

The **Shared Church** *in Ringstead*

36 High Street, Ringstead, NN14 4DA

www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk



November 2024 Magazine

Please send your articles for the December edition

to ringsteadnotices@gmail.com

by 25th November

From our Minister



Yves Congar was just 10 years old when World War I began and the French town, Sedan, where he lived was invaded by the German army and then occupied for much of the war. His father was among the men deported by the Germans to Lithuania. His mother, Lucie Congar encouraged him to keep a diary and what resulted was a lucid description of a military occupation, complete with written narrative and coloured sketches.

They provide a unique historical insight into the war from a child's point of view. What he witnessed had such a profound effect on him that he felt called to bring to others the hope of Christ; Encouraged by a local priest Daniel Lallement, Congar entered the diocesan seminary, becoming a Dominican friar, priest, and theologian.

Centuries earlier the prophet Jeremiah was an eyewitness to the invasion of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar. He wrote down his observations in his 'diary'—the book of Lamentations. Despite these distressing times, the prophet found hope in the heart of God. He wrote:

"Through the LORD'S mercies we are not consumed,
because His compassions fail not. They are new every
morning; great is Your faithfulness"
—Lamentations 3:22-23

We continue to see invasions, occupations and war in our world, and we continue to hold those places in prayer. But also personally we may face times of trouble which effect our lives. But these times of trouble do not last forever. We can choose to allow ourselves to become over run by these things, or like Yves and Jeremiah, turn instead to God, and find there a support and solace. For we have a hope beyond that of the world: a faithful heavenly Father. The Lord's compassions are new every morning, and His faithfulness is great!

Rev Rick

Shared News

Shared Lives

The second in our series of 'Shared Lives' is a short account by Mike Freeman and includes surprising information about his involvement in competitive motor sport. It is an interesting piece for those of us fortunate enough to know Mike.

The previous 'Shared Lives' was written by Cynthia Richardson and her late husband, Alan's role in replacing the organ in St Mary's Church is covered in 'Did you know?'. Both articles make for an interesting read.

Axe & Compass Quiz

The next quiz takes place on 5 November and we will be looking to improve on our 4th place in October's quiz. We were almost guaranteed 3rd place until yours truly chipped in with an incorrect answer in the wipe-out round!! If you're interested in taking part then please let Rick know.

Rotary Club Crocus Planting

The Rotary Club and helpers were busy on Friday 25th October planting 4,000 Crocus Bulbs alongside the Shared Church footpath. We look forward to a carpet of purple flowers in the springtime, the colour purple is significant as this is the colour used to dye the hands of children who receive the oral polio vaccine. More information on this fight against polio can be found in this month's magazine.



Answered Prayers?

Shared News - Cont'd

Our thoughts and prayers of thanks to God.

Ange asks that we 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.

We continue to pray for Beryl in Hermitage House as she struggles with her health issues.



Our thoughts and prayers are with Sue as she finally has her knee operation scheduled for this month. This is welcome news with hope of being relieved from the continuous pain that the knee problem has caused.

Keith has recently returned home after a short stay in hospital, please pray for his continuing recovery.

Lindsay Russen has requested prayers for her husband Mark who is suffering from throat cancer and we are also praying for Phil Stockton who is also suffering from cancer. Please pray for Mark, Phil and the clinicians who are treating them.

Zoom Quiz

The quiz on the 25th October was an enjoyable evening and the next quiz will be on Friday 29th November at 7:30pm. Please let Angela know if you're able to provide a round of questions.

Christmas is coming

At the end of November we shall be decorating the church and setting up the lights and stable in the Church Memorial Garden. During November there will be the opportunity to sign up to be involved. Please watch for the list and do what you can. Many hands make light work!!

The first service in 2025 takes place just before Twelfth Night so we shall break with tradition and take down everything on Saturday 4 January. The reward for getting involved? Bacon (or vegan) rolls!



Lest we forget!

*Lest we forget the lives that were lost
Freedom comes at a terrible cost
Sons, husbands and grandsons all died
Many were simply washed up on the tide*

*Lest we forget the devoted horses and mules that trudged through the trench
Families losing their pets must have been a terrible wrench
These horses and mules served to the end
Until it got to the point there were none to send*

*Lest we forget those left at home
Little to eat but no-one would moan
Waiting to hear good news from the front line
Are those soldiers going to knock my door this time?*

*Lest we forget the many countries who fought
You would have thought the lessons of war would have taught
That war will never be worth all the pain
Is death and misery really worth the little gain!*

Linda Lane - November 2020

Did you know ?

St Mary's Church Organ

The organ currently residing in St Mary's Church is a relatively recent addition, in 1989 the original instrument was in a poor state of repair and the Church was unable to afford to restore it. A new organ would also have been too expensive and so it was decided to try and source one second-hand. In 1990 a Dalladay Organ built in 1924 and installed in East Street Methodist Church in Tonbridge, Kent, came onto the market for £750. The price was right so Trevor Warland and Alan Richardson, who were both organists, were delegated to establish the feasibility of dismantling it and transporting it to Ringstead. Now both men were accomplished musicians but neither had any experience of dismantling and reassembling organs. Despite all this Trevor's confidence and Alan's skill and attention to detail proved to be the ideal combination to undertake this difficult task.

The organ was duly dismantled and Alan meticulously labelled and photographed every part before loading it onto the trailer and roof rack attached to his car. In total six journeys were required to transport the whole machine. The final journey was made in a 7 tonne lorry as the remaining parts were too big for trailer or roof rack! The parts were stored in garages, attics and sheds all over Ringstead to await assembly in the Church. It was decided that the work would commence

after the Flower Festival in September 1990.

Most of the reassembly work was carried out by Trevor and Alan and required two evenings and a Saturday each week. They were given some technical help by John Plunkett from Norwich, whose hobby for many years was the restoration of pipe organs. The organ was reassembled and working in time for a Church



Alan Richardson surveying the dismantled organ

service on Sunday 25th August 1991. A recital was held on Saturday 5th October following a blessing by the Ven. Bernard Fennyhough, the Archdeacon of Oakham.

Shared Lives - Mike Freeman

I was born in Woking in 1943 and lived with my grandparents in Old Woking, Surrey for 7 years as my father was a serving officer in the Royal Navy. In 1950 we moved around the corner into a brand new council house which was great with plenty of room which I also thought was great. I loved music-and still do- so joined both the church and school choirs and was privileged to sing solo in Salisbury Cathedral. If I remember correctly I think I sang 'O for the wings of a dove'.

I passed my 11 plus and attended Surbiton Grammar school, left school at 16 and went into the engineering industry working primarily in the aerospace sector.

I loved motorcycling and took part in motor bike scrambling and trials riding, and later competed in car rallies driving my modified Mini on overnight rallies.

I met my wife Sue in 1962 at a Rolling Stones gig at our local dancehall and we were married in 1966. I also found out that Sue's Auntie Bronwin knew my mother during the war and knitted baby clothes for me – what a coincidence

My uncle Danny was a paramedic in Woking but moved to Barton Seagrave and he persuaded Sue and me to move so we came to Raunds in 1969 and raised 2 children here. I became involved with both Windmill and Manor schools and was Chairman of Governors at Windmill for a number of years. It was also the time when I started my journey of faith and became a steward in Raunds Methodist Church and also became a Circuit steward for a while before joining the Shared Church in Ringstead.

I continued my career in engineering working for 22 years at a major design/manufacturing company of defence systems for the Ministry of Defence. I was made redundant in 1988 but continued working in the industry and was part of the management team in organising the Farnborough Airshow. I then worked at Timsons Printing for a couple of years before moving back to working in London in the oil and gas industry until I retired.

I've been extremely fortunate during the years to have travelled overseas on many occasions as part of my job and some places I wouldn't like to visit again but all the times I have been away I have been blessed with the support of my wife Sue who looked after our family.

Rotary Club - Crocus Planting

Since 1985, Rotary's key humanitarian priority has been to rid the world of polio.

Rotary initiated this campaign at a time when there were over 1,000 polio cases a day in 125 countries, paralysing and even killing children. Today, the number of cases is down by 99.9%. Over the last 39 years, Rotary members, working with communities around the world, have contributed more than US\$2.1 billion and countless volunteer hours to the fight to end polio. Inspired by Rotary's volunteer commitment and fundraising success, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) was launched in 1988. This remarkable partnership includes Rotary, World Health Organization, UNICEF, the US Center for Disease Control & Prevention and, more recently, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and GAVI the Vaccine Alliance. All these organisations work alongside governments of the world to end polio.

Because of our efforts, nearly 19 million people who would otherwise have been paralysed are walking, and more than 1.5 million people are alive who would otherwise have died. Despite there only being a handful of cases left in the world, continued campaigning, health worker training and vaccination programmes are essential to stop the disease returning and ensuring the world is certified polio-free. Over 400 million children still have to receive their polio vaccinations by the GPEI partners multiple times every single year in more than 50 countries. Failure to eradicate polio could result in as many as 200,000 new cases worldwide every year within a decade.

Every year we plant Crocuses to remind us of our commitment and our promise to the children of the world; their colour purple references the dye used on the hands of children to indicate they have received the oral vaccine. On Friday 25th October we planted 4,000 crocus bulbs along the path outside the Shared Church.

Shoebox Appeal 2024



Thank You

We want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported the Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal this year as your response has been tremendous.

We held our Shoebox Dedication Day on Sunday, 20th October when every item was on display in church, to be blessed before being taken to the Collection Point at Northampton. This year we collected 102 packed shoeboxes, 44 knitted or crocheted knee blankets and copious amounts of knitted hats, scarves and gloves. These will be distributed to people living in desperate circumstances in Moldova, Ukraine, Bulgaria and Romania and your gifts will make a difference to their lives. We have also been able to send £180.00 in donations.

We never fail to be astounded at your ingenuity in finding items to go into your shoeboxes and we are overwhelmed at how much has been given.



When Agnes took the job on, about 12 years ago, there was just her and 27 boxes and now it has developed into something much bigger, thanks to the many people who work tirelessly to make our contribution to the appeal the success it is.

So, if you have knitted, sewn (one enthusiastic supporter got her finger stuck in the machine) crocheted, packed, donated, bought marbles, had lavender hanging up at home, helped move everything to the top of Back Lane, drunk coffee, ate cake, bought from our stall, prayed or got involved in any way at all..... THANK YOU from us for the support you have given and for your encouragement.

Work has already begun for the 2025 Appeal.

And yes, the fox hot water bottle and cover was safely packed and is on its way to a needy family.

Sincerely, Carol, Alan and Agnes, Team Shoebox

Shoebbox Appeal 2024

Shoebbox Dedication



In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row.
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow.
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.

If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields

by John McCrae



Bible Study



The Romans Course

Explore the Letter to the Romans

The Romans Course is a ten-session programme which helps you study Paul's letter to the Romans. The course tackles ten big themes found in the book of Romans which are key to understanding the Christian faith:

- **Gospel** – How can we become confident in our faith?
- **Sin** – What's wrong with the world?
- **Salvation** – What's so amazing about grace?
- **Peace** – How can we find rest in a stressful world?
- **Freedom** – How can we avoid negative cycles?
- **Hope** – What has God promised?
- **Mystery** – If God is sovereign, what is our role?
- **Devotion** – How can we live full on for God?
- **Community** – How can we live together in love?
- **Mission** – How can we be ambitious with the gospel?

We are planning to run these each week on a Monday afternoon and a Thursday evening starting with session 1 on Monday 16th at 2:30pm, and Thursday 19th September at 7:30pm. The Monday session will be in person in the school room, while the Thursday evening one will be via zoom.

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.



Axe and Compass, Ringstead.

The Axe and Compass is a local community hub and hosts a number of different groups. The Shared Church regularly takes part in the monthly quizzes held there, with the Revd Rick organising and leading the team. It also hosts our monthly Magazine with printed copies available for customers to peruse. So if you're looking to meet up with friends for drinks or a meal then please consider giving the 'Axe' a try. Contact details are: -



T: 07367001149

info@axeandcompasspubringstead.co.uk

The Axe and Compass, Ringstead, Quiz Night

Tuesday 5th November 2024 at 19:30 hrs



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

Please contact Rick

Knit & Natter



**Wednesday
6 November
at 2.30pm
at The
Shared Church**

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

First Wednesday Prayer by Zoom

Wednesday 6th November 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.

Ringstead Remembrance Service

Sunday 10th November at 3pm

St Mary's Church in Ringstead



THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Lunch Club

Thursday 14 November 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 16 November
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

The Shared Church Zoom Quiz Night

Friday 29th November @ 7.30pm



A fun evening for all the family

Will you offer a round of questions? If so then please contact Angela - No questions then no Quiz!

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

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.

Christmas at The Shared Church

Sunday December 1 Advent Sunday

10.30am Communion Service

and Dedication of Christmas Tree Memory Bows

6.00pm at the High Street Garden

Carols Round the Tree and switching on Christmas tree lights

Saturday December 7

12.15pm Carol singing at RVSC Christmas Lunch

Sunday December 8 at 10.30am

Morning Service in church

Stable in the Shared Church Memorial Garden

Mulled 'wine' and mince pies

Thursday December 12 at 12.30pm

Lunch Club Christmas Lunch

and choose your favourite carol to sing

Saturday December 21 10.00 – 11.30

Coffee mince pies & Chat

Sunday December 22

10.30am Carol Service

Tuesday December 24 Christmas Eve

11.30pm Midnight Service

Wednesday December 25 Christmas Day

10.00am Family Service

Sunday December 29

10.30am Morning Service

Sunday January 5

10.30am Communion and Covenant Service

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

Programme - November 2024

Services in November (In church and by Zoom)

Services are led by Revd Rick Preston unless otherwise stated:

Sunday 3rd November

10:30am Communion Service

Sunday 10th November

10:30am Morning Service

3:00pm Remembrance Service and Wreath
Laying at St Mary's Church.

Sunday 17th November

10:30am Morning Service

Sunday 24th November

10:30am Morning Service

and in December

Sunday 1st December

10:30am Communion Service including
Dedication of the Memory Bows
on the Christmas Tree



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 5th November at 8.00pm

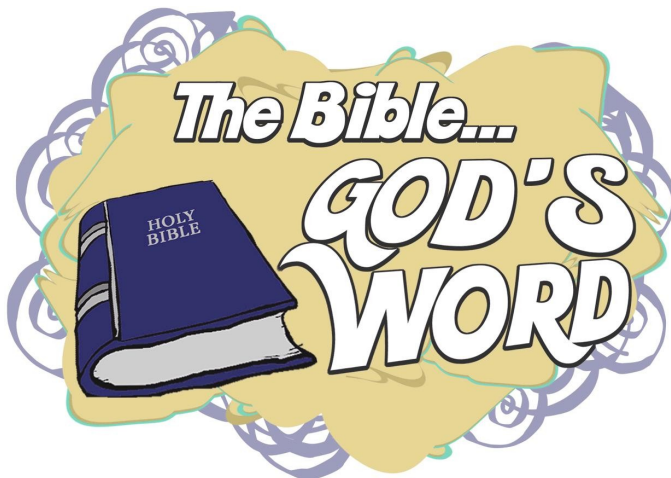
Zoom in and share! - See Zoom link elsewhere in this newsletter,
If you would like to lead, or share in leading, one of these evenings
please get in touch with Revd Rick.

Readers & Readings

Rota for Scripture readings

3 November 2024	Carol	Mark 12.28-34
10 November 2024	Mike	Mark 12.38-44
17 November 2024	Agnes	Mark 13.1-8
24 November 2024	Angela	John 18.33-37
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: treasurer@RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

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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=L1F0Szd0Z1I2R1RvNVlCc0VsTVh1Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84607293457?pwd=L1F0Szd0Z1I2R1RvNVlCc0VsTVh1Zz09)

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

