

The **Shared Church** *in Ringstead*

36 High Street, Ringstead, NN14 4DA

www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk



May 2025 Magazine

Please send your articles for the June edition to

ringsteadnotices@gmail.com

by 25th May

From our Minister



I was listening to a series on radio 4 the other day (Yes I know!), Curious Cases with Hannah Fry and Dara Ó Briain. This particular episode they were talking about things that are invisible. Asking do any truly invisible things exist. It reminded me of that phrase seeing is believing, but if something is invisible and yet still exists, is the phrase true? After all we all know that oxygen exists because we breath it, yet most of us cant actually see it! Can

we still believe in 'invisible' things, or just things that we ourselves have not seen?

This was the dilemma that Jesus' disciples had and one in particular, Thomas.

Jesus had been crucified, had died and was buried, they had all seen that and knew it to be true. Yet then a few of the women come to them saying that Jesus body has gone and he is alive again. (Luke 24.1 -12). It was hard for them to believe, it seems impossible, and the disciples don't believe the women (v11); Peter had to go and see for himself. The same was true of Thomas, the other disciples had seen Jesus, but he hadn't, and declared 'I won't believe until I see.' (John 20.27) And yes it took Jesus appearing to him personally, and touching the wounds, until he finally believed. Christ's response though is significant: "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20.29)

As Christians today we don't see Jesus in the same way as Thomas and the disciples, we are those that Jesus spoke of. Or another way of putting it is we believe in the invisible. Yes that can be difficult at times, and our lives circumstances sometimes cause us to ask serious questions of our faith, but that is normal. Jesus accepts us for who we are, even with our doubts and struggles. As one man who met Jesus said "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" (Mark9:24)

May that be our prayer too: Lord helm me to trust in you even when I'm struggling, and life doesn't seem to make sense. Take my doubt and replace it with a new faith in you.

Rev Rick

Shared News

Raunds Community Choir - Saturday 3rd May

The Raunds community choir is performing a mixture of music from recent years and some old time songs. The concert is to raise funds for the Raunds Methodist Church and the details are: -

Venue: Raunds Methodist Church

Date: Saturday 3rd May

Time: 2:30pm

Tickets: £7.50 each including refreshments (available at the door)

Axe & Compass Quiz

The next quiz takes place on 6th May, we again came second in the April Quiz in another close finish! It's always a fun evening but we will be missing four of the regular team members so check your diaries and support your Church team. If you're interested in taking part then please let Rick know.

Avril Burrell

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Avril Burrell. She was 91 and we give thanks for her long life of faith and service. When she and Roy lived in Ringstead she was Treasurer of the Methodist Church and fully involved in the Sunday School and Young People's groups. We think particularly of Katherine and Ros and all Avril's grandchildren and great-grandchildren at this time.

Easter

The Maundy Thursday Communion Service followed by a short service in the Church garden provided a thought provoking start to the Easter weekend.

We had a good turn out for the Good Friday Service and it was nice to join up with the Parish Church in the Community Garden on a lovely sunny morning. Everyone enjoyed the hot cross buns at the Village Hall afterwards.

It was a very early start on Easter Sunday for the Sunrise Service and we were pleased to be joined by the Reverend Neil Bullen, the Four

Shared News - Cont'd

Spires Benefice priest, and other members of the congregation from The Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, otherwise known as St Mary's. Many thanks to Louise for preparing the breakfast for us all afterwards!

Wednesday Prayers

Wednesday prayers (on Zoom only) will be on Wednesday May 7th at 7:30pm. Zoom details are at the back of the magazine.

Wit and Helen

Our mission partners, Wit and Helen Boondekhun, will be on leave during June and will be visiting us on the evening of Saturday 14 June. Put the date in your diary and watch for more details nearer the time.

Our thoughts and prayers of thanks to God.

Please also 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.

Prayers continue to be needed for Keith Turner whose cancelled operation has not been rescheduled yet and also Jackie Inness who continues to struggle with her health, we pray for the medical team who are currently treating her.

We continue to pray for Ange's Great-niece, Grace, who is undergoing cancer treatment and also for her granddaughter, Sky, that the doctors will be able to diagnose and treat her. We pray for God's healing hand to be on them during this difficult time for both them and their families.

Please pray for Sue and Cliff Harris as they struggle to get the treatment that Cliff requires, we pray that this is soon resolved.



**The Axe and Compass,
Ringstead, Quiz Night
Tuesday 6th May 2025 at 19:30 hrs**



Would you like to make up a team with Rick?

Please contact Rick



**Wednesday
7 May
at 2.30pm
at The
Shared Church**

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

**First Wednesday Prayer by Zoom
Wednesday 7th May at 7:30pm**



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.

Did you know ?

Swan Inn

The Swan was constructed in the early 1800s and it is identified in the 1838 tithe records as the Swan public house owned and occupied by Mary Hill. 1841 census returns show Mary as the publican aged 60, she was the widow of Thomas who in 1822 was recorded as being the victualler; his brother James was the landlord of the Black Horse in the High Street. Mary was followed in 1851 by Thomas Austin who ran 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 1861 Elkin Dockins who was 64 years old was running the business and he was followed in 1871 by Amos Mason who was also a farmer of 9 acres in the village; 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. It is likely that the Butcher's shop did not have accommodation as Arthur was living in the Swan, most of the previous butchers lived elsewhere in the village, the

only other butcher recorded as living in the Swan was Thomas Mercer in 1841. During World War II the Swan was run by Baden Bates who was reputed to keep two whisky bottles behind the bar, one was watered down for the 'Yanks' and the other was neat for the locals. The pub finally closed in 1955 and became a private house.

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Lunch Club

Thursday 8 May 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

Book Club

Last months book was 'Orbital' by Samantha Harvey
This was a short book with some awesome descriptive prose and thought provoking ideas, some of which took time for us to assimilate. The book, however was not a hit with us all as there was so little story line for us to invest in.

The book for review at our next meeting is 'First Wife's Shadow' by Adele Parks.

Venue: 11 Carlow Road

Date: Tuesday 13th May

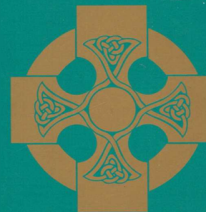
Time: 2:30pm

June.



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.

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Our regular 3rd Saturday

Coffee, cake and chat



Saturday 17 May
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

SUPPORT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE'S BEAUTIFUL CHURCHES

RIDE+STRIDES

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Saturday 13th September 2025

between 10am and 6pm

a day in the open air ... plan your own route

350+ stunning churches and chapels to visit -
many of them open and welcoming



All sponsorship money received will be divided equally between
the NHCT and the church or chapel chosen by you

**Sponsorship forms and a list of open churches and chapels are
available from your local organiser: -**

Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust

Registered Charity No 1021632

For more details see our website: www.nhct.org.uk

Programme - May 2025

Services in May (In church and by Zoom)

Services are led by Revd Rick Preston unless otherwise stated:

Sunday 4th May

10:30am Communion Service

Sunday 11th May

10:30am Morning Service

6:00pm Songs of Praise

Sunday 18th May

10:30am Morning Service

Sunday 25th May

10:30am Morning Service



and in June

Sunday 1st June

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

First Wednesday Prayer by Zoom

Wednesday 7th May at 7:30pm

Zoom in and share! - See Zoom link elsewhere in this newsletter,

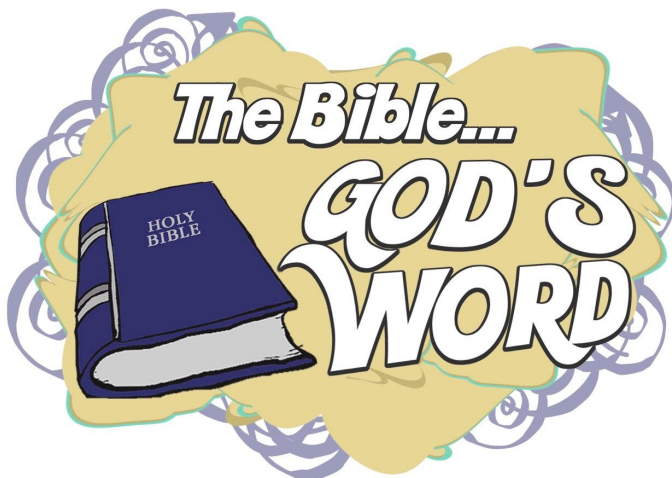
If you would like to lead, or share in leading, one of these evenings please get in touch with Revd Rick.

Readers & Readings

Rota for Scripture readings

4 May 2025	Louise	John 21.1-19
11 May 2025	Chris	John 10.22-30
18 May 2025	Carol	John 13.31-35
25 May 2025	Agnes	John 5.1-9
1 June 2025	Mike	John 17.20-26
8 June 2025	Peter	John 14.8-27
15 June 2025	Christine	John 16.12-15
22 June 2025	Angela	Luke 8.26-39
29 June 2025	Alan	Luke 9.51-62

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=L1F0Szd0ZlI2R1RvNVlCc0VsTVh1Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84607293457?pwd=L1F0Szd0ZlI2R1RvNVlCc0VsTVh1Zz09)

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

