

The
Shared Church
in Ringstead

36 High Street, Ringstead, NN14 4DA

www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk



January 2025 Magazine

**Please send your articles for the February edition to
ringsteadnotices@gmail.com**

by 25th January

From our Minister



It's the beginning of a new year and once again we will be gathering together on the first Sunday for our covenant service. In this service we renew our commitment to God and each other. The emphasis of this service is not on our promises though, but a reminder of God's readiness to enfold us in generous love, not dependent on our deserving. This leads us to respond, also in love, with penitent joy and thanks, for God's amazing grace.

You see God did something special for us at Christmas, he sent his only son down to earth to show us how to live. But that wasn't the end, Jesus not only lived for us, but he also died for us, Easter and Christmas go hand in hand. For the Good news isn't just that a baby was born in Bethlehem, but also that 'while we were still sinners, Christ died for us' (Romans 5:8)

In his autobiography Kenneth Clark reflects on an experience he had whilst in a beautiful church: "My whole being was irradiated by a kind of heavenly joy far more intense than anything I had known before."

He realised that this experience of God's love and Joy could change his life, but that created a problem for him. If he allowed himself to be influenced by it, he knew he would have to change, his family might think he had lost his mind, and maybe that intense joy would prove to be an illusion. So he concluded, "I was too deeply embedded in the world to change course."

So our Christmas present from God was his son, and Christ's present to us was freedom from sin and the Joy of a new life, now it's up to you too will you accept it?

*The Saviour is waiting to save you
And cleanse every sin-stain away;
By faith you can know full forgiveness
And be a new creature today!*

Shared News

Christmas Celebrations

The Christmas decorations recently went up at the Axe and Compass prior to Mike, Sue, Wendy, Alan and Agnes going there for Sunday lunch. During the meal it appeared that the decorations had not been fixed in place to the required standard. As Agnes stated 'I was having lunch with Alan, Mike, Sue and Wendy at the Axe and Compass when the decoration fell down on my head. The Chef asked if I would like to be the fairy on the Christmas tree? That brought a smile to everyone around!



Wednesday Prayers

This would normally take place on the first Wednesday of the month, as this is New Year's Day then there will be no Wednesday Prayers this month, The next one will be on February 5th.

Saturday 4 January will be a busy day

At 9:00 am we will take down all the Christmas decorations. If everyone lends a hand it will be an easy task, with bacon butties when it's done.

At 1:30 pm there will be a service celebrating the life of Beryl Tattershall who passed away at the end of November, followed by refreshments at Hermitage House in Thrapston where Beryl had been cared for. Everyone will be welcome. We continue to remember Alexandra and Peter, James and Paula and their families as we give thanks for Beryl's life of Christian service.

Axe & Compass Quiz

The next quiz takes place on 7th January and we will be looking to have a fun evening. If you're interested in taking part then please let Rick know.

Did you Know

Every month I try to incorporate an article to give information on local issues, generally they are based around Ringstead and the County.

Shared News - Cont'd

I would like to include the surrounding area and you will see that this month's article is based in Raunds. So if you have anything interesting to write about in Thrapston, Raunds, Stanwick, Higham Ferrers or Woodford then I'd love to hear from you.

Sunday Special

Sunday Special is only available via Zoom on 12th January at 7:30pm, using the link on the last page of this newsletter. There will be a chance to watch and discuss another twenty minute film in the series "God Saw That it Was Good".

Time Together

This is for EVERYONE involved in the Shared Church to be able to take part in planning future events. Please ensure that you're available on Wednesday 15th January at 7:30pm. This will be held at the Church and will not be available via Zoom.

Zoom Quiz Night

The next Zoom Quiz Night is scheduled for Friday 31st January at 7:30pm. Please let Angela know if you're able to provide a round as without rounds there's no Quiz. It's always a fun evening.

Our thoughts and prayers of thanks to God.

We continue to pray for Ange's Great-niece, Grace, who is undergoing cancer treatment. We pray for God's healing hand to be on her during this traumatic time for her and her family.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sue as recovery from her knee operation continues, the weeks of physiotherapy will be challenging and we ask for God's help during this process.

Please continue to offer prayers for Mark Russen and Phil Stockton who are undergoing treatment for cancer, we also pray for the clinicians treating them to give them the best care possible.



Book Club

We last met on December 3rd and we were pleased to welcome a new member, Sally. "Tin Man" by Sarah Winman was a beautiful well written book as we have come to expect from this talented author. The description of Provence was wonderful making the reader feel that they were there and the direct and sparse dialogue was powerful. It was just a great read. Our next meeting is Tuesday January 7th at 11 Carlow Road and our book is "Butter" by Asako Yuzuki which is a Waterstones book of the year.

Venue: 11 Carlow Road

Date: 7th January

Time: 2:30pm

June.



The Axe and Compass, Ringstead, Quiz Night

Tuesday 7th January 2025 at 19:30 hrs

**Would you like to make up a team
with Rick?**

Please contact Rick



Did you know ?

It is well known that the father of television presenter David Frost, Rev W J P Frost (known as Paradine Frost) was minister of Raunds Methodist Church between 1954 and 1957 but it is not widely known that an ancestor of another television personality was also minister of the same church in 1891.

Reverend Henry Parkes, was great grandfather of TV chef, Rick Stein. Henry Parkes was born in Antigua in 1839 to Methodist missionary parents. In 1863 **Henry** was a Wesleyan Methodist minister and one of a small group of priests who were asked to take Christianity to China following China's defeat by the British in the second Opium War of 1856-60.



Raunds Methodist Church 1891

Henry and his new wife, Annie, and their children lived on the eastern side of Canton Province (now known as Guangzhou), an area where smallpox, cholera, typhoid and bubonic plague were endemic. Hundreds of thousands died in the region over the next few years. With four children under the age of six, Henry was understandably concerned for the health and safety of his family. As a missionary, his job was not only to preach, but also to help establish schools, hospitals and orphanages. Apart from the Parkes and a few other missionary families, there were no other Europeans in the region.

In 1873 Henry applied to return to England and he was allowed to come on furlough in 1874 but it was not until 1882, when he had been in China for nearly 20 years, that the family was allowed to leave permanently. By this time two of their children had died within 3 weeks of each other.

Henry was sent to Oxenhope in Yorkshire to minister and in August 1891 the Northampton Mercury reported that Reverend Henry Parkes had been appointed as minister of Raunds Methodist Church. Northampton Chronicle and Echo of October 29th 1891 reports on two services at Thrapston Wesleyan Church where Rev Henry Parkes preached and where he is described as a 'returned missionary from China'

Henry Parkes died in Streatham in 1926 in his 87th year. His daughter Mary was the grandmother of Rick Stein.

Start your day with prayer

Starting from Monday September 4th Rick will be leading an Online Morning Prayer at 9am each weekday morning.



This will be a simple 20min or so prayer using the Daily office from the Northumbria community

(<https://www.northumbriacommunity.org/offices/morning-prayer/>)

All who wish to join can do so using the Church Zoom link, or use the liturgy above at another time during the day.

Knit & Natter



**Wednesday
8 January
at 2.30pm
at The
Shared Church**

**Come to knit or sew
or just come to natter!**

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Lunch Club

Thursday 9 January at 12.30pm

2-course cooked meal
and coffee/tea

Cost £5.00

**EVERYONE WILL BE
WELCOME**



But, you need to book your place:

Ring 622162 (Val)

or 07558 538711 (Christine)

or text to 07784 162087

(no voice messages, please)

DO COME!

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Our regular 3rd Saturday

Coffee, cake and chat



Saturday 18 January
10.00 – 11.30

Time to relax and chat with friends

Do drop in Everyone is welcome

No charge but any donations will be gratefully accepted

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk



**Shared Church
Zoom Quiz Night**

Friday 31 January @ 7.30pm

A fun evening for all the family

**Will you offer a round of questions?
email Angela at: -**

treasurer@RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

**To zoom in click the link on the home
page of the website:**

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

Programme - January 2025

Services in January (In church and by Zoom)

Services are led by Revd Rick Preston unless otherwise stated:

Sunday 5th January

10:30am Communion and Covenant Service

Sunday 12th January

10:30am Morning Service

Revd David Gamston

7:30pm Sunday Special (Zoom only)

Sunday 19th January

10:30am Morning Service

Sunday 26th January

10:30am Morning Service



and in February

Sunday 2nd February

10:30am Communion Service

To share in the morning services through Zoom see the website

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

and click on the link on the home page

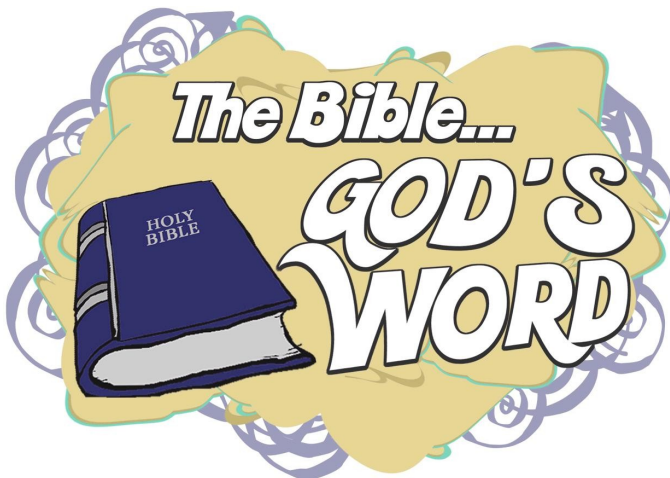


Readers & Readings

Rota for Scripture readings

5 January 2025	Peter	John 1.(1-9),10-18
12 January 2025	Chris	Luke 3.15-17,21-22
19 January 2025	Carol	John 2.1-11
26 January 2025	Louise	Luke 4.14-21
2 February 2025	Agnes	Luke 4.21-30
9 February 2025	Mike	Luke 5.1-11
16 February 2025	Christine	Luke 6.17-26
23 February 2025	Alan	Luke 6.27-38

We usually read using the NIV version but if you wish to read from another version please let Rick know a couple of days in advance so your reading can be shown on the screen during the service.



Contacts

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Deacon & Designated Person for Safeguarding:

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Email: Alexandra_bbcdn@msn.com

Phone: 07808 127676

Church website: www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

If you or someone you know would benefit from a phone call, please contact our minister Rick or one of the above.

Prayer - We would be pleased to join you in prayer—if you would like us to pray for/with you, please contact any of the above.

Zoom Meeting Connection Information

Zoom Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84607293457?
pwd=L1F0Szd0Z1I2R1RvNVlCc0VsTVVA1Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84607293457?pwd=L1F0Szd0Z1I2R1RvNVlCc0VsTVVA1Zz09)

Meeting ID: 846 0729 3457

Passcode: 143365

Or Dial from any phone 0203 051 2874 or
0203 481 5237 or 0203 481 5240 or 0203 901
7895 or 0131 460 1196

QR Code

