, particularly those having difficulty affording their heating bills. Grants are also given in cases of special hardship, for example due to serious illness, accident, redundancy or bereavement and to help with those having difficulty affording their heating bills. We have also given grants for unexpected travel expenses.

Any residents of the Parish who do find themselves in financial difficulty may apply directly to the Charity and each case will be assessed on its own merits.

To obtain an application form please write in confidence to: The Trustees, Wattisfield Town Estate Charity, Hall View House, Chapel Road, IP22 1NU

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The Badwell Ash History Group Exhibition October 15th 2016

Further to our inaugural History Group Exhibition held in the church to raise funds for the restoration of the clock in March, there was again a good attendance of over 90 people to our second Exhibition, many being newcomers. The focus was to celebrate the 100 year anniversary since the death of Miss Hester Payne who, with her brother George, was a great nineteenth century benefactor in the parish. Along with the displays to Hester which detailed her life there were other displays which included details of the church's history, the ongoing problems for this historic building highlighted by the 2015 Quinquennial report, a display about the Badwell Ash Home Guard from 1941, a 1950s coach outing from The White Horse pub and also the Heritage Lottery Fund Bid success to help St Mary's (as detailed elsewhere). Again the village Recorder books from the 1969 to 1990 and a selection of old photos brought back a multitude of memories and a good time to reminisce, chat to relatives and old friends.

The interest generated £680 from donations, a raffle and refreshments so a BIG thankyou to all of you who so generously donated again to the church repair fund in any way. We hope that you enjoyed the exhibition and look forward to hearing from you when we launch an enlarged History Group in 2017. If you have any feedback whatsoever about this event or any ideas for future exhibitions do please let us know.

Stephen, Julia, Howard & Pat

patmmonk@gmail.com

01359 258538

Family Carers Group

If you are looking after a family member or friend and would like to meet other carers please do come to:

The High Street Cafe in Ixworth on the first Monday of the month (except for Bank Holidays) at 2 pm for a chat.

The next time we meet is on 7 November.

You will be very welcome

Queries to Sue Nutt 890409/07818670124.

The Light

There was once a dark cave, deep down in the ground underneath the earth and hidden away from view.

The cave had never seen light. Because it was so deep the light had never been there.

The cave couldn't imagine what "light" might be.

Then one day, the sun sent an invitation to the cave to come up and visit.

When the cave came up to visit the sun it was amazed and delighted, because the cave had never seen light before and it was dazzled by the brightness and full of wonder.

As the sun had never seen darkness the cave wanted to return the kindness and so it invited the sun to come down and visit it sometime.

So one day the sun came down and was courteously shown into the cave.

As it entered the cave it looked around with great interest, wondering what "darkness" would be like.

Then it became puzzled and asked the cave "Where is the darkness?"

Freddie M.

SCRAMBLED PUD

Can you unscramble the following words to find the ingredients for a Christmas Pud?

TUGMENT
KLIM
TEUS
GAURS
TRANSCUR
EPICS

ROLUF
DRABNY
SGEG
NISSAIR
LEPE
SLAMNOD



NUTMEG, FLOUR, MILK, BRANDY, SUET, EGGS, SUGAR,
RAISINS, CURRANTS, PEEL, SPICE, ALMONDS

LENTEN LUNCHESES

**The Parish will be holding Lenten Lunches again in 2017.
These will take place in various locations on Thursdays
throughout Lent:**

March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th and April 6th

Further details will follow in the next edition.

**The organisers are looking for someone to host the Lunch
on March 30th. If you would like to offer, please contact
Margaret Miller on 01449 7891920.**

Benefice Services Dec 2016-Jan 2017

4th December 2nd SUNDAY IN ADVENT ***

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
10:00	Holy Communion	Finningham
10:00	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
11:00	Holy Communion	Wattisfield URC

11th December 3rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
11:00	Holy Communion	Wattisfield URC
11:00	Mattins	Walsham
15:30	Christingle Service	Finningham

18th December 4th SUNDAY IN ADVENT

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
10:00	Holy Communion	Badwell
11:00	Holy Communion	Wattisfield URC
15:00	Carol Service	Finningham
15:00	Carol Service	Westhorpe
18:00	Carol Service	Walsham
18:30	Carol Service	Wattisfield

24th December CHRISTMAS EVE

16:30	Crib Service	Walsham
17:00	Carols by Candle Light	Badwell
23:30	Midnight Eucharist	Walsham

25th December CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00	Christmas Communion	Finningham
11:00	Christmas Communion	Walsham
11:00	Morning Service	Diss URC

1st January 1st SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
11:00	Morning Service	Wattisfield URC

*** Walsham Children's Praise service 16:00 CANCELLED

Benefice Services Dec 2016-Jan 2017

8th January EPIPHANY

11:00	Holy Communion	Wattisfield URC
11:00	Epiphany Eucharist	Walsham

15th January 2nd SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
10:00	Holy Communion	Badwell
10:00	Holy Communion	Finningham
10:00	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
11:00	Service of Reaffirmation	Wattisfield URC
16:00	Children's Praise	Walsham

22nd January 3rd SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
11:00	Mattins	Walsham
11:00	Holy Communion	Wattisfield URC

29th January 4th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
09:30	Morning Service	Finningham
10:30	Songs of Praise	Walsham
11:00	Holy Communion	Wattisfield URC

5th February 4th SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
10:30	Parish Communion	Walsham #####
11:00	Holy Communion	Wattisfield URC

NOTE NEW TIME

**Wednesday Morning Eucharist In the Priory Room at 09:30
followed by Refreshments and Fellowship**

**December 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
January 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th**