

The **Shared Church** *in Ringstead*

36 High Street, Ringstead, NN14 4DA

www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk



November 2025 Magazine

Please send your articles for the December edition

to ringsteadnotices@gmail.com

by 24th November

From our Minister



Sgt. Richard Kirkland was a Confederate soldier during the Civil War. On December 13, 1862, his unit fought behind the stone wall at Marye's Heights near Fredericksburg, Virginia, inflicting heavy losses on attacking Union troops. The next morning, over 8,000 Union soldiers lay dead or wounded on the field, many crying out in pain and thirst.

Hearing their suffering, Kirkland went to Brig. Gen. Joseph B. Kershaw and asked permission to help the wounded enemy. Kershaw at first refused, fearing he'd be shot, but eventually allowed it. When Kirkland asked if he could carry a white flag, Kershaw said no. Kirkland replied, "All right, sir, I'll take my chances."

Kirkland collected all the canteens he could carry, filled them with water, and walked onto the battlefield. For over an hour he gave water, blankets, and comfort to Union soldiers. Both sides soon realized what he was doing and held their fire. Kirkland continued until he had aided every wounded man—Confederate and Federal—within reach, earning the name "The Angel of Marye's Heights."

Many brave acts are carried out during wars—acts to hold back enemies, liberate captives, and bring aid to those in need. Although some of these stories are told, many are not. When we gather to "Remember them," we remember not only those who died, but also those who carried out such acts of bravery.

From our Minister - Cont'd

Few of us have ever—or will ever—face an enemy on the battlefield like that. Yet we still have those around us in need of help: the lonely, the poor, the sick, the dispossessed, and the refugee. We are called by the Gospel of Jesus to also become “angels” by helping whenever we can.

“If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.” — Romans 12:20

In these days of fear and hate-inspired rhetoric, let us stand for something different—the love of Jesus.

Rev Rick



Ringstead Shared Church

The Man Who Sued God - a study.

A theological romantic comedy drama with a courtroom showdown

After lawyer Steve Myers (Billy Connolly) abandons his career, he buys a boat and pursues a quiet life as a fisherman. His plans are obstructed when a bolt of lightning destroys his vessel, and his insurance company tells him he isn't covered because the incident was an "act of God." His choices are sue the insurance company or God/churches?



A film which raises some important questions for today:

- What is God's nature –sender of suffering or God of love?
- Making God relevant – In every age fresh ways are needed to speak about God. Outmoded interpretations of God as thrower of lightning bolts do not make sense in the world of the 21st century.
- The need for the churches to be Christ-like – Negative stereotypes of the churches abound.

Monday 3rd November 2pm, in the church school room –

Watch the film together, with Tea/Coffee and biscuits.

Monday 10th November 2pm, in the church school room

Thursday 13th November 7.30pm via Zoom

Look at those important questions together!

Start your day with prayer



**Each weekday morning at 9am we share together in
Online Morning Prayer.**

This is a simple 20min or so prayer using the Daily office from the Northumbria
community (www.northumbriacommunity.org/offices/morning-prayer/)

**All who wish to join can do on the
Shared Church Zoom link:**

Clickable zoom link via church website:
www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk

Shared Church Zoom:



Meeting ID: 846 0729 3457
Passcode: 143365

The Axe and Compass, Ringstead, Quiz Night Tuesday 4th November 2025 at 19:30 hrs



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

Please contact Rick

Knit & Natter



Wednesday
November 5
at 2.30pm
at The
Shared Church

Come to knit or sew
or just come to natter!

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2025

- 10.30 am** Morning service in church including 2 minutes silence at 11.00 am
- 3.00 pm** Village Remembrance Service - Starting in St Mary's Church and closing gathered around the war memorial.
- 6.00 pm** Reflections and Meditations on line. Our monthly Zoom reflections will focus around a remembrance theme.

Shared News

Time Together

Wednesday 12 November, 7.30pm in the schoolroom

Christmas and events in 2026 will be on the Agenda. Come and have your say!

Also, we will be looking at the proposed budget for 2026.

As we heard at the recent Baptist Basics study group, the Church Meeting (Time Together) is probably the most important element of the church's organisation. But it is only effective if everyone is there and contributes. Please come.

Help! Christmas is coming

We are hoping that the church and outside area can once again be decorated and lit, but that does involve work!

A schedule of the various Christmas events and the help that is needed will be put up the schoolroom. Could you please see which jobs you could do and which events you can be involved in, *and sign up that you will do them*, by November 9. It will be a huge help to know that everything is covered.

Thank you.

Axe & Compass Quiz

The next quiz will be held on November 4th, if you are able to come then please let Rick know! It's always an enjoyable evening.

Wednesday Prayers

There will be no evening prayer session in November. The following evening prayer session will be December 17th at 7:30pm for a Zoom in before Christmas. *The pattern may change again in January, so pay attention!*

Zoom Quiz Night

The next Zoom Quiz night is planned for Friday 28th November at 7:30pm. In order for this to happen we need plenty of questions so if you're able to offer a round then Angela needs to know by Friday 7th November at the latest, her email address is treasurer@ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk. If there are not enough rounds then the quiz will be cancelled.

Shared News - Cont'd

The Man Who Sued God

This amusing film starring Billy Connolly is being shown on Monday 3rd November at 2pm in the Church School Room. The following Monday (10th November) at 2pm we will be meeting to discuss the questions that are raised by this thought provoking film. Full details elsewhere in the magazine.

Women of the Nativity

This study group is reviewing the role played by women who were influential in the birth of Christ. The studies will run from Tuesday 18th November, full details elsewhere in this publication.

Our thoughts and prayers of thanks to God.

We continue to pray for those suffering from cancer and we particularly think of Phil Stockton, Ian Bell and Chris Kinsey who are known by many people in our community. We ask for God's healing hand to be on them and for them to know the love, comfort and peace that comes from our Father God.

Prayers are needed for Colin Lyford and his family and friends, we ask that God's mercy and grace will be with them at this difficult time.

Nikki has recently had a further ear operation and we pray for her and Caroline as she recovers and we ask God for a successful outcome. Ange's Granddaughter, Sky continues to suffer with her health and we ask for God's healing hand to be on her at this time.



We continually pray for people known to us in our morning prayer sessions and are pleased that God has chosen to answer our prayers in many ways. If you need prayers for a friend or family member then please let Rick know.

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Lunch Club

Thursday 13 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

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB
FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR OUR LOCAL AIR AMBULANCE

BANDS AND BUFFET NIGHT

**AN EVENING OF MUSIC, FOOD, DANCING AND
FUN
ENJOY THE SOUNDS OF NUGS
PLUS
BOSS AND THE HOGS**

WHEN

**FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2025
7.00 PM 'TIL LATE**

WHERE

**GLADSTONE WORKING MENS CLUB
WELLINGBOROUGH ROAD
FINEDON, NN9 5LG**

TICKETS

£20 PER PERSON, INCLUDING BUFFET
available from club members

Email: northantsmmoc@gmail.com if any dietary requirements

Did you know ?

Ringstead Public Houses

The current licensee of the Axe and Compass in Ringstead is Peter Sampson, in recent years we think of the running of a public house as being a full time activity. There used to be four public houses in Ringstead and very often they relied on a second job income to keep in business. The 1901 census returns show that Edward Lilley ran the Axe and Compass. The census tells us that Edward was a shoe and boot maker so his wife, Martha, was probably running the pub with the help of her daughter, Estelle Gaunt. In 1911 Harry Petitt is shown in charge and he was a clicker in the shoe trade so his wife likely ran the pub while he was working.

Further down Carlow Road was the Swan Inn, in 1851 Thomas Austin was the Landlord who was running a tailor's business as well as the pub, he was a young man aged 24 at the time; in 1871 he was recorded as being a baker and grocer in the village. In 1871 Amos Mason who was also a farmer of 9 acres in the village was running the pub and in 1881 his widow Jane was in charge. William Samuel Bull was shown as the next publican in 1891 and he ran his brazier (brass repair) business from the building. John Braybrook was the next incumbent in 1901, John was also a coal merchant.



The closure of the Black Horse in 1906 resulted in its ex landlord, William Robinson moving from High Street to the Swan. William was also a butcher and he set up business next door employing journeyman butcher, Arthur Yeomans, who had previously worked for him at the Black Horse. Elizabeth, his wife, looks to have played a significant role in running the pub.

Elizabeth Robinson in front of the Swan

As well as William Robinson in 1901, the Black Horse Inn (located in the High Street) was also run in 1881 by Elijah Robinson who was described as a publican, farmer of 12 acres and a carrier.

Also in the High Street was the New Inn which started trading in the 1860s. The pub was run by Carpenters up until the end of the 19th Century and they also took on the role of undertakers. The lounge bar of the inn was used for court hearings as well as preparing the dead for burial.

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Our regular 3rd Saturday

Coffee, cake and chat



Saturday 15 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

Shoebbox Appeal 2025

Once again, thank you to everyone who has supported the Link to Hope Shoebbox Appeal this year, the response has been tremendous.



We held our Shoebbox Dedication Day on Sunday, 19th October when every item was on display in church, and blessed before being taken to the Collection Point at Northampton. This year we collected 105 packed shoeboxes, 65 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 will also be able to send a monetary donation.

So, to everyone who came and drank coffee, collected items for your boxes, stitched, knitted, packed boxes, gave a donation, helped to arrange everything into the church, packed extra shoeboxes, loaded shoeboxes to be taken to Northampton and much, much more

Thank you

We could not do this without your amazing support and work has already begun on the Appeal for 2026.

Carol, Alan and Agnes



Shoebbox Appeal Support



Thank



You





Women of the Nativity - Study Groups

This year we will be running joint Advent study groups with the 4 Spires Benefice. Entitled women of the nativity we hear the story told from the perspective of the women involved, including Mary, Elizabeth, Rachel, and others whom scripture records or tradition has imagined, such as the innkeeper's wife. As we hear the familiar stories afresh through their words, the wonder of the incarnation and its consequences for good and for ill, come to vivid life in a new way.

The studies will be run from Tuesday 18th November on:

Tuesday in Raunds: 7.00pm at the Community Centre,

Wednesday in Ringstead: 2pm at 5 Carlow Rd

Thursday online: 7.30pm see

www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk for zoom link.

Memory Bows

Once again this year the Christmas tree in the Shared Church will be decorated with Memory Bows.

The bows will be available in the schoolroom 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 bows to the morning service (10.30am) on Advent Sunday ~ November 30 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

Book Club

We discussed “ The Life Impossible” by Matt Haig at our last meeting. We thought the book had a spiritual quality that we were not expecting.

Our next meeting

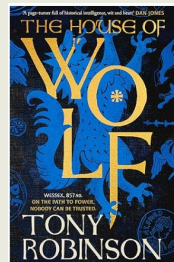
Venue: Dovecote Farm for lunch

Date: Tuesday 2nd December

Time: 12:30pm

Book: “The house of Wolf” by Tony Robinson

June.



Programme - November 2025

Services in November (In church and by Zoom)

Services are led by Revd Rick Preston unless otherwise stated:

Sunday 2nd November

10:30am Communion Service

Sunday 9th November

10:30am Morning Service

3:00pm Remembrance Sunday Service in
the Parish Church

6:00pm Zoom - Remembrance Sunday
reflections and meditations

Sunday 16th November

10:30am Morning Service

Sunday 23rd November

10:30am Morning Service

Sunday 30th November

10:30am Advent Sunday Service and
dedication of Memory Bows



and in December

Sunday 7th December

10:30am Communion Service and switch on Shared Church lights

6:00pm Carols Round the Tree and switch on village tree lights

To share in the morning services through Zoom see the website

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

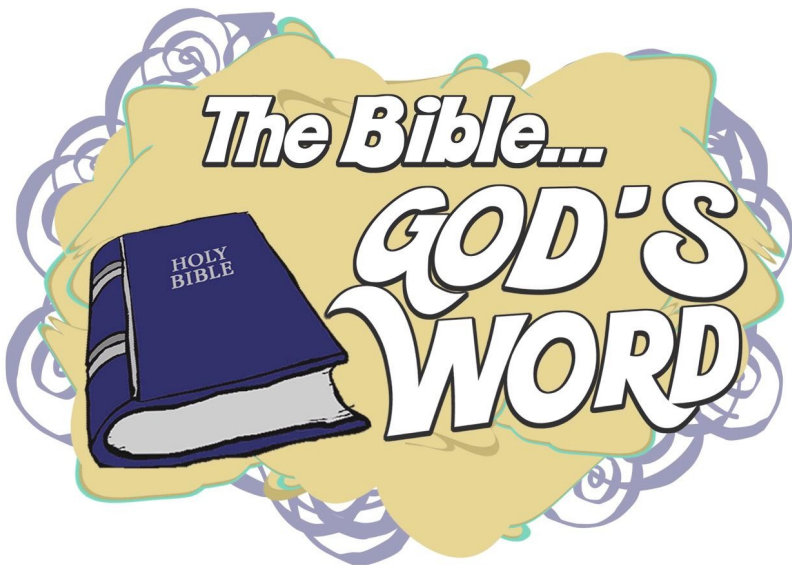
and click on the link on the home page

Readers & Readings

Rota for Scripture readings

2 November 2025	Peter	Luke 19:1-10
9 November 2025	Louise	Luke 20:27-38
16 November 2025	Chris	Luke 21:5-19
23 November 2025	Carol	Luke 23:33-43
30 November 2025	Agnes	Matthew 24:36-44 (Advent 1 Year A)
7 December 2025	Mike	Matthew 3:1-12
14 December 2025	Christine	Matthew 11:2-11
21 December 2025	Alan	Matthew 1:18-25
25 December 2025	Peter	Luke 2:1-14,(15-20) (Christmas Day)
28 December 2025	Louise	Matthew 2:13-23

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

