



Churches

The Benefice of Acle and Bure to Yare

Acle : Beighton with Moulton : Freethorpe : Halvergate with
Tunstall: Limpenhoe, Southwood and Cantley : Reedham :
Wickhamston

DECEMBER

2023

25P



OUTLOOK

ACLE & BURE TO YARE BENEFICE: WHO'S WHO 2.

RECTOR: Rev'd Martin Greenland, 01493 750393
rector@aclechurch.plus.com

LAY MINISTER: Nicholas Cowen, 01493 700915

CHURCH WARDENS:

Acle	Diane Wynne-Fitzgerald 07969 341943
Beighton	Ann Adey 01493 751461 Rosemary Whyborn 01493 750079
Freethorpe	(Vacant)
Halvergate	Nick Butcher, 01493 701122
Limpenhoe	(Vacant)
Reedham	Kati Cowen, 01493 700915 Jonathan Lonsdale 07939 082424
Wickhampton	Brenda Pawsey, 01493 700068 Sara Stephenson 07894 993920

ACLE PARISH HALL Mrs Page 01493 751125/
07947 889 652

“OUTLOOK” EDITORS:

Kati Cowen 18 Church Road, Reedham, NR13 3TY, 01493 700915
e-mail: kncowen@tiscali.co.uk
John Orsborn 18 The Hills, Reedham, NR13 3TN, 01493 700441

“OUTLOOK” ADVERTISING EDITOR:

Jonathan Lonsdale e-mail: jnlonsdale@me.com

Website www.abychurches.co.uk/ (Digital copy of Outlook)



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In their different ways, gospel writers Luke and Matthew each show us a Christmas story which is off-centre. In Luke's more familiar account, most of the people in Bethlehem, let alone the wider area, were oblivious to the baby in a manger. Most had no room in their lives to accommodate the birth of Jesus. Yet Luke shows us those who made space: the shepherds responding to the angel's invitation to go and see; Mary pondering the meaning of it all in her heart.

For the majority of the inhabitants of our country, one suspects that Jesus' nativity appears as little more than a sideshow amongst all the other 'stuff' which constitute our increasingly secular midwinter festival. Yet each Christmas the Church welcomes enhanced numbers of worshippers, for whom celebrating and reflecting on the Saviour's birth is an important, if not essential element; while the angels' message of peace and goodwill to all is reflected in increased charitable and inclusive activity in the wider community.

While Luke's narrative focuses on the local and personal, Matthew gives us a political and universal perspective. An impressive foreign delegation comes to the King's palace to initiate positive relations with a rising star on the global political scene. They've come to the wrong place: the child is not in Jerusalem, but in off-centre Bethlehem. Herod sees in this a challenge to his rule; and takes underhand and increasingly desperate measures to neutralise the opposition.

Power can be exercised for the general good; yet it brings with it the temptation to misuse it, or to hold on to it for one's own ends. Through his ministry and death, Jesus will go on to show a different kind of realm and a different way of ruling: a preview of a world centred on God, which he calls, according to Matthew, *the kingdom of heaven*. In terms of this world, this kingdom is also off-centre. While political manifestos, technological progress and consumer offers may look as though they promise heaven on earth, human fallibility and sin teach us that consistently they fail to deliver. Rather than a world evolving towards the kingdom of God, much of Jesus' Advent teaching implies that the final arrival of that kingdom will represent a dramatic change from the way things are and a painful wrench for the powers that be – like the birth of a child.

Yet the signs of that age, Jesus taught, are and will be all around, until that kingdom come – although often off-centre: hidden, or amongst unexpected people. Wherever love is shown, or truly inclusive community demonstrated; where there is hope for the oppressed, forgiveness for the sinner or compassion for the afflicted; wherever lives are truly centred on God. He taught us, his followers, to pray daily for that kingdom's coming: to be alert for it, to seek it out and to live it. The true message of Christmas may be off-centre for the world: but, as we gather around the manger throne, it needs to be central for us.

Wishing you a meaningful Advent and a joyful Christmas,

Martin Greenland

Parish Registers

Funerals

We commit to God's keeping:

Brian Bemment, aged 83, on 26th October at St Edmund's, Acle

Peter John Horsley, aged 82, on 10th November at All Saints', Freethorpe

Holy Matrimony

Gillian Ann Garnham and Stephen Owen Woodgate on 28th October at St Andrew's, Wickhampton

Parish Notes

Thank you very much to all those who participated (delivering or donating) in Acle St. Edmund's **Gift Day**. It's not too late to deliver a donation to The Rectory or on-line www.peoplesfundraising.com/wall/st-edmunds-church-acle. £558 (cash and contactless) was donated during the morning: we'll prepare a fuller report for January's *Outlook*.

Advent isn't just about getting ready for Christmas! Acle Churches Together will be marking the season with reflection and prayer at Acle Methodist Church at 9.30am on Tuesdays 5th and 12th December.

Pathfinder Puzzle

Begin at the 6th letter across on the 6th row down and move up, down or sideways (but NOT diagonally) to find the words of a verse of a Christmas Carol. Answer in next month's *Outlook*.

L	A	T	C	A	D	O	R	D	A	L	H	R
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Lyndsay Fisher

Christmas Coffee Morning - Freethorpe

Ding Dong! We are holding a Christmas Coffee Morning on the 8th December at Church Farmhouse next to Freethorpe Church from 10.30 to 1.00pm. There will be a raffle, cake stall and lots of coffee. Please join us and get into the Christmas Spirit.



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RECYCLING MEDICINE BLISTER PACKS

7.

The past couple of years have been frustrating with Superdrug's on/off blister pack recycling programme, however I have now been alerted to a new Terracycle scheme set up with Aldi (thanks Jessica and Kate).

PLEASE DO NOT TAKE BLISTER PACKS TO ALDI STORES,
THIS FREE RECYCLING IS BY POST.

1. Go to either: www.aldi.co.uk/corporate/corporate-responsibility/greener/recycle
or: www.terracycle.com/en-GB/brigades/aldi-uk
2. Create a Terracycle account
3. Download your prepaid shipping label (max 2 per person per month)
4. Stick it on an envelope (max size C4 = 324 x 229mm)
5. Fill with a max of 30 blister packs
6. Post with Royal Mail

Happy Recycling!

Diana Gilder

Reedham Vikings Social Club

December 16th – Bingo. £10 for 10 games. Open 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

Friday 22nd – Grand Draw. 25p a square. Mini Bingo, Mini Quiz and Races. We would welcome any prizes for this.

We will be open on Sunday 24th December, Christmas Eve from 7.30pm.

Open on Sunday 31st with a Disco. Fancy Dress welcome. Free snacks, everyone welcome.

Freethorpe & District Flower Show

Our 2024 show will be held on Saturday 24 August. When you are out and about in the coming months, why not take a photo and enter it into the Photography Section.

Categories next year will be Landscape; An Insect; Comical; Any Animal or Bird; Village Scene; Fungi; Sunrise or Sunset; Historic Building; Still Life; Action Shot and Black and White.

Find Freethorpe Flower Show on Facebook.

Limpenhoe Church

We will be hosting Mulled Wine & mince pies / sausage rolls in the village hall after the Carol Service on the 17th December. Everyone is welcome.

Moulton St Mary – see back cover.

A congregation of 16 attended the first Remembrance Service around the newly restored War Memorial in Moulton St Mary Churchyard. Thanks to Nick Hindle, Stonemasons, for an excellent job. Thanks to Gary Howes for performing Standard Bearer duties & Christopher Gould for Last Post / Reveille.

Acle Christmas Bazaar – Church Hall on 2nd December

10am -2pm.

There will be various stalls including

Jewellery, Fair trade, Preserves, Crafts, a Ugandan Charity, Cards, a Tombola , Cakes and Seasonal Refreshments. -

The ABY Choir will be singing Carols.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

8.

Reedham Charity: RNLI

Weekly

Tuesdays 9.30am Ecumenical Morning Prayer – Acle Methodist Church – except when there is a morning service at Swallowtail Place.

Saturdays 5.00pm Roman Catholic Mass – Acle Church

Friday 1st 6.30pm ‘HMS Gloucester’ – Limpenhoe Church & Village Hall

Saturday 2nd 10am – 2pm Acle Christmas Bazaar – Acle Church Hall

5pm – 10pm Christmas Disco etc – Reedham Village Hall

SUNDAY 3rd 1st of Advent

9.30am Morning Prayer - Halvergate

9.30am Morning Worship – Limpenhoe

10.30am *Freethorpe Carols – Freethorpe Village Hall*

11.00am Morning Worship - Acle

4.00pm *Christingle – Reedham*

Monday 4th 7.30pm Reedham Parish Council – Reedham Village Hall

Tuesday 5th 9.30am Advent Prayers & Reflection – Acle Methodist Church

Thursday 7th *Carols on the Green with Broadland Band – Acle, The Green*

Friday 8th 10.30am – 1pm Freethorpe Christmas Coffee Morning –
Church Farmhouse

Saturday 9th 9am – noon Farmers’ Market – Acle Church Hall

SUNDAY 10th 2nd of Advent

8.00am Holy Communion – Acle

10.30am Holy Communion – Beighton

2.00pm *Carol Service with Yare Folk – Cantley*

4.00pm *Candlelight Carol Service – Wickhampton*

Monday 11th MOBILE LIBRARY DAY

Tuesday 12th 9.30am Advent Prayers & Reflection – Acle Methodist Church

Wednesday 13th 7.30pm Christmas Quiz – Reedham Village Hall

Thursday 14th OUTLOOK COPY DATE

Friday 15th 6pm *Readings and Carols + A-strings & the Ad-hoc Choir – Acle*

Saturday 16th 9am-noon Limpenhoe Village Hall Breakfast Café

SUNDAY 17th 3rd of Advent

9.30am Holy Communion – Halvergate

11.00am Holy Communion – Acle

11.00am Morning Prayer – Reedham

2.30pm *Carol Service – Limpenhoe*

4.30pm *Christingle and Carol Service – Freethorpe*

- Monday 18th 7.30pm Bingo – Reedham Village Hall 9.
- Tuesday 19th 3.00pm Coffee Bar Carols – Swallowtail Place, Acle
6.30pm Carols and Cake – Beighton
- Wednesday 20th 7.30pm Cantley W.I – Cantley Village Hall
- Thursday 21st 7.30pm Carol Service with Benefice Choir – Reedham
7.30pm 'The Heist Before Christmas' – Reedham Village Hall
- Friday 22nd 6.00pm Candlelight Carol Service - Halvergate
7.30pm 'The Heist Before Christmas' – Reedham Village Hall
- Saturday 23rd 2.30pm 'The Heist Before Christmas' – Reedham Village Hall

SUNDAY 24th 4th of Advent/Christmas Eve

- 10.30am Morning Prayer - Beighton
- 11.00am Holy Communion – Freethorpe
- 4.00pm Christingle – Acle
- 4.00pm Crib Service – Reedham
- 11.00pm Midnight Holy Communion – Acle
- 11.30pm Midnight Carols – Limpenhoe

Monday 25th CHRISTMAS DAY

- 8.00am Holy Communion – Acle
- 9.30am Roman Catholic Mass - Acle
- 10.00am Family Service - Freethorpe
- 11.00am Holy Communion – Reedham

SUNDAY 31st 1st of Christmas

- 10.30am Benefice Service - Acle

Looking forward into January:-

SUNDAY 7th The Epiphany

- 9.30am Holy Communion - Limpenhoe
- 11.00am Morning Worship - Acle
- 11.00am Covenant Service – Freethorpe Methodists

WICKHAMPTON NEWS

CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE at St Andrew's, Wickhampton

Sunday 10 December 2023 at 4pm

Join us for carols, lessons, and tales of medieval Christmas, and stay to enjoy some festive fare, honey mead and warming punch!

With every good wish to all for a happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas.

The Friends of Wickhampton Church

BLESSING THE PLOUGH SERVICE at St Andrew's, Wickhampton

Sunday 14 January 2024 at 10.30am

Our service will commence inside the church at 10.30am, and we will then move outside for the annual blessing of the plough and seed. Wrap up warm to enjoy the event, and join us for hot drinks afterwards!

Reedham Village Hall

10.

Christmas Disco and carols round the tree on 2nd December 5-10pm. Carols round the tree to begin at 6pm. Free entry, Santas grotto, disco and performance from magician Jake Ace.

Christmas cash and prize bingo 18th December at 7:30pm. Please check posters for jackpot details.

Christmas quiz Wednesday 13th December at 7:30pm. To book a table call 01493 701107. £2 entry per person.

RCA stage school present The Heist before Christmas on 21st & 22nd December at 7:30pm and 23rd December at 2:30pm. Tickets cost £3.50 under 16 and £6 for 16 and over. Tickets can be booked online or call 01493 701107.

Sisters of Bethany

We moved into our new property at the beginning of November. At this time of waiting during Advent we continue to watch, wait and listen to God's will for our developing ministry here, and just as His glory was revealed on that first Christmas morning in the small town of Bethlehem we pray for His glory to be revealed in all that we do.

We wish you all a very blessed and peaceful Christmas time.

Sister Elizabeth Pio SSB, Sister Rita-Elizabeth SSB and Sister Heidi Marie n.SSB

Our New Contact Details:

House of Bethany, Grove Barns, Porters Road, Moulton St Mary, Norwich. NR13 3NR

Tel: 01493 701993

Email: sistersofbethany.norfolk@gmail.com

Cantley & District W.I.

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday December 20th at 7.30pm in Cantley Village Hall when we will be enjoying our annual Christmas Party.

For more information contact Barbara on 07789845050. New members always very welcome. We wish everybody a very Happy Christmas.

Reedham Churchyard Group

Many thanks to all of you who have helped keep the churchyard looking so cared for over the year and to the contractors who do a great job in cutting the grass and managing the meadow area. Volunteers meet 3 or 4 times over the year and we had our final tidy up for 2023 over half term. Especial thanks to the children who gathered up sticks and branches that had been blown down during recent storms and built their very first bonfire. It was not huge, but big enough to toast some giant marshmallows.

We will resume our activities in the Spring, and if you are able to help then please look out for the next call for volunteers either in The Outlook or on the village community Facebook page.

Mary Jones mpcjones@hotmail.co.uk

Reedham Stall at Farmers' Market – Saturday 9th December

We are hoping to have a small stall to raise money for the church (have you seen the state of our roof?!) – any gifts welcome, and please come and support it.

Kati Cowen

Women's Night Out

This will be on Wednesday 6th December and will be the Christmas Buffet and Party Night at Freethorpe Village Hall.

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Reedham Belles

The Reedham Belles held their AGM at Reedham Village Hall on 7th November, a business affair where reports from the committee were read and the committee and officers were elected for the following year. The evening was much enlivened by a talk about perfume and a perfume quiz led by a member, Jayne, who had done a mountain of research on our behalf. We all left the meeting better informed about the perfume that many of us wear. If you ever take part in a perfume quiz, try to make sure that the only trained aromatherapist in the room is on your team!

Our next meeting is a Christmas meal at a local restaurant (5th Dec). The January meeting will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month (9th January), where we traditionally eat up left over nibbles from New Year and hold an amnesty auction of surplus gifts. There are a few activities planned for the weeks leading up to Christmas including joining the Reedham Stage School for carols around the Christmas tree on Dec. 2nd, a wreath making workshop for members and a walk at Ranworth. We are also planning to start a choir in 2024.

If you would like to join our friendly group of local women, then do get in touch.

Mary Jones reedhamwi@btinternet.com

CANTLEY FLOWER SHOW (Not just flowers!)

Exciting news. We have introduced an online Entry Form so that you can now enter from home. You still need to come on the day of the Show with your entries but no need to travel into Cantley with your entry form. Just go to cantley.org/flowershow, download the Entry Form and follow the simple instructions. See you in September 2024.

Robert.

REEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

13.

Meeting held on Monday 6th November 2023 in the Village Hall. There were 8 Councillors present, the Clerk, and 2 members of the public. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Chairman of the Village Hall Committee Chris Bradbury gave the following report:

There were no issues with the play equipment safety inspection for November.

Unfortunately, due to illness the defibrillator training from the Freethorpe First Responders in October had to be cancelled. It is likely to be rearranged for the New Year.

The October Cash Bingo jackpot wasn't won; therefore the jackpot for November stands at £250 in 59 numbers or less.

On Saturday 2nd December we have a Christmas Party, from 5pm to 10pm. There will be a disco including an entertainer, Santa's Grotto, and carols round the tree.

Bonfire Night was very well attended with the largest number of people we have ever had come to see the fireworks display. Cllr Hale thanked the Community Association and all involved for their work in putting on an excellent event and firework display.

There were 2 planning applications for consideration:

2023/3096 – single storey rear extension & associated internal reordering works at Oaklea 37B Witton Green, NR13 3HH. The Council were in favour of the application.

BA/2023/0405/HOUSEH – first floor extension and internal alterations at Reedling Cottage, 46 Riverside. The Council were in favour of the application.

1 application was received for the remaining Parish Councillor vacancy. Mr Robert Allen was co-opted on to the Council.

The Council adopted a Biodiversity Policy, which can be viewed on the website.

In September the sensor was located at the top of Station Drive facing Freethorpe. The 85th percentile was 27.1mph, in September 2022 it was 31.1mph. The average number of vehicles per day was 369, fewer than last year.

In October it was on Station Road looking north up towards the station. The average number of cars was 795 per day, double last year's figures. It is possible the data has been affected by heavy rain. The 85th percentile was 27mph, about the same as the last time it was there.

Work on the Woodland Walk steps handrail will start soon. A working party will also clear some of the undergrowth.

Several updates were received from County Councillor Lana Hemsall on some outstanding Highways issues:

- works to alleviate the flooding issues on Witton Green have been programmed into the current schedule of works but there is not a timeframe for when they will be completed yet.
- works to shore up Church Dam are unlikely to take place. The road does not serve any people or houses and Highways cannot find any funding for the repair. The overhanging hedge from Pettitts will be cut back.
- the closure of Middle Hill to through traffic is going ahead although a final plan has not yet been agreed.

The Council will be organising an 80th commemoration of the downing of the two B17 bombers over the marshes on the 21st February 2024. If anyone would like to assist in this please contact the Clerk.

The Clerk has tendered her resignation due to an increase in hours at her other Council. If anyone is interested in the role, please contact the Clerk or Chairman.

Time and Date of Next Meeting.

Monday 4th December 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Further details will be published on the website, Facebook page and noticeboard by the Doctor nearer the time. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

The Clerk's contact details are: reedhampc@outlook.com or 07769 972902

December jobs in the garden

14.

Rake up accumulated fallen leaves in borders that could be harbouring slugs and other pests. Plant bare root Roses and other deciduous shrubs, plus ornamental trees. Hard prune overgrown shrubs and hedges while they're dormant. Check stored bulbs and corms regularly for any signs of rot. Lift and divide large clumps of Rhubarb, replanting the outer sections into soil enriched with well-rotted manure. Keep kale, winter cabbages and other brassicas covered with netting to protect them from hungry pigeons. Finish clearing old crops and debris from the veg plot, but only compost healthy material.

Start to plan next year's crops and order seeds and bulbs to give you a fantastic display in 2024.

The Gardening Club and the Village show committee would like to wish everyone a very merry Xmas and a happy new year, see you all on the 1st of September 2024.

Amanda & Ken

Royal British Legion

On behalf of the Royal British Legion, Poppy Appeal, I would like to express my gratitude for all of the support. A huge thank you to the team of collectors, the shops, businesses, churches, schools & pubs who all play their part in making it such a success. Thank you to everyone who donated.

Jayne Smith. District Poppy Appeal Organiser.

OVER FIFTIES CLUB AND LOTTERY

Well, yet again a month has just gone by so very fast. Since our last report members enjoyed a coach trip and non-travellers went to Acle Bridge for lunch; both activities were enjoyed very much.

November 7th we dedicated to Remembrance and Bob Pochin of the British Legion monitored our silence at the beginning of the meeting. This was then followed by a surprise for Wendy Gitsham who helps in our kitchen every Tuesday. Wendy was celebrating her 70th birthday and the club gave her a special card and a cake.

November birthdays were celebrated on November 14th with a buffet and a cake. We had two new members join this month. We now have only one actual club day left this year because November 28th we have our Xmas party at the Village Hall and then on December 5th we have our Christmas lunch at the Acle Bridge.

We then have our Christmas break and the club re-opens on January 9th at 1.15pm as yearly membership of £7.00 will be due, so we are just opening a little earlier to accommodate the extra admin.

Our lottery was won by Christine Hollis on October 28th; the jackpot prize was £315.00 and Christine very kindly gave the club a donation for which we are very grateful.

Our bingo lottery is open to non-members and it helps to support our club, if you would like to join just give me a ring, it is £1.00 per week. We also give to various charities at the end of each year.

We lost a supporter of our club this month with the sudden death of Jill Trayler, Jill would come round to see me and bring me raffle prizes and also Jill was a supporter of our lottery. Our sincere condolences go to her three boys Julian, Nicholas and Timothy and her husband Colin at this very sad time.

Till next month. As the weather declines, do keep warm!!

Angie Woolsey Secretary/Treasurer

Important! The future of Outlook Magazine.

15.

We have been looking recently at the future of Outlook magazine. We are doing this because:

- for the last couple of years we have made a loss in the region of £500 p.a. and we cannot sustain that, especially as costs continue to rise & our printer is beginning to wear out;
- the labour of producing 850 copies per month is becoming too onerous; and
- as an 'Eco Church' we are concerned about the environmental implications – 600 of the 850 copies printed per month are distributed free to each household in Reedham, & we think that many of these go into waste or recycling, unread. We want to address this.

Accordingly:

The price will rise to 50p per copy from January (the first price rise for years, & at £6 per year still less than a couple of coffee shop coffees). Outlook continues to be available **free** on the Benefice website, & can be sent by e-mail on request to the editor. For Reedham residents, from April 2024 we will cease the monthly free distribution to every household. Paper copies will still be available on subscription – details of how to subscribe in the next Outlook. We are exploring with the Parish Council the possibility of a free distribution perhaps twice a year. There will be more details in our next issue.

Early Copy Date – 14th December! Happy Christmas & New Year to all.
The Editors

Breakfast cafe

*Limpenhoe Village
Hall*

*16th December
20th January
17th February*

Time: 9 to 12

*Bookings:
Pat Bennett 07980 326347
p4alconhouse@hotmail.com
Bookings will be confirmed*



*Community Cafe in
support of the Village
Hall and Church*

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CAROLS & READINGS

with the
 Acle & Bure to Yare
 Benefice Choir
 Conductor: Michael Nicholas

Thursday 21st December
7:30pm
Admission Free - Refreshments



THE HEIST BEFORE CHRISTMAS

A Comedy

REEDHAM VILLAGE HALL

21st - 23rd DECEMBER

Tickets: 01492 701107 | choose your seats online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/reedham-community-association (Booking fees apply online)
 For more info visit www.reedhamvillagehall.co.uk or email RCAstageschool@yahoo.com

21st & 22nd Dec: 7.30pm
 23rd Dec: 2.30pm
 Doors open 30 minutes before each performance.
 Adults £6
 under 16 £3.00

Below:
 Act of Remembrance at
 Moulton St Mary

Below:
 Bonfire at Reedham Churchyard
 Day, 23rd October, with some
 energetic helpers.



Right: Remembrance flowers at
 Limpenhoe
 Below: Act of Remembrance at
 Limpenhoe



ALL SAINTS BEIGHTON

warmly invite you to join us for

CAROLS & CAKE

Tuesday
19 December
6:30pm

