

# JUNE 2020

#### The Benefice of Acle and Bure to Yare

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



Bluebells at St Edmund's, Southwood - see article

# OUTLOOK

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#### Far from Ordinary Time

Returning to St. Edmund's Church to pray, I found it still in Lent: no flowers; the altar draped in purple. This year, Passiontide and Easter have taken place outside of our church buildings. These, along with Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, are the main seasons of the church year, dominated by the big picture and marking the major themes of our faith: God taking flesh in Jesus Christ; his saving death and resurrection; his authority over the church and the world.

But on Monday I<sup>st</sup> June (this year) there's a major change: the altar should turn to green, as we enter what we call "Ordinary Time" – Trinity Sunday and the numerous "Sundays after". In this part of the church year there is no overarching theme: ministers are free to draw what seems appropriate from the set Bible readings. Having covered over Christmas and Easter the very beginning and end of the Gospels (e.g. Jesus' birth and baptism; and passion and resurrection) we rejoin Jesus in active ministry in Galilee; while readings from the Old and New Testaments touch on the varied experiences of God's people. The bigger picture still exists – in his ministry, for example, Jesus called it the kingdom of God. And the major themes have not gone away: they just need to be discerned and practised in the particular challenges and encounters of day-to-day life.

This June, of course, will be far from Ordinary. Looking ahead, my overwhelming sense is of complexity. Lockdown was comparatively simple – we basically did as we were told. Emerging from lockdown, however, asks a lot more of us. There are judgements we need to make, guidance we must interpret, actions we have to take. Just look at what is being asked of schools. Closing church buildings was simple; opening them up again is more demanding. Then there is diversity of experience: things are not the same for everybody. Young people; older people; those who are shielding; those with children; those with care responsibilities; those who've never stopped working and those who have; those who've had the virus and those who've never knowingly come close to it; those who have lost someone dear to them. Vulnerabilities (physical and economic) differ, as do attitudes (cavalier or fearful). These are testing times: there is likely to be disagreement, impatience and resistance. And we don't know what the future looks like.

Christian faith offers no easy solutions for all of this; but it does provide us with a foundation: assurances to help us ride out, or even steer a course through the storm. There is a bigger picture – something we all need to remember, lest we focus on regaining our personal liberties at the expense of the communal effort to continue to control the spread of the virus. And there are overarching themes – including the faithfulness of God; the duty of care towards our neighbour; the ultimate victory of love and life over sin and death. They just need to be discerned and practised in the day to day challenges and encounters of

our Coronavirus-infected Galilee: resisting temptations, confronting demons, **4.** extending compassion, exposing injustice, curbing selfishness, thanking God, celebrating life.

In the love of God,

Martin Greenland

### Parish Registers Funerals

We commend to God:-Ivan Edward Carter, aged 86, on 23<sup>rd</sup> April at St Andrew's, Wickhampton,

David John Dagnall, aged 73, on 1st May at Gorleston Crematorium

Rita Edith Alden, aged 84, on 4th May at Gorleston Crematorium.

#### Future funerals:-

Ellen Mary Hanton on 28th May at St Margaret's, Cantley Rosemary Anne Bedding on 29th May at St John the Baptist's, Reedham Margaret Jones on 12th June at Gorleston Crematorium.

As it is most likely that the Covid 19 restrictions will still apply, all but close family will not be able to attend; but please remember their families and friends in your prayers - there is a simple reflection to use at home on the Website - www.abychurches.co.uk/prayer/other-resources-for-worship-at-home/

#### **Church Buildings**

At the time of writing, **church buildings** remain closed to the public. There is now some limited access: e.g. nominated ministers offering prayer (Acle, Reedham) or, by arrangement, for contractors carrying out necessary maintenance work or inspections. If things go well nationally, later this month we may get instructions to enable buildings to reopen for private prayer – look out for notices at the church. This may be on a limited basis, as we will need to control virus transmission risks. Do not visit if you have possible Coronavirus symptoms; be aware of the transmission risk from things other people may have touched (particularly door handles); use the hand sanitizer provided. You may be asked to log your visit.

Meanwhile church members (where they are able – many are vulnerable themselves) are contributing to the excellent community support in our villages. **Worship** has gone on-line, with *Prayer on a Page* posted each week on our Benefice website and now shared live by Zoom at 9.30am each Sunday. Plus there are offerings on-line from a variety of sources, as well as the established services on television and radio (more details on the website).

Martin Greenland

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#### The Reedham Retreat

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#### Reedham Garage/Yard Sale

**7**.

We have decided not to have a Garage/Yard Sale after all this year - it was to have been in July.

Theresa and Ann

#### Cantley & District W.I.

Sadly but not surprisingly our June meeting has been cancelled and at this moment we don't know when we will be able to resume our meetings. Meanwhile we are trying to keep in contact with each other by phone, email and Facebook.

Keep well and keep safe.

Best wishes Jane

#### Reedham Post Office and Tea Room

The Post Office is now opening on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am to 1pm. The Tea Room is also serving Takeaways - a limited menu of drinks, sandwiches or cake. Orders welcome contact 01493 700648.

#### **Cantley Flower Show**

We are very sorry to announce that this year's Show scheduled for the 5th Sept is now CANCELLED. We are however, looking forward to our next Show on Saturday 4th Sept 2021.

We hope you can come and join us then. Best wishes and stay safe. Robert Beadle 01493 701231 Chairman.

#### **Cantley School Association April 2020**

1st M Zouvani 416

2nd K Pallant 523

3rd A Peter's 435 4th A Howes 353

Congratulations! We thank everyone for their support.

Barbara Tuck 07789845050

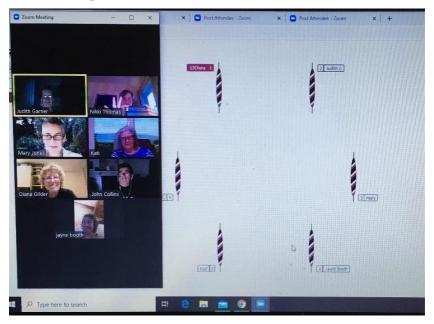
#### Answer to the Pathfinder Puzzle:-

'Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise him all creatures here below, Praise him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.' BBC Songs of Praise 172

Lyndsay Fisher

Great Yarmouth Foodbank wishes to thank everyone who is being so generous in donating food or money – the need continues. Food for distribution by the Acle Resilience Team can be dropped off in the lobby of Acle Methodist Church between 10 and 11am on Thursdays. Otherwise the Humpty Dumpty Brewery also is receiving donations for passing on to the Food Bank when their shop is open - Tuesday – Saturday 12-5pm

#### Reedham Ringers



Our churches are currently closed and for now our bells our silent. You may hear a single bell ringing some mornings to announce that prayers are being said in Reedham church, but other than that, the ringers must stay away from the ringing room because it is impossible to social distance in such a small space. However, we are not downhearted. There is much to learn and we are meeting regularly on Zoom to practise on a virtual platform, where it is possible to ring as a band, despite the fact that we are geographically distant. Ringing will return and we look forward to the day when we will celebrate together with the joyful sound of bells.

If there are any retired ringers out there who had given up ringing because of access or health problems, now is your chance to re-engage. All you need to be able to do is understand the methods and press a button on your computer keyboard! We would love to hear from you and invite you to join our virtual ringing community.

It is most likely that Outlook will still have to be an e-copy for the July edition. Please let your friends and neighbours know that it is still available on the Benefice Website. Some may have had difficulty accessing it because if viewing it on a Smart 'phone there is a Register or Log in section – but you don't have to do this to access most of the pages, including the Magazine section.

**Editors** 

#### St Edmund's, Southwood

The pictures – right, below and on the cover – are of the ruined church of St Edmund, Southwood. It shares its dedication to St Edmund with Acle church. It is commonly accepted that St George is the Patron Saint of England. We celebrate St George's Day on April 23rd when the red cross of St George flies proudly from the flag pole. But should we instead be raising the White Dragon flag on November 20th?





It is surprising to learn that St George was not the first patron saint of England. That honour was originally held by St Edmund, or Edmund the Martyr, King of East Anglia in the 9th century AD.

Chris Fisk

I was surprised to learn that countries often have more than one Patron Saint — France has St Dennis, St Louis and St Joan of Arc. Another Patron Saint of England is King Edward the Confessor. St Edmund's claim to be the first is that although he was only king of East Anglia, he styled himself 'Rex Anglorum' - King of the Angles or English. He was surprisingly popular with the Danes, once they had converted to Christianity, considering that it was they who had martyred him.

10.

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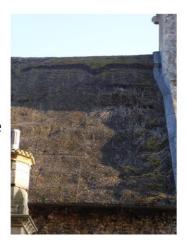
# **Acle St. Edmund: Thatch Appeal**

Rethatch the north slope (c.1970)

- + sedge ridge
- + repair south slope.

We are looking to raise **£40,000** 

includes a contingency for roof-timber work.



#### Thank you to

- Allchurches Trust (£1,500)
- · Acle Parish Council

(£1,000 + the offer of a loan)

We now have only one grant application outstanding – which won't cover the shortfall. Can you help with an on-line donation? Thank you.

www.peoplesfundraising.com/ fundraising/SECA-roof-thatching-appeal

#### Beighton Church - see pictures on back cover

The main contractor, Phoenix Build, has resumed work at All Saints after a number of weeks when he was unable to continue due to the lockdown and the kitchenette and toilet are now taking shape. Meanwhile, the thatcher was able to carry on thanks to him being a lone worker so all was not lost and the new roof covering is all finished. At the same time the glazier, Devlin Plummer, returned to install the newly repaired clerestory windows and on the third week of May the external scaffolding began to be dismantled. After nearly ten months, the church is beginning to emerge from its cocoon with all its new finery!





Above and Below - work nearing completion on Beighton church







The progress of the Acle Thatch Appeal

The Parish Magazine for the Churches of the Acle & Bure to Yare Benefice and Community Newsletter for Reedham and Area.

Editor's Note: Whilst the Editors welcome contributions to OUTLOOK magazine, the opinions and comments expressed by contributors are their own; we reserve the right not to publish all submissions.