

*June 2021*

**N.E.W.**

*North Walsham*

*Edingthorpe*

*Worstead and Westwick*

**NEWS**

*The Magazine for the four Churches of the North Walsham  
Benefice.*

## Useful numbers and contacts

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**Sheila Ford**  
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Magazine articles by 20th of month preceding.

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## **Editors Bit**

Flaming June as it's called has arrived and my plants need the sun as some are very late this year. I hope the weather stays good for when I go camping next week. It will be good for us all to get out in the sunshine after what has seemed a long dull and wet spring.



Our Good box is nearly set up ready to use which means when you next visit the Church and wish to donate, you no longer will need to fumble through your pockets for loose change (who carries cash these days?) all you do is choose your amount and zap your card. Easy peasy.

Another way is through easy fundraising – see this bit from our Finance sub committee.

"Please support St. Nicholas Church, North Walsham on #easyfundraising, you can raise FREE donations when you shop online with over 5,000 retailers. It's simple and only takes 2 minutes to sign up! Plus, once you have raised your first £5, easyfundraising will match it!

Sign up now: [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stnicholaschurchnw/?invite=XT7MPH&referral-campaign=c2s&utm\\_source=refsharebox](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stnicholaschurchnw/?invite=XT7MPH&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=refsharebox)."

All Saints' Church, Edingthorpe.

All Saints' Church is now open again for in person services.

Services

13<sup>th</sup> June. Morning Prayer. 9.30am.  
27<sup>th</sup> June. Holy Communion. 9.30am.

At the moment we have no news of any events taking place. We are hoping that now restrictions are beginning to be eased we will all be able to meet again. If anyone in the village has any news they would like to add to these notes please let me know. People's gardens are looking lovely at this time of the year and we hope we will be able to have "Gardens Open" next year.



June Hannant 01692 402337

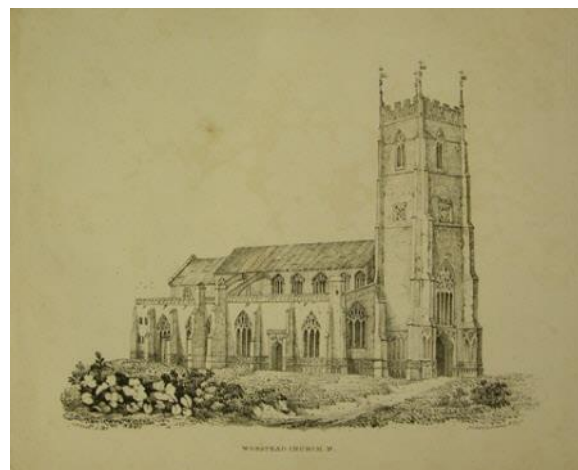
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St Mary's Worstead

St Mary's Church is now open again for in person services.

Services

6<sup>th</sup> June 9.15 am Holy Communion  
20<sup>th</sup> June 9.15 am Morning Prayer



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## **Not the Vicar's Page:**

I was out in the car the other day, listening to 'Gold' radio when I heard the 1970's hit song by Joni Mitchell titled, 'Big Yellow Taxi'. It seems that one phrase in particular stuck in my mind and I have been humming it in my head off and on ever since. 'Don't it always seem to go, that you don't know what you've got till it's gone'. As we begin to move back to a more normal way of living, that phrase seems to me to sum up something of the experience of being in 'lockdown'. So many of the things that we took for granted were lost to us, many of them the normal ways of living and relating to others. And I began to reflect on the fact that as we move out of the restrictions, and take up some of those activities and things that we had temporarily lost we may find ourselves appreciating them differently.

I read in the newspaper a few weeks ago, how the wearing of masks had made people realise that even though they were not hard of hearing they nevertheless used to watch people's lips as they were speaking, so lip-reading was subconsciously part of their hearing process. Wearing masks, hiding the lips, had brought about that recognition.

Not having been able to visit family has been hard, especially when there have been new births, or when there have been illness and death. I know that visiting our family in York will give us great joy as we are introduced to our newest great granddaughter. And then we will be able to meet with our son and his family who live in America later in the month. Modern technology is wonderful and has enabled vital contact but it is not quite the same as meeting in person.

I remember arriving early at Westwick Church for their service on Easter Day, the first service for months, people were arriving early and everyone made a point of saying how much they appreciated being able to be in Church again, and I know that the same was said by so many of our congregation here in St. Nicholas. Church worship, restricted and limited for so many weeks, was appreciated in a richer fuller way because of that restriction. And of course there will come the time when we will be able to sing hymns again in Church. It has been wonderful that we have been able to appreciate the choir, but I know that singing hymns in Church has been another of things that we had temporarily lost, and may now appreciate in a richer fuller way.

Perhaps the restrictions of 'lockdown' will have some positive consequences, not only in regard to limiting the spread of the pandemic, but also in regard to those things which we had temporarily lost and are now in the process of regaining. As that phrase from the song reminds us, 'You don't know what you've got till it's gone'. Perhaps now that we do know what we had lost, we will value and appreciate those things, those relationships, more and rejoice that we are able again to enjoy so much that we once took for granted and yet now recognise their importance to us.

**Valerie**

## Diary of Services

**Morning Prayer is held at 9am Daily Monday – Saturday at St Nicholas’ in the Lady Chapel (this service is open to all and also live streamed)**

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>6<sup>th</sup> June – 1st Sunday after Trinity</u>	
8.00 am	BCP Holy Communion	St Nicholas’
9.15 am	Holy Communion	St Mary’s
10.30 am	Holy Communion also live streamed	St Nicholas’
5.00 pm	Evening Prayer- live streamed only	St Nicholas’

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>13<sup>th</sup> June – 2nd Sunday after Trinity</u>	
8.00 am	BCP Holy Communion	St Nicholas’
9.30 am	Morning Prayer	All Saints’
10.30 am	Holy Communion also live streamed	St Nicholas’
5.00 pm	Evening Prayer- live streamed only	St Nicholas’

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>20<sup>th</sup> June – 3rd Sunday after Trinity</u>	
8.00 am	BCP Holy Communion	St Nicholas’
9.15 am	Morning Prayer	St Mary’s
10.30 am	Holy Communion also live streamed	St Nicholas’
5.00 pm	Evening Prayer- live streamed only	St Nicholas’

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>27<sup>th</sup> June – 4th Sunday after Trinity</u>	
8.00 am	BCP Holy Communion	St Nicholas’
9.30 am	Holy Communion	All Saints’
10.30 am	Holy Communion also live streamed	St Nicholas’
5.00 pm	Evensong	St Nicholas’

It is our intention to continue live streaming services from St Nicholas’  
Please note all services are subject to change dependent on instructions from the  
Government and the Church of England regarding worship in Churches.  
Full information can be found on our website and face book page.

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## Jo's June thoughts

'For I know the plans I have for you.... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future' *Jeremiah 29:11*

Just two years ago you were praying for me as I headed to Selection Panel to see if I would be recommended for training and now I'm about to be ordained and move to Trunch! I don't think any of us really ever knows what the future holds and most certainly not over the last 2 years. My training and formation has certainly not turned out the way I expected it to – but none of us at the time could have envisaged a pandemic and a vacancy.

But as I've been reminded time and time again across my life, our God is a God of surprises, and works in the most unexpected and wonderful ways. The future may not look like I expected it to just two years ago, but I trust and have faith in God, who has never let me down in the long and often winding path that He's taken me along.

As I think about the future, and the changes which are about to happen, I'm reminded of a book I read in New Zealand in 2019. 'Huia Come Home' is about reclaiming the past, understanding mistakes and finding a shared hope for the future, in the context of the differing cultures and worldviews of the Maori and European New Zealanders. In it the author, Jay Ruka, draws parallels between the way the Israelites and the Maori look at the future – and the way we do.

So, as I look to the future, I stand looking forward, metaphorically shading my eyes as I scan the far horizon. I do so as a product of Western thinking, someone who uses the word future to project forward, taking an imaginative journey into the unknown, the not yet experienced. But the word future in Hebrew, in the Jeremiah quote at the top of the page, is '*aharit*' – which translates *afterward, backwards or after part*. So how can this be 'future'? The Hebrew concept of time is like a man rowing a boat. He sees where he has been, but the future is towards his back: he **backs** into the future. It is unknown precisely because it is behind him.

The Maori and Hebrew ways of thinking are strikingly similar, despite being half a world apart. 'Huia's' author, Jay, quotes a Maori proverb, '*Titiro whakamuri, haere whakamua*' which is commonly translated 'We walk into the future backwards'. It suggests that we learn from the past, that we take all the lessons of not only our own lives but of the collective memory of our people and community and apply them in new contexts, and it is this which directs our future.

So, as I move into the future, into the unknown, I am facing into my past. By keeping my eyes fixed on Jesus, on the places and people which have influenced my life, on

the memory of all I've experienced and the communities I've been part of, I can be confident that my rowing line will be straight and true.

God's plans for me – and for you – involve people, communities and circumstance. Those plans are, as Jeremiah reminds us, to prosper and not to harm, to give us hope and a future. As I sit in my rowing boat, with my back to the future, you are all sitting alongside God in the cox's seat providing the aligning markers I need to confidently row into the future.

Of course, I will miss you all terribly. You have cheered me on, challenged me, comforted and encouraged, just as you do for each other every day. Keep on doing that. Keep being the lovely people you are. Keep supporting and loving those who lead you, serve you and who walk alongside you. And I pray that God's plans for this place will be realised as you too look to the past, learning from what has happened before and, keeping your eyes on Jesus, you too row confidently into the future.

Thank you.

*If you are interested in New Zealand history, the Maori worldview and how Christianity came – and was nearly lost – to Aotearoa, I would recommend Jay Huka's book 'Huia Come Home' [[www.huiacomehome.co.nz](http://www.huiacomehome.co.nz)] – Jo*

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### **Summary of Minutes of Parochial Church Council of St Nicholas' Church North Walsham Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Zoom**

There were 15 members present and 1 apology.

Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were duly read and agreed as a true copy.

Matters arising was the updating of the risk assessment now we are opening up for services and the payment to the musical director.

**Appointment of officers:** Lay Chair – Sarah Rodgers is happy to stay on as Lay Chair. Re appointed.

Standing Committee – Roger Buck, Chris Hargest, Anna Bright, Sarah Rodgers and Hilary Lawler all appointed.

Treasurer - Anna Bright was re-appointed as Treasurer via emails to PCC members on 26<sup>th</sup> April.

**Finance:**



The treasurer produced the accounts as they stand to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. She provided the usual print of numbers and also a new version in graph format. She asked for feedback and it was decided that the new format is easier to understand and she will continue to produce the accounts in the old and new format. We have currently approximately £8,000 excess at present. This is due to the Council grants received and the funds from the job retention scheme. The halls are running at a loss at present due to being closed and unable to be booked.

A discussion regarding a new audio system took place as current system not always working correctly. There is a new Audio / Visual system available that we can purchase for approximately £5,000; This will be discussed further.

### **Fabric:**

Roger Buck reported that the office refurbishment will have to wait until the roof leaks are fixed. He is awaiting quotes; however, the roof leaks will need to be actioned before the winter. There are tiles broken and missing from the halls roof, there are funds in the Halls redevelopment fund which may be able to be used for the repair of this. We will check with to see if we have any spare tiles to use.

**Deanery Synod.** No report received as no meetings held at present.

### **Ministry Team:**

The chair thanked the Clergy team for all the services they have put together. It has been decided to continue the Live streaming of services. Nigel advised on what is currently happening.

- 8 am is Congregational
- 10.30 am is Live streamed and Congregational
- 5 pm is Live streamed only.

Ascension Day will be a Live streamed and Congregational service with the Choir singing. We are continuing to watch the Government guidelines and awaiting the end of June reports. Jo will be leaving us at the end of June and Robin is not available now until the autumn. That leaves Nigel, Valerie and Susanna and they will need holidays. If need be, we shall have to restrict the number of services. We have contacted our Lay admin who may be called upon to take certain services, possibly the Morning Prayer slots. We are getting lots of Baptism requests so it is picking up. There are changes to the administration and process of weddings. Only one wedding is booked in for this year. Most were postponed until 2022.

**Website and Face Book:** Sheila Ford and Jo Haywood are current editors of the website. Chris Sherman said he is happy to assist Sheila to control the website. Nigel will look into being an editor also. Face Book editor – currently Jo Haywood and Sheila Ford are editors of the Face Book page.

With Jo leaving we need to find someone to run the face book page. Sheila does not have the time to do this. Is there someone in the congregation who could do this? It

was discussed at a ministry team meeting that recordings need to be removed after each month. There is a need to find someone to run the whole IT package and should be someone who is a Christian and supports the ethos of St Nicholas'. Whatever goes out on Social media is representing the Church. The chair asked we all pray about this issue. There is a possibility of setting up a subcommittee for Digital/Tech items. They need to be someone closely involved with Church life and the Clergy.

**Parish Profile** – The draft Parish profile has been sent to all PCC members and we are almost there. This will now go to the Diocese who will smarten it up with pictures. It will then go to Cathryn Dobson and the Archdeacon. The next step will be to hold the Section 11 meeting. There will then be the need to find 2 representatives from each Church to interview prospective candidates.

**Vicarage** - The Vicarage has been vacant since August 2020 and the garden is growing. It was decided to arrange a working party to tidy the garden. The Diocese gives an annual grant for grass cutting. It was decided a working party would be put together. We will ask for volunteers at the next service.

**Halls:** The halls are now starting to be used again. It will be used for the local elections and regular users have re booked. Red Loft theatre, New life Toddlers group, Slimming World and others. The loop system from a previous matter arising was discussed and thought a low priority at the present moment. Ann has said that no users have asked for the Loop system. As no demand we will not invest at the moment. The issue of the choir currently in the halls on a Sunday morning to practise was discussed. This is only for social distancing at the moment and will return to the practice room in the tower as soon as possible. We are aware that the Sunday kids will be returning to the halls when restrictions allow. There is a possible booking by a Church group to use the halls on a Sunday morning. The group that owned the shed in the halls garden are no longer using the hall and have donated the shed to the halls for storage. Ann has rented this to the New life toddler group for their equipment. Gardening equipment in the shed can be stored at the vicarage for now. Julie the proprietor of Swallows has tidied the garden area behind the halls where she places her outside tables.

#### **A.O.B.**

- Art Exhibition – Bob Wright has contacted regarding the exhibition in September. The Church is an ideal venue for the event. It has been staged in the Church before and we still have the boards used for display. In principle it was decided to support this. We will go forward with this.
- Good Box system – This is being set up. Chris Sherman has agreed to get this up and running and find out if we can gain gift aid from users.
- Archives – An archives group needs to be set up to compile and list all Church archives.

- Paul's leaving present picture – Jo Haywood has taken the picture over to Dereham and Paul is delighted with it. A piece will be placed in next NEWS magazine
- Cleaning – Hilary Lawler is the new organiser of the cleaning rota and volunteers. She will place a rota and list of jobs to be ticked off at the back of the Church. The Easter big spring clean went well.
- Fundraising – This needs to be up and running as soon as restrictions allow. Chris Sherman discussed the Easy funding system when purchasing items online. Just join and pick saintnicholasnw to help our finances. This will be discussed at the next finance committee meeting.
- Sidesperson's list – Chris Hargest is co ordinating this. He is also co ordinating the readers and intercessions rota.

**Next Meeting:**

Standing Committee – Wednesday June 30<sup>th</sup> 2021

PCC - Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021 hopefully in person.

**Full minutes are available on request from the Parish Office.**

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If you are ready to return to worship and eager to join a group, have you thought of the Mothers' Union?



Mothers' Union is an international Christian charity that seeks to support families worldwide. Its members are not all mothers or even all women, as there are many parents, men, widows, singles and **grandparents** involved in its work. It was founded in 1876 by Mary Sumner and is doing vital work for families Worldwide.

One member posted on the Mothers' Union

Website – *“I’m a Mothers' Union member because it’s a grassroots organisation with a global vision”*

As a member you can:

**strengthen** communities all over the world      **Help** the most disadvantaged at home

**Shape** how we advocate for the rights of families      **Build** supportive, loving relationships

**Develop** your own relationship with God

If you would like to find out more about the Mothers' Union at St Nicholas', please leave your details on the office telephone 01692 408971 and we will be in touch. We meet on a Tuesday afternoon, once a month.

.....  
Here's a question for you.

Do you find yourself with a couple of hours in the morning you think?



where

Shall I sit and have a coffee or shall I sit in the Church and give a welcome to those coming in for private prayer and to the many visitors we get to see our lovely Church.

**Come and steward for us.**

The times are 9.30am- 12.30pm Monday to Friday. You can steward as often as you like. Once a week or month any time would be appreciated.

Please contact Elizabeth Hargest 01692 405650 or the Churchwardens whose contact Nos can be found on the second page of this magazine if you are interested.

