

# Blackbourne

## *Mission and Ministry in the Blackbourne Team*

Hopefully, by now you will have seen a copy of this paper. Presented at the September Team Council, it describes how the Ministry Team intends to support each of the churches in the Benefice. The last two years or so has seen churches grow in an appreciation of, and delight in, the value of Team - something we celebrate and want to build on. My colleagues and I are committed to fostering a continuing spirit of interdependence between the churches. I hope you will be encouraged by what you read. We will work with PCC's and church communities to enable mission, to foster vocation, and to deliver effective pastoral care. Be assured that whilst we each enjoy having a focus of our ministry, we remain available to the whole Benefice. The paper has been distributed to PCC's and more widely in the benefice. If you have not seen a copy, please contact one of the Ministry Team. PG

## *Vision Building*

One of the recommendations of the *Forward2the Future* Task Group was to invite churches to engage in a process that would help them reflect on where they have got to and where, under God, they would like to be. It's very easy to continue doing what we've always done, without occasionally stopping to think whether we could do things differently or better, or try something new, or even stop something that is no longer as appropriate as it once was. Such an exercise can breathe new life into a church, often with surprising and welcome outcomes! I am delighted that Jim Hartley has kindly agreed to be available to churches to facilitate and guide this process

Any aspect of the church's life and mission can be up for discussion. The objective is for churches to arrive at an agreed understanding of what they are about and how they are going to do it, which will of course be different from church to church. Each parish has its unique strengths and opportunities and it is on these that we want to build

I wrote to all PCC's in September urging them to consider inviting Jim to work with the church community, not just with the PCC. There is a wealth of insight and wisdom within our congregations that should not be overlooked. Many make a significant contribution to the life of the church, but do not choose to be on the PCC. It's important that all feel they have contributed if the outcome is to be 'owned' by the whole church. This can be achieved by a whole church meeting or meetings, or by inviting written submissions. It will be for each church to decide, with Jim, how the process is to be managed. PG

## *ChristianityExplored*

Monday October 31  
Monday November 14  
Monday November 21  
Monday November 28  
7:30pm in Troston Hall

## *Shoebox Appeal*

November 5 is the last day for delivering shoeboxes to Barnham Church

## *Just-a-Bite*

Sunday 6 November,  
9:30am  
Ixworth Village Hall

## *Meditative Prayer Group*

Thursday 17 Nov  
8 to 9pm  
Ingham Church

## *Men's Breakfast*

Saturday 19 Nov  
8:15am  
Great Livermere Hall

## *Informal Worship*

Sunday 20 November  
6:30pm  
Ixworth Church

**Today (30 October). A Service of *Remembrance and Thanksgiving* for those who have been bereaved**

St Bartholomew's Church, Ingham, at 3pm

Familiar hymns, time for reflection and prayer, an opportunity to light a candle in memory of those whose memory is very precious

Refreshments afterwards



## ***Review of Sunday Services***

Another of the recommendations of the *Forward2theFuture* task Group was that we review the provision and style of Sunday Services offered in the Benefice. Currently, we are able to hold weekly Sunday Services in most churches, a provision that is becoming increasingly difficult to sustain. The Ministry Team and I are meeting with Jim Hartley to decide how we can best conduct a review with the fullest participation of all PCC's. I will update you once we have something to report. PG

## ***Christianity Explored***

... is going very well! We have met on three Monday evenings, each time with several guests. The atmosphere is relaxed and pleasant, with participants asking some very insightful and thought provoking questions. The evenings are being led and resourced by Don and Pearl Godfrey, and me. If you have suitable books that have been of help to you in your Christian journey, and are willing for them to be loaned to participants, please contact Don, Pearl or me. Finally, please continue to pray for all on the course, and for those leading it. PG



***Just-a-Bite:*** Ixworth Village Hall, First Sunday in the month, 9:30 to 10:45am. Run by members of St Mary's Church, this activity is for families with predominantly pre-school and primary aged children, to bring the whole family together to chat, have some food, to learn about God, ourselves and each other, to worship and to have fun in a very informal way. The village hall is an ideal meeting place and a team of helpers organise everything from arty activities, to games and refreshments. Food to eat, food for thought for all the family! All are welcome. *Next Session: Sunday November 6 : 'Love Your World' PG*

## ***Informal Worship: Sunday November 20, 6:30pm at St Mary's, Ixworth***

An opportunity to enjoy a variety of traditional and more contemporary songs in a relaxed atmosphere. A small group leads the singing, accompanied by a keyboard. Each service has a theme that is explored in a variety of ways: images, music, poetry, Bible reading, prayer and interactive activities for example. All are welcome

## ***Praying in the Churches: All Saints Honington, Thursday's 9-9:30am***

Why not join Phillip and Liz for prayers in Honington Church in November, or Dinkie Williamson and others at Bardwell. Common Worship Daily Prayer is used (text provided), with time to reflect together on the readings for the day. All are welcome. Prayers in December will be at St Mary's, Troston. PG

## ***Men's Breakfasts***

The next breakfast is on Saturday November 19, 8:15 – 9:30am, at Great Livermere Village Hall. The speaker will be Rev Phillip Garbett. All men in the churches are welcome. Enquiries: 01342-268413

## ***Meditative Prayer Group***

The meditative prayer group meets on the third Thursday of every month at Ingham Church. Please note the meeting on November 17 is 8–9pm. This group uses an ancient tradition of spending time in corporate silent prayer. There will be an introduction to lead into silence, a short Bible passage to meditate on, and a time of silent intercession. It will last no more than an hour. Enquiries to [caroline@theredmans.co.uk](mailto:caroline@theredmans.co.uk)

***Blackbourne Team Prayer.*** Be with us Lord Jesus. Let your light shine upon us as we meet in your name. Call us to your service and kindle in us the fire of your unfailing love. Bring us together in our endeavours to do your work on earth. Open our hearts and unite us in your love and remain in our hearts, now and for ever, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen

### ***The Thurston Partnership of Schools: School Reorganisation***

There is a proposal to move to a two-tier system of education in this area. All seventeen primary schools (four of which are in our benefice) and the upper school are members of the Thurston Partnership which has developed a plan to restructure our schools in order to raise attainment for the children. The Cabinet of Suffolk County Council unanimously agreed to allocate the funds required to implement the restructuring plan, should the outcome of a public consultation process prove favourable. A detailed consultation document has been posted by the Local Authority to the parents and carers of all children who currently attend each school in the Thurston area, and also to Governors. The document explains why it is proposed to reorganise the education system and sets out a possible new pattern of schools. The model has been developed by local schools, Suffolk County Council, and the Diocese. The consultation process is now underway. If you would like to have further information, log onto [www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor). Copies of the consultation document can be found in your local library, school, or by calling 01473-260752. Please pray for all concerned, especially for the Church Primary Schools at Bardwell, Barnham, Honington and Ixworth. PG

### ***The Shoebox Appeal***

Shoebboxes need to be with Sue Nutt by November 5. It is very important that we receive them by then, as a large van is coming down my lane to collect them! They can be left in Barnham Church pulpit from where they are collected every day. There are also leaflets on the book case should anyone want one. Thank you all very much indeed. Any queries: Sue Nutt 01842-890409

### ***Open the Book***

This is going really well. The children at Barnham School love it and so do all the actors – now about 10 strong. Do come long and be inspired! November 2 at 9am and November 16 at 2:45pm. You will also get tea and cakes!

### ***Light Up A Light service***

St Cuthbert's Church, Thetford on December 6 at 6:30 pm. If anyone whose loved ones have been looked after by the Hospice and would like to attend, please contact Jennie Unitt at St Nicholas Hospice. 01284-715572 to receive more information. The service is open to everyone

### ***Family Carers***

Some of you know that Sue Nutt has been involved with a *Family Carers* Group for many years. Carers can feel very isolated. If you know of anyone who might benefit, please ask them to contact Sue. We meet once a month in the Ixworth High Street Café. Sue Nutt 01842- 890409

### ***Blackbourne Team Homegroups***

- ⇒ **Bardwell:** Wednesday evenings: phone 01359-251111
- ⇒ **Barnham:** Alternate Thursday afternoons: 01842-890409 or 01842-763164
- ⇒ **Great Livermere:** Alternate Tuesday evenings: 01359-269487
- ⇒ **Honington:** Wednesday evenings: 01359-268413
- ⇒ **Ingham:** Alternate Wednesday evenings: 01284-728152
- ⇒ **Ingham Study Group:** Third Tuesday of each month 10:30am: 01284-729025
- ⇒ **Ixworth:** Wednesday evenings: 01359-234415

***All home groups in the Team are open to members of any of the Team churches***

## Around the Parishes ...

### Bardwell

- **Community Tea:** Wednesday November 2 at The Dun Cow, 2:30-4:30pm
- **Coffee Morning:** Wednesday November 9 at The Water Mill, 10:30am
- **Community Tea:** Wednesday November 16 at The Dun Cow, 2:30-4:30pm
- **Morning Prayer:** Every Thursday in Bardwell Church, 9-9:30am

### Barnham

- **Christingle Service:** Sunday December 4 at 2:30 pm, at St Gregory's Church, Barnham
- **Preparing for Christmas:** a short course looking at Advent. Thursday afternoons at 2pm, starting on December 1 at Sue Nutt's house, Portelet, Blacksmith Lane, Barnham 01842-890409
- **Open the Book Assembly and Café Church:** Barnham School 9am on Wednesdays, twice a month. Enquiries to Sue Nutt or Karen Burton

### Fakenham Magna

- **Sausage Supper** at Sapiston Village Hall on Friday 18 November, 7pm for 7:30pm. Tickets £7 (£4 for children under 14) available from Jenny Phillips 01359-268269. Tea and coffee will be provided, but please bring your own drinks and glasses. All profits will go to St Peters Church, Fakenham Magna

### Great Livermere

- **Parish Prayers:** on Thursday evening, 6-6:30pm
- **Village Quiz Night:** Saturday 26 November, 7:30pm. Great Livermere Village Hall

### Honington

- Honington and Sapiston are holding their **Autumn Fair** at Sapiston Village Hall on Saturday November 19, from 2:00pm. Everyone is welcome and you should find many bargains! GF

### Ingham

- **Church Small Service:** Sunday 6 November, 11am. An informal worship time which is aimed at families and those who are not traditional worshippers. Open to anyone from across the team
- **Remembrance Service** (not Holy Communion), Sunday 13 November, **10.50am** in Ingham Church
- **Coffee Morning:** Tuesday November 29, 10:30 in Ingham Church
- **Ingham church pre-school activity time:** 3rd Tuesday of every month at 2pm in Ingham church. Anyone from across the team would be welcomed, so long as they are accompanied by at least one pre-school child. Time for play, for sharing and for worship. Contact Ann Smith: 01284-729025

<p><b>Contacts</b></p> <p>Rev Phillip Garbett, Team Rector, tel 01359-234415</p> <p>Rev Liz Jump, Team Vicar, tel 01359-269265</p>	<p><b>December 2011 Newsletter to be published 27 November</b></p> <p>Please submit items to Pearl Godfrey <a href="mailto:pmg@capstonesystems.co.uk">pmg@capstonesystems.co.uk</a>, by Thursday 24 November</p>
<p><b>Staff Rest Days</b></p> <p>Phillip, usually Mondays</p> <p>Liz, usually Friday</p>	<p><b>The Blackbourne Team Ministry</b></p> <p>The Blackbourne Team of Churches consists of the parishes of Bardwell, Barnham, Euston, Fakenham Magna, Honington-with-Sapiston, Ingham with Ampton &amp; Gt &amp; Lt Livermere,</p>