The Shared Church in Ringstead

36 High Street, Ringstead, NN14 4DA

www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk



November 2026 Magazine

Please send your articles for the December edition to ringsteadnotices@gmail.com by 24th November

From our Minister

Remembering

November is a month when we do quite a lot of remembering.

Of course, there is Remembrance Sunday, when we remember those who have given their lives in war and conflict. And it's important that we continue to 'Remember them'. But I suspect most of us have other people we remember too. Family members, friends, people who have been part of our lives and who are no longer with us.



And sometimes remembering can be quite a strange thing: Something quite ordinary can suddenly bring a memory to mind. A song, a photograph, a place, or even something someone used to say.

But is that all there is to remembering?

A few weeks ago, at our Shoebox Dedication Service, I found myself thinking about remembering in a slightly different way:

We had all those shoeboxes, and blankets gathered at the front of church. People had spent time choosing things, filling boxes, knitting etc, then bringing them along to church. We prayed for them and dedicated them to God; and then off they went on their journey.

We won't ever know who receives them, we won't know what their reaction is, or what difference that little box might make to them. – Yet in some way these are people that we have 'remembered'! We don't always get to see the results of what we do.

From our Minister - Cont'd

You see, over the last few months we've been thinking about prayer, listening, joining in and taking the next step. So maybe November gives us a chance to stop for a moment and to 'remember' why all of this matters.

We are all part of a story that didn't begin with us.

There have been generations of people who have worshipped in our church building, prayed here, served here and shared their faith with others. Some of them we know about. Many of them we don't. They took their next steps, just as we are trying to take ours. And now it is our turn. One day, we too will be part of the church's history. I wonder what people will remember about us?

I hope they will remember that we were a church that welcomed people.

A church that prayed.

A church that was willing to listen.

A church that wasn't afraid to try something new.

And perhaps, most importantly, a church that tried to follow where God was leading.

We don't know exactly where that will take us. We don't need to.

Just like those shoeboxes, sometimes we simply have to do what we can, pray, and trust God with what happens next.

So this November, let's remember all those who have gone before us, and also give thanks for them.

Then perhaps we can ask ourselves what we are going to pass on. Because we aren't just keeping the church going for ourselves.

We are part of something that began long before us — and, God willing, will continue long after us.

Rev Rick



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

Calendar for November

Every Weekday		9.00am	20 minutes of Prayer on zoom
Sunday	**1**	**10.30am**	**Communion Service**
Monday	2	7.30pm	Deacons Meeting
Wednesday	4	2.30pm	Knit & Natter
Friday	6	7.30pm	Village Cinema in the Village Hall
Sunday	**8**	**Remembrance Sunday**	
		10.30am	**Morning Service**
		3.00pm	Village Remembrance at Parish Church
Thursday	12	12.30pm	Lunch Club
Sunday	**15**	**10.30am**	**Morning Service**
		6.00pm	**Zoom Church**
Wednesday	18	7.30pm	Time Together
Saturday	21	10.00-11.30	Coffee Cake and Chat
Sunday	**22**	**10.30am**	**Morning Service**
Wednesday	25	6.30pm	Ringstead Community Group
Friday	27	7.30pm	Zoom Quiz Night
Sunday	**29**	**Advent Sunday**	
		10.30am	**Morning Service and Dedication of Memory Bows**
		4.30pm	Carols Round the village Christmas Tree and switching on the lights

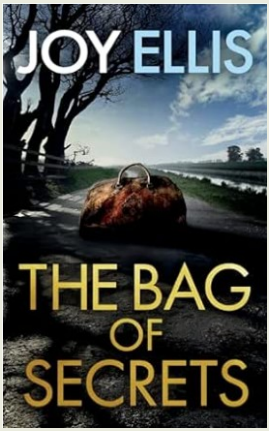
BECOMING A CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN

How can we naturally share our faith with the people around us? Becoming a Contagious Christian is a course exploring how we can become more confident and natural in sharing our faith through everyday life.
It's not about becoming someone we're not, or forcing conversations. It's about discovering how God can use who we already are, and how we can join in with what God is already doing around us. Come and join us as we explore faith, confidence and everyday mission.

Monday 5th, 19th, 26th October & 2nd November.
2.00pm . Church School Room

Book Club

At our last meeting we discussed all the books we had read during our summer vacation, pencils recorded those we found appealing!



Our next meeting
Venue: Watermill Tea Rooms
Date: Tuesday 3rd November
Time: 12:30pm
Book: **'The Bag of Secrets' by Joy Ellis**
June.

The Ringstead Village Social Club
Quiz Night
Tuesday 3rd November 2026 at 19:30 hrs in the Social Club Function Room



Would you like to make up a team with Rick?

Please contact Rick

Knit & Natter

Wednesday November 4
2.30pm at The Shared Church



Bring your knitting or sewing

or just come to natter and have a cuppa!

17th Century Nun's Prayer



ord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and someday will be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking that I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from the craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all but thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains, but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory but for a growing humility and lessening cock sureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint; some of them are so hard to live with. But a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see the good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. And, give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so. Amen.

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Lunch Club

Thursday 12 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

Zoom Church

Sunday 16 November

6.00pm

Click on the link on the church's home page:

www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk

Time Together

Wednesday 18 November at 7.30pm

in the schoolroom

Your opportunity to be involved in shaping the life and future of this church

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Our regular 3rd Saturday

Coffee, cake and chat



Saturday 21 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

Shared News

Harvest Thanksgiving

As in previous years the harvest services were used to collect food items for donation to the Raunds Food Bank. The Sunday Service was well supported and again this year we were pleased to welcome the children from Ringstead School for the Thursday Service. The children gave us a lesson in enthusiasm which would be welcome in our regular Sunday Services.

Shoebox Dedication

The shoebox dedication service held on the 18th October was an opportunity for everyone to appreciate the packed shoeboxes and crocheted blanket that have been produced and gathered together over the year. It's thanks to the shoebox team and all the individual contributors that this has been possible. Many hours of work have been put in through the year to enable all of this to happen. All the items sent will be much valued at Christmas time by the recipients in various countries who are living in very poor conditions. Please read the article submitted by 'Team Shoebox'.



Café Church

Café Church is now going online over the winter so you will be able to join from the comfort of home, the Zoom session will be held on Sunday 16th November at 6pm.

Shared News - Cont'd

Quizzes

It's good to see that Angela is organising the monthly Zoom quizzes again now that Winter is with us, November's quiz will be on the 27th at 7:30pm so she will welcome anyone who is able to provide a round of questions. It's also been good to take part in the quiz that is held on the first Tuesday of the month in the Social Club. We did particularly well in October when having fielded two team we managed to obtain second place to the 'Usual Suspects' who are habitual winners.

Our thoughts and prayers of thanks to God

Prayers continue to be needed for Maureen and Vanessa Windust and also Carolyn and Nikki as they cope with various challenges, we ask that God's love and comfort be with them at this time and for them to get the support they need.

We continue to pray for those suffering from cancer and were saddened to hear of the passing of Phil Stockton and Stephanie Hall who are known to many people in our community.

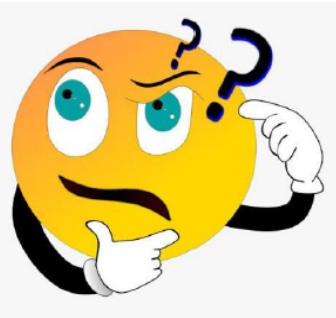
Ange's Granddaughter, Sky, continues to suffer with her health and also her Niece, Grace, is subject to regular monitoring, we thank God that her condition is currently stable. We ask for them to know God's love, comfort and peace.



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.

Ringstead Shared Church

Zoom Quiz Night



Friday 27th November 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

It's creeping up on us

Yes, Advent and Christmas are almost here with their mixture of busyness and, generally, happiness.

But at Church it also brings extra jobs!

Rick and the Deacons have been busy planning the whole of the Advent and Christmas Season and very soon all the details will appear on the noticeboard in the schoolroom.

It will include a request for help with the preparations. Please look and see what you can do ... and sign up.

Many hands make light(er) work!

Memory Bows



The **Christmas Tree** in the **Shared Church** will again be decorated with bows in memory of loved ones.

The bows will be available at the church throughout 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, November 29, when they will be hung on the tree and dedicated

This act of remembrance is not limited to our church family,
everyone in our community will be welcome to prepare a bow

Ringstead Community Group

Carols



Round the Tree

and switching on the Christmas Tree lights

Sunday 29 November

4.30pm at the Community Garden

in the High Street

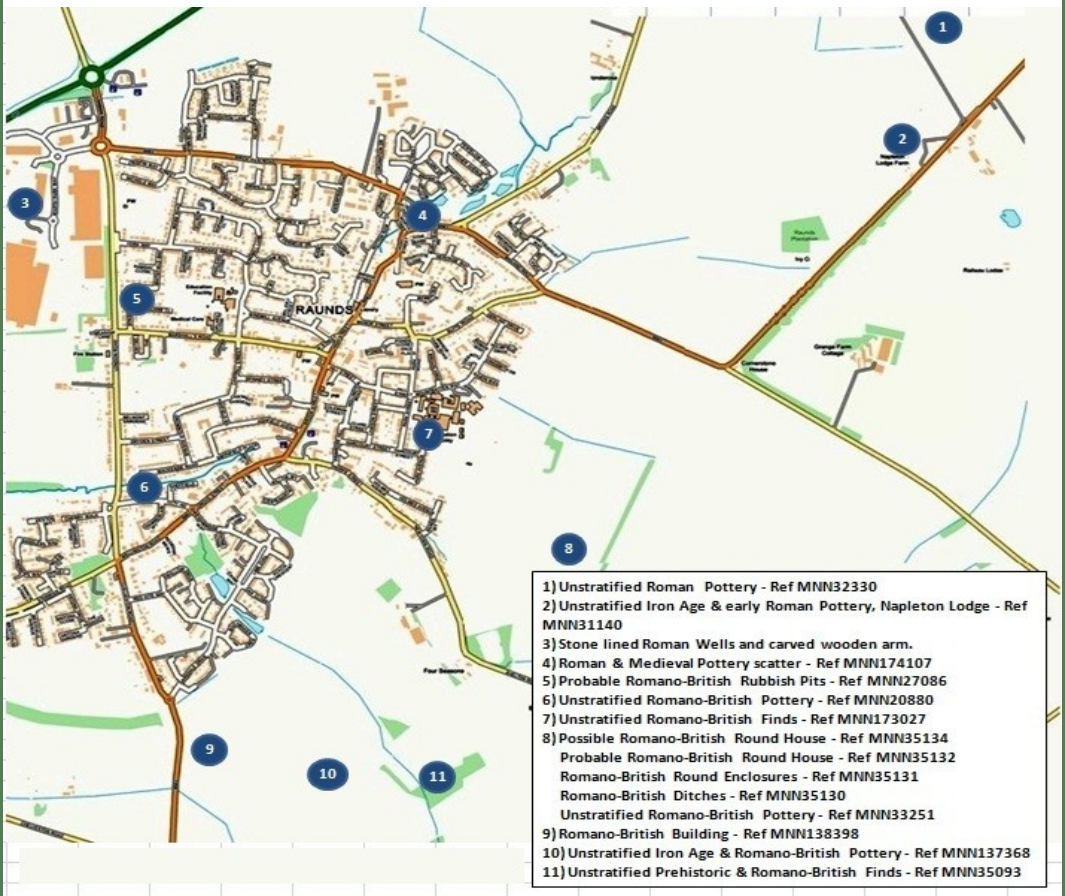
with Revd Rick Preston

and Thrapston Town Band

Did you know ?

Roman Raunds

There is evidence of continual occupation in the Raunds area for nearly 6,000 years with the Cotton Henge being a spiritual pilgrimage centre in Neolithic times. In the Roman era the settlement consisted of round houses but no evidence of higher status Roman Buildings as seen in Ringstead and Stanwick. Roads linked Raunds to Ringstead and Stanwick, it's possible that Raunds was a trading centre for the area and it became a market town in later centuries. Archaeological investigation prior to the construction of the Warth Park complex revealed a pottery kiln, corn dryer, burials, and six stone-lined wells. The latter produced exceptional finds, including a rare carved wooden arm. In 410 AD the Roman settlement in Ringstead was abandoned when the Roman Emperor withdrew his forces and instructed the country to look to its own defences. There is no evidence that Raunds was abandoned at this time.



Link to Hope
Helping to rebuild lives and communities in Eastern Europe

Shoebox Appeal 2026

The response to The Shared Church contribution to this year's Shoebox Appeal has, once again, been incredible.

At our Coffee Morning in September, many people came to collect items to include in their boxes and everyone enjoyed coffee, cake and a good chat. Our faithful band of packers then came to help pack extra shoeboxes until the remaining stock had run out.

Our Shoebox Dedication Day on Sunday 18th October, was a time to give thanks for that has been collected and donated and to bless the people who will receive a filled shoebox. This year we received 101 packed shoeboxes and 34 knitted or crocheted blankets which have now been taken to the Collection Point, ready to be taken to needy families and elderly people and we are also able to send a monetary donation to Link to Hope.

Thank You

To everyone who supported the Appeal again this year. We are overwhelmed by your hard work and dedication and it's your support which encourages us. We have already begun to collect items for the 2027 Appeal and we do pray that you will, once again, continue to support the work of Link to Hope.

With our grateful thanks, Carol, Alan and Agnes
Team Shoebox





O Come Let Us Adore Him- Advent Study Groups

O Come Let Us Adore Him! Is an advent study course created by the Church in Wales, with different dioceses contributing the teachings for a session each. Using videos, questions and discussion it will lead us through the developing Advent story:

Study 1; 30th Nov & 1st Dec: Luke 21. 25-36
Study 2; 7th & 9th Dec: Luke 3. 1-6
Study 3; 14th & 16th Dec: Luke 3. 7-18
Study 4; 21st & 23rd Dec: (Luke 1. 39-45, [46-55])

The studies will be run at 2.00pm on Monday afternoons in the church schoolroom and repeated on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm online

Programme - November 2026

Services in November (In church and by Zoom)

Services are led by Revd Rick Preston unless otherwise stated:

Sunday 1st November
10:30am Communion Service
Sunday 8th November
10:30am Remembrance Sunday Service
3:00pm Remembrance Service Parish Church
Sunday 15th November
10:30am Morning Service
6:00pm Zoom Church
Sunday 22nd November
10:30am Morning Service
Sunday 29th November
10:30am Morning Service and Dedication of Memory Bows
4:30pm Carols round the Village Tree

and in December

Sunday 6th December
10:30am Communion Service
Sunday 13th December
10:30am Morning Service
4:30pm Carols round the Crib

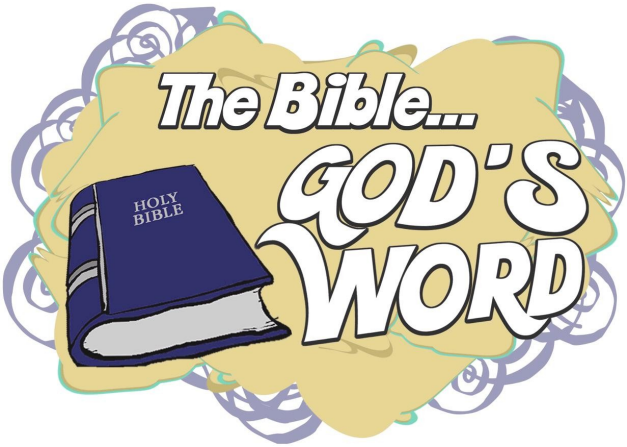
To share in the morning services through Zoom see the website
www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk
and click on the link on the home page

Readers & Readings

Rota for Scripture readings

1 November	Carol	Matthew 5:1-12
8 November	Peter	Matthew 25:1-13
15 November	Louise	Matthew 25:14-30
22 November	Chris	Matthew 25:31-46
29 November	Carol	Mark 13:24-37 (1st Sunday of Advent)

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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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=L1F0Szd0Z1I2R1RvNVlCc0VsTVA1Zz09

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

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk
and click on the link on the home page