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## BPCC update

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*Your Benefice PCC has been at work. Here are some highlights of what the various committees have been doing and discussing on your behalf.*

January 2024

*Please feed any comments, encouragement or problems back through your BPCC representatives.*

## **Social & Fundraising Events:**

Inter Parish quizzes are all planned. Wappenham won the January round. Next round Feb 9<sup>th</sup> in Whitfield then March 14<sup>th</sup> in Wappenham. A Barn Dance is planned probably for June 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **Finance**

We paid 90% of our parish share in 2023. We aim to pay the full amount in 2024. Any help with more regular giving would be most welcome.

Most churches have building works and repairs to do and are working hard to fund these.

## **Pastoral Care**

The group are offering cards, visits, Holy Communion and occasional tea parties to those in any need. They could do with some new recruits for helping with this important role.

Helmdon and Syresham will be holding tea parties over the next couple of months.

## **Worship**

Everyone was pleased with the Remembrance and Christmas celebrations. Lent and Easter services have been planned. There will be two services on Ash Wednesday 2pm in Syresham and 7pm in Helmdon. Also two repeated Lent Courses, a daytime one in Helmdon and Wednesday evenings in Syresham. Holy Week and

Easter will be similar to last year, with services in each church on Easter Day.

## **Safeguarding**

All DBF checks are complete and work is ticking over.

## **Hope Centre**

Andrew North continues to run the Hope Centre rota and is most grateful to all drivers who help out four times a year.

There have been a few issues with gaining entrance to the Hope Centre.

## **Parishes**

*Helmdon* Held very successful fundraising events in 2023 and are planning more for 2024. They have some quinquennial work to complete and are concerned about the cost and effectiveness of their heating.

*Lois Weedon* coffee mornings continue to be a success. Despite this the parish is very short of money for running expenses. Grants have been received to enable work on the East Window. The church tower is used for providing fibre optic delivery.

*Syresham* 's fundraising was disappointing in 2023. However funds to complete the works required on the steeple are steadily coming in. They are enjoying Revd. Hugh's input in school, coffee mornings and services. They are working with the village

to plan a big community fundraising event in June.

*Wappenham* paid their full parish share. They have building works to complete this year alongside work in the churchyard which they share with the Parish Council.

*Whitfield* are making plans to make the church more welcoming and encourage more folk to attend. This is not helped by the lack of heating with the large heater out of use at present. They have suffered several deaths of late.