

The **Shared Church** *in Ringstead*

36 High Street, Ringstead, NN14 4DA

www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk



December 2024 Magazine

Please send your articles for the January edition to

ringsteadnotices@gmail.com

by 25th December

From our Minister



It's choir practice again, and there is the usual murmuring amongst the ranks, the choice of music, new choir robes and of course the quality of the after rehearsal snacks! Suddenly all goes quiet as the angel Gabriel, enters and stands before the angelic choir

"Right, angels, pay attention. Operation 'Good News' is scheduled for tonight. You've all seen the message which the Lord God wants proclaimed. You'll probably never take part in a more important mission, so I don't want anyone making mistakes. Angel Fiona - what is the good news?"

A young angel stands to attention. "That Christ the Lord is born, sir!" Gabriel nods, "Very good. And who is Christ the Lord ... Angel Michael?"

"The only Son of God, Sir" replies an angel at the back wiping crumbs from his mouth!

"Very good, very good. Now, your target for Operation 'Good News' is here - just outside Bethlehem." Gabriel points to map that has just appeared before them, "It'll be night time, so you'll need to keep a good look out. What you're looking for is a group of shepherds keeping watch over their flocks."

Mutterings of disapproval erupt from amongst the gathered angels. It seems that there may be some different opinions as to who should receive the news of Jesus birth!

"Why are we telling it to 'shepherds'?! Why not to the important people - like the Pharisees - or the scribes - or even King Herod? I mean, shepherds aren't exactly important, are they!"

From our Minister - Cont'd

Gabriel glares at the crowd "Listen this message of good news is for ALL people! Get it, All the people - and that includes shepherds. And the Lord God sees them as being just as important as anyone else. So they get the good news first. So - Operation 'Good News' is go. Best wings forward, best voices for proclaiming, and Angel Michael...Please remember: The words are 'Christ the Lord is born', not 'Whey hey - it's Christmas!' Dismiss!"

Ok so the above may be an 'imaginative' retelling of part of the Christmas story, but it does remind us of something important. The Good news is for everyone. Christmas isn't just for the Kids, or an opportunity sing carols and to share presents, food and drink. The most important message we can share is that Jesus, Gods own Son, came to earth so that everybody could be forgiven and enter into a personal relationship with the God who loves us. Now that is good news!

Rev Rick

Ps 'Whey hey - it's Christmas!'



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.

Memory Bows

Once again this year the Christmas tree in the church will be different. Instead of tinsel and baubles it will be decorated with Memory Bows.

The bows will be available during November. Please take a bow (more if you need them) and write on the name of the person you want to remember.



Bring the bow to the morning service (10.30am)
on Advent Sunday ~ December 1
(or get it to someone who will be at the service)
and they will be placed on the tree.

This act of remembrance is not limited to our church family, anyone in our communities will be welcome to prepare a bow, so please spread the word around

Ringstead Community Group

Carols



Round the Tree

and switching on the Christmas Tree lights

Sunday 1 December

**6.00pm at the Community Garden
in the High Street**

**with Revd Rick Preston
and The Shared Church music group**

Refreshments available from 5.30pm

A collection will be taken for the Air Ambulance

Shared News

Beryl Tattersall

We were sad to hear that Beryl passed away on November 24.

We first knew Beryl in the mid-90s when she, John and their family came to Burton Latimer where John was minister of the Baptist Church in the town. She was a great support to John but also had her own roles in so many practical things ... catering, costumes for pantos, etc.

Beryl was anticipating that when John retired they would come to live in Raunds and become members of this Church. But it took almost a further 15 years to come to fruition as John was called to be minister of Christ Community Church in Orlando. Beryl enjoyed the different lifestyle but missed her grandchildren.

After John's untimely death Beryl returned to this country and in time she became a member here. Until Covid she was always at services and helping with many jobs, sharing her deep faith in word and deed. It was during Covid that Beryl became ill and her health steadily declined.

We give thanks for Beryl's life of faith and service and pray for Alexandra and Peter, James and Paula, and their families, in their sadness. At the same time we rejoice with them that she is now resting with the Lord she served all her life.

Social Club Christmas Dinner

The Social Club Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner will take place on Saturday 7th December at 12 noon, full details can be found in this month's publication. The meal will be preceded by Christmas Carols led by Peter and Angela Davis, please let them know if you want to help in any way.

Shared News - Cont'd

Axe & Compass Quiz

The next quiz takes place on 3 December and we will be looking to have a fun evening and maybe even improve on our performance in November's quiz. If you're interested in taking part then please let Rick know.

Engagement

We were thrilled to learn that Patrick and Janet's son, David, has become engaged to Tess. We wish David and Tess every happiness for the future and share in Patrick and Janet's delight at the news.

Our thoughts and prayers of thanks to God.

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



Our thoughts and prayers are with Sue as she recovers from her knee operation, we pray that the operation is successful and that Sue will regain full mobility without pain.

Keith is now recovering after a short stay in hospital, please continue to pray for his full recovery.

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

After our long Summer break the Club met again on the 8th October and what a Summer of reading we had!

Below is a list of some of the books members read and discussed;

- The Wrong Sister by Claire Douglas.
- Homecoming by Kate Morton.
- The Burning Chambers by Kate Mosse.
- Sisters Under The Sun by Heather Harris.
- Just Between Us by Adele Parks.
- The Women by Kristin Hannah.
- Wind In The Willows by Kenneth Graham.
- Great Uncle Harry by Michael Palin

Our next book sees a return to Sarah Winman the author of the first book we read, 'Still Life', which was such a hit with us all:

- Tin Man by Sarah Winman

Venue: 11 Carlow Road

Date: 3rd December

Time: 2:30pm



June.

Did you know ?

Ringstead Station

During a recent steam train excursion to York I got to thinking about the story of train travel prior to the infamous Beeching Axe, in particular the history of Ringstead Station. The Station was located on the line that ran from Northampton to Peterborough and was opened in 1845. The introduction of the railway opened up many trading opportunities for businesses based in or near Ringstead. One example of this was Woodford Mill which operated an Eel trap located to the left of the water wheel. The trap could catch around 25 kilograms of Eels overnight and a ready market for these was found in London, they could be transported by train within a few hours enabling them to be jellied and on market stalls the same day, a feat that would be impressive even today! The trade must have been a particularly lucrative one as a halt was built near the mill for the train to stop at to load the Eels. The building associated with the halt can still be seen when walking the route of the old railway line.

Ringstead Station was renamed to Ringstead & Addington in 1898 and closed in 1964, the freight handling ceased in the March of that year

with passenger services stopping in May. The trade in Eels ended sometime after 1955 and the trap was filled in, but the exact year is uncertain.

The access to the station from Ringstead was via Station Road with the platforms being staggered either side of the level crossing. Access from Great and Little Addington

was rudimentary and partly across stepping stones made from former railway sleeper blocks. These still remain although covered in overgrowth.



**The Axe and Compass,
Ringstead, Quiz Night
Tuesday 3rd December 2024 at 19:30 hrs**



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

Please contact Rick

Knit & Natter



**Wednesday
4 December
at 2.30pm
at The
Shared Church**

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



Countdown to Christmas

Christmas is coming and once again we enter the season of Advent, The preparations for Christmas

are in full swing, lights hung, trees erected, presents are being bought and meals planned. But how about our spiritual preparations?

Advent is traditionally a period of reflection and preparation to celebrate Jesus coming. This year I am inviting you to share together in daily devotions. To enable this I have gathered together a series of bible readings and reflections from old Our Daily Bread Bible notes, one for each week day of Lent

I encourage you to read the passage pause to allow the words to sink in then read the reflection and allow it to lead you into prayer. Then, since we are all following the same readings, I also invite you to share your thoughts with someone else that we can encourage each other too.

I will make the readings available each Sunday in church, or they can be downloaded from the church website too. Once again I hope you will enjoy this experience as we prepare for Christmas together.

Rev Rick

Ps If you enjoy these readings, why not take a look at the 'Our Daily Bread' daily bible notes. Booklets available free in church or daily from the Ourd daily bread website: <https://www.odbm.org>

First Wednesday Prayer by Zoom

Wednesday 4th December at 8:00pm



Zoom in and share! - (See Zoom link elsewhere in this newsletter)

If you would like to lead, or share in leading, one of these evenings please get in touch with Revd Rick.

Christmas Poem

Christmas is spending time with family and friends

Not for buying the latest trends

It's for remembering those who are in need But yes a time to have a good feed!

It's for lying in bed when the alarm rings

It's for going to carol concerts and having a good sing

It's for walking the dogs with your Xmas hat firmly on your head

It's a time when words of love are often said

It's for watching "Last Xmas" for the third time

But sobbing out loud even though all turns out fine

It's also a time when my Xmas stocking includes a lump of coal And a time to refresh the soul

Linda Lane 2023

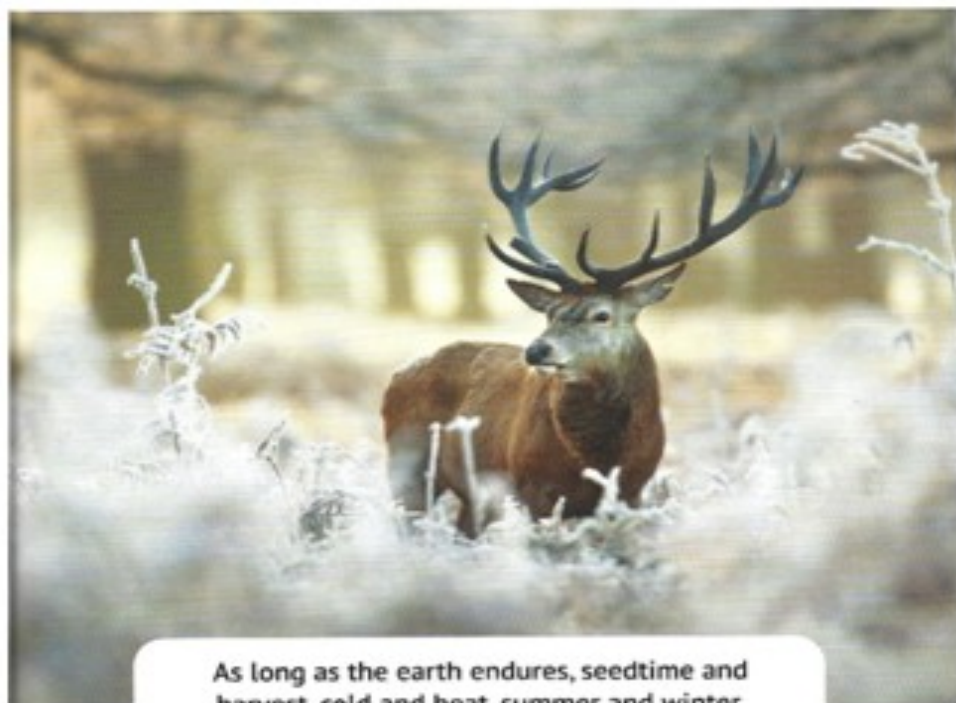


Our Daily Bread



Our Daily Bread

DECEMBER | JANUARY | FEBRUARY 2024-2025



As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.

GENESIS 8:22

Our Daily Bread is a quarterly booklet with a short bible reading, thought for the day and a prayer to close. The notes are easy to understand and good for personal use. Copies are available in the Schoolroom, there are large print copies too and it's free. If you would like a copy but can't get to the Schoolroom to collect one, then contact me and I will get a copy to you.

Agnes



Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner

RINGSTEAD VILLAGE SOCIAL CLUB

SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER - 12PM START



£5 PER PERSON - INCLUDES A GLASS OF
SHERRY, A FULL CHRISTMAS DINNER WITH
ALL THE TRIMMINGS & ENTERTAINMENT

Please contact the club or pop in to book your place
01933 824256



The Shared Church

Sunday 8 December

10.30am Morning Service

Nativity in the garden

(inside if wet)



with mulled “wine”, mince pies
and lights



THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD



Lunch Club

Thursday 12 December at 12.30pm

Christmas Dinner
coffee/tea
and favourite carols
Cost £5.00



**EVERYONE WILL BE
WELCOME**

But, it is essential that you book
Ring 622162 (Val) *or* 07558 538711 (Christine)
or text to 07784 162087
(no voice messages, please)

DO COME!



www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk





Present their Christmas Concert

"Deck the Hall"

Supporting our local Parkinson's UK Group

Saturday 14th December 2-00pm at the Saxon Hall

Tickets Adult £7-50 Child £2-50

Available from Raunds Post Office or any Choir Member

Tea and Coffee available Raffle

See you there!

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.

Kettering Branch

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Our regular 3rd Saturday

Coffee, cake and chat



Saturday 21 December
10.00 – 11.30

Take a break from Christmas preparations
and drop in for a chat

Everyone is welcome

No charge but any donations will be gratefully accepted

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk



CHRISTMAS

at The Shared Church

All services in church and through zoom

Sunday 22 December

10.30am Carol Service



Christmas Eve

11.30pm Midnight Communion Service



Christmas Day

10.00am Family Worship

To share through zoom go to

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

and click on the link on the home page.



Programme - December 2024

Services in December (In church and by Zoom)

Services are led by Revd Rick Preston unless otherwise stated:

Sunday 1st December

10:30am Communion Service and Dedication
of the Memory Tree

6:00pm Carols Round the Tree in the
Community Garden

Sunday 8th December

10:30am Nativity in the Memorial Garden
(inside, if wet)

Sunday 15th December

10:30am Morning Service

Sunday 22nd December

10:30am Carol Service

Tuesday 24th December

11:30pm Christmas Eve Midnight Service

Wednesday 25th December

10:00am Christmas Day Service

Sunday 29th December

10:30am Morning Service

and in January

Sunday 5th January

10:30am Communion and Covenant 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



First Wednesday Prayer by Zoom

Wednesday 4th December at 8.00pm

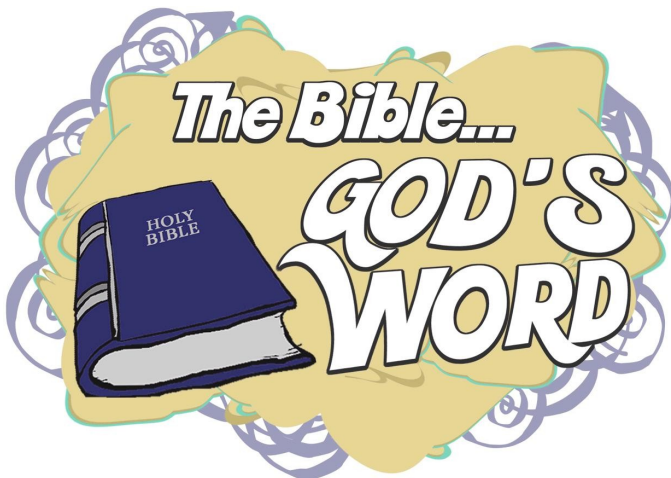
Zoom in and share! - See Zoom link elsewhere in this newsletter,
If you would like to lead, or share in leading, one of these evenings
please get in touch with Revd Rick.

Readers & Readings

Rota for Scripture readings

1 December 2024	Alan	Luke 21.25-36
8 December 2024	Chris	Luke 3.1-6
15 December 2024	Louise	Luke 3.7-18
22 December 2024	Carol	Luke 1.39-45(46-55)
25 December 2024	Peter	Luke 2.1-14(15-20)
29 December 2024	Angela	Luke 2.41-52
4 January 2024	Angela	Luke 2.41-52

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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Email: secretary@RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

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Treasurer: Mrs Angela Davis

Email: treasurer@RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

Phone: 01933 622316 or 07746 061084

Deacon & Designated Person for Safeguarding:

Mrs Alexandra Rance

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

