



Welcome to the July edition of our Newsletter

From Rev Anthony Oram

Welcome to our newest newsletter, ready with up-to-date information on what's going on in our churches over the coming weeks. Of course, the news that's top of the list for us all is that the final step coming out of lockdown has been put back, likely until Monday 19th July. What's most awkward for us in churches across the country is that we don't know what difference that has made to our services of worship. We had no news on what would have been specifically allowed in church after June 21st, so we don't know what we'd have been missing. But what we do know is that we are able to continue to meet together in church, and that's exactly what we're doing; every week at both Cottesmore and Greetham, monthly at Exton, and Clipsham from July. What's going on at Stretton Church? It's being refurbished in a grand way, with works expected to continue into August. It's a hard wait for parishioners in Stretton, but for a very good reason, the building will be much more welcoming and will be a great venue not only for worship services and other events in the life of the church but also for use by the village community too. But, if you are reading this from Stretton or Stocken, do feel free and very welcome to come and join in worship in another of the benefice churches.

Since we've restarted services in the buildings again, we have seen good, healthy numbers at many services, but I'm aware that we haven't seen the same numbers as we did before the pandemic. This is quite natural, it's not over yet and we still can't have services how we'd like (still no singing allowed!) But the chance to be together in one place and have fellowship of a sort has been very encouraging for those of us who have been able to come. I understand there are still good reasons to stay away but let me reiterate what I said on the online services – if you want to get out and be with other people, going to one of our services is one of the safest ways of doing that. Safer by far than shopping, eating, or drinking out and way better for you too! So, if you want to join in with in-person worship together with others in one place, let me encourage

you to go for it, you won't regret it. We would very much appreciate your comments and feedback which can be sent to Julie Leefe at [Cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com](mailto:cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com).

What's coming up soon!

North Rutland Churches Facebook page

As part of the update we are making to our communications, we have created a new Facebook page for our churches to enhance our Facebook presence with the ability to boost the visibility of our posts. As an experiment, we have adopted the name for our group of churches used in our web site address – North Rutland Churches – making it easier for this page to complement the web site.

Could I ask Facebook users to try to find the new page and “like” it so we can see how easy it is to find, please? And, if you are a whiz at designing artwork and logos etc. for social media, we need your help as our initial trial versions need work! You can send any feedback to me, Julie Leefe via Facebook message or email cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com.

Church management software – iKnow Church

We are also trialling a church management software package especially developed for Anglican churches to enable us to communicate easily and effectively with all of our congregations, visitors, and local community. At the moment we are just at the testing phase, but if you would like to help with the testing, please email me to give me permission to add your email address to the system and you will be able to create a dummy profile for yourself and let us know how easy it is to use. If we adopt this system, we will use it to deliver the newsletter, together with other types of communications within church and externally. Again, email me, Julie Leefe at cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com.

Tech help

Many of you have really appreciated the online services running since the beginning of the first lockdown which have allowed you to join in with worship when it otherwise would have been impossible. We anticipate that these online services will probably stop in September once in-person services are completely re-established. We are considering, however, whether to make some online mid-week teaching available to supplement Sunday services, home groups and pods. We would still appreciate some “tech” help, especially with video-editing if any of you have these skills or would be willing to learn. Contact Rev Anthony Oram on cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com.

CONTACTS

General and newsletter cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com

Rev Anthony Oram RevAnthonyOram@gmail.com
01572 812948

For Pastoral matters the readers are:

Anne Adamson annecadamson@aol.com
01572 812816

Barbie Coulson barbie@beicoulson.plus.com
01572 813040

Diane Creasey
(and funerals) creaseygreetham@aol.com
01572 812079

Web site www.northrutlandchurches.org.uk

Facebook
group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Cottesmorebenefice> - Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/North-Rutland-Churches-102279675438456> - North Rutland
Churches Facebook page

Services in July and August			
July – August 2021		Services in North Rutland Churches	
Sunday July 4	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Morning service Morning service	Cottesmore Greetham

Sunday July 11	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:15 AM 11:15 AM	Morning service Morning service Morning service followed by village picnic. Holy Communion (BCP)	Cottesmore Greetham Thistleton Clipsham
Sunday July 18	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Holy Communion Morning Service	Cottesmore Greetham
Sunday July 25	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:15 AM	Morning service Holy Communion Holy Communion	Cottesmore Greetham Exton
Sunday August 1	10:30 AM	Benefice Holy Communion	Cottesmore
Sunday August 15	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Holy Communion Morning service	Cottesmore Greetham
Sunday August 22	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:15 AM	Morning service Holy Communion Holy Communion	Cottesmore Greetham Exton
Covid precautions - social distancing, mask wearing etc will continue for a few more weeks		Please check with your local church or web site www.northrutlandchurches.org.uk for any changes	

	What's on regularly in the North Rutland Churches
Monday 10.30 Weeks 2 & 4	Prayer Meeting (Cottesmore) currently meeting on Zoom For more information, please contact Di Toy on 01572 812355
Monday 14.30 Weekly term time	Barrow Home Group – now meeting in person at The Willows, Barrow Contact Duncan Ball 01572 812428 or email cduncanball@gmail.com
Monday 14.30 Weekly	House group meets every week on Zoom. Contact Jackie Gauntley 01572 868291 or jackiegauntley@hotmail.co.uk
Monday 19.00 Weekly	Hand Bell ringing Cottesmore Church 7pm Contact Pat Hoyles, 01572 813034
Tuesday 08.30 Weekly	Morning prayer in Cottesmore Church – not meeting at present
Tues 09.30 - 11.00 Term time only	Sparklers toddlers group – Cottesmore – restarting in September ALL WELCOME
Tuesday 19.30 Weekly	House group meeting on Zoom Contact Steve or Julie Bertuzzi email Steve.bertuzzi@medasun.com or julie.bertuzzi@medasun.com
Thursday 08.30 Weekly	Morning prayer in Cottesmore Church – not meeting at present

Thursday 09.15 Weekly	Morning Prayer (Exton) meeting on Zoom - contact Bernie.wallace@btinternet.com
Thursday 19.30 Weekly term time	House group currently meeting on Zoom Contact Anne Adamson on 812816 or email: annecadamson@aol.com
Saturday 10.30 – 13.00 Weekly	Saturday café at Thistleton Church

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