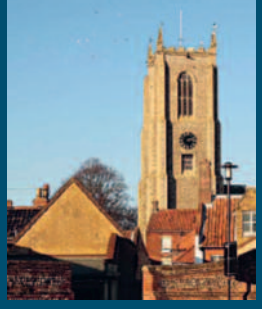
FAKENHAM PARISH CHURCH

A ROCHA UK SILVER AWARD WINNER 2024 ECO CHURCH ecochurch.arocha.org.uk



June 2025

THE BEACON

Church and Community Magazine



* Rector's reflection
* GOSPEL JAZZ Service
* Summer concerts * SUMMER FAIR
* Community Archive * Story of a Hymn

Church Contact Details

www.fakenhamparishchurch.org.uk

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Or: admin@fakenhamparishchurch.org.uk

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Roger Burbidge 01328 851848 – Fakenham
Alison Harding 01328 864685 – Fakenham
Andrew Lee 01328 878870 – Fulmodeston

Safeguarding Officer:
Anne Peppitt 01328 878355
Email: anne.peppitt23@gmail.com

Parish Prayers

1 June Great Eastern Way, The Drift, Driftlands, Heath Rise, Parker Drive, Poppyfields, Magnolia Close.
Students preparing for or taking exams

8 June Wensum Way, Thorn Road, Heather Barrow Court, Fayre Green.
Those living with addiction and those who support them.

15 June Waterfield Avenue, Waterfield Close, Jubilee Avenue
Trinity College, Cambridge (our Patrons)

22 June Butcher's Lane, Caslon Close, Highfield Road, High Terrace.
County, District, Town and Parish Councils.

29 June Wells Road, Dewing Close, Clarendon Road.
Those being ordained and beginning their formal ministry.

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms

6.4.25	Aurora Parsons
4.5.25	Alice Nelson

Funerals

25.4.25	Maurice John Gent (Fulmodeston)
30.4.25	Allan Wyer

Cover pic:
Sourced by
the Rev'd Tracy Jessop

"No, we don't have a Health and Safety Policy for people walking on the water!"



Beacon Deadline
Editorial content to Audrey Sharp by 1st of every month
Advertising artworks to Dee Jackson by 1st of every month
Bundles available for deliverers on the last Thursday of every month

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Rector's Reflection *Revd Tracy Jessop*



As we embrace the warmth and beauty of summer, we have an opportunity to reflect on the world, God's creation and the blessings that come with it.

The longer days and vibrant sunshine remind us of the light and love that God showers on us. It is a time for renewal and growth, both in nature and in our spiritual lives. It is also a season of fellowship and community. Many of us will gather for picnics, family outings, and church events (especially 'The Gospel according to Jazz' on 1 June and our Summer Fair on 28 June). These moments of togetherness are opportunities to strengthen our relationships with one another and build community.

I hope you can take some time to appreciate the simple joys of life and to extend kindness and love to those around you. May this summer be filled with blessings, joy, and spiritual growth for each of you.

In our celebration of summer, we also remember the call to be stewards of the Earth, cherishing and protecting God's creation. As we enjoy the outdoors, we can make conscious choices to reduce our environmental footprint. Whether it's through simple acts like recycling, conserving water, or opting for sustainable products, every effort counts in preserving the natural beauty that surrounds us.

In our church, we are taking forward a project to put solar panels on our south facing roof. We hope to generate enough clean energy to cater for our own needs and put renewable energy into the local grid for you to use.

Let's take this season as a reminder to foster an eco-friendly lifestyle, one that honours the gift of nature that God has given us. By planting trees, cleaning up our local parks, or supporting eco-conscious initiatives, we can make a meaningful impact.

May this summer inspire us to live harmoniously with nature and nurture the world around us, preserving it for future generations.





Churches around Fakenham welcome *you* in June

Parish Church Upper Market Place, Fakenham NR21 9DY

Sun 1	10am Parish Communion
Sun 8	8am BCP Holy Communion (said service)
	10am Morning Praise on the Feast of Pentecost
	6.30pm Choral Evensong
Sun 15	10am Parish Communion
Sun 22	10am Parish Communion
Sun 29	10am Patronal Festival Holy Communion with fizz and nibbles

Other Services

Every Thursday 9.30am Market Day Holy Communion (a short, said service)
Every Monday (except Bank Holidays) 9.45am Stepping Stones for pre-school children with a grown-up.

Salvation Army Oak Street, Fakenham.
Every Sunday morning at 10.15 am

Methodist Church Chapel Lane, Sculthorpe. NR21 9QB
Morning service of worship 11am each Sunday

Fakenham Baptist Community Church

Every Sunday in June and July: 10:30-12:00 at the Fakenham Community Centre, Oak St.

St Anthony RC Church Wells Road, Fakenham.
Sunday Vigil Mass every Saturday at 6.00pm
Sunday Mass at 10.45am and Tues-Fri at 10.00am

Orthodox Church of the Holy Transfiguration, Scarborough Road, Gt Walsingham
Every Sunday morning 10.00am Hours 10.30am Liturgy.

Holy Trinity, Hempton *Contact: The Revd Dr Harri Williams SSC, harri1985@gmail.com*
Sunday Mass at 9.30am. Wednesday Mass at 9.30am.

We continue to pray for peace for all the people of Gaza, Israel and throughout the Middle East at this time.
We continue to pray for peace for the people of Ukraine.
"God of peace and justice, we pray for the laying down of weapons in every place of war. We pray for all those who fear tomorrow, that you would hold and protect them".

THE SALVATION ARMY

Fakenham Fellowship Band



Concert

Fakenham Parish Church

Saturday 14th June at 7.00pm

No charge but donations if desired will go to supporting The Salvation Army work locally

Fakenham Temple
Salvation Army Church
& Community Centre

Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC009359

16 Oak Street,
Fakenham, NR21 9DY
01328 864 526

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO



JAZZ

1 JUNE
2025 @ 5pm
IN THE PARISH CHURCH

Join us for an evening of motown funk & gospel jazz in church. Enjoy familiar songs that weave a captivating story at our live music experience.

FREE ENTRY. FREE WILL DONATIONS.
UPPER MARKET PLACE, NR21 9DY

FAKENHAM PARISH CHURCH

Support your local concerts

**Music is to the soul,
what words are to the mind.
Where words fail,
music speaks.**

Fakenham Choral Society Summer Concert

"Mass in Blue" by Will Todd
Sat 21 June 7pm
Fakenham Parish Church

The 2025 summer concert will feature contemporary British composer Will Todd's vibrant and upbeat Mass in Blue.

A jazz trio together with piano, a solo soprano voice and a strong choral line weave together to give an energetic and uplifting musical experience.

In complete contrast, the choir will also perform sacred music spanning several centuries.
Tickets are £18 or £15 if purchased before 7th June, and will be available on the FCS website
https://www.fakenhamchoralsociety.org

Town Council news – Charities, large and small

Marie Curie Great Daffodil Appeal
This month the focus is on charities that operate in town, as well as some of the events that help them raise funds. In March, Marie Curie Cancer Care celebrated the Great Daffodil Appeal. It used to be Daffodil Day...but has bloomed into a whole month! Kerry, who works at Morrisons, held a Sponsored Silence raising an impressive £771 for this worthwhile cause. As Marie Curie is the store's Charity of the Year, Morrisons matched the sum so the charity received £1,542 in total. Well done, Kerry! Her next fundraiser is on 27th June when she and a colleague are having their heads shaved to raise more funds.

Fakenham Market Tolls
Beacon readers who visit our busy market on Thursdays may not know that the rent that the traders pay to the town council is recycled back to the community in the form of grants. The council receives and reviews applications regularly throughout the year, although numbers increase as Christmas approaches. Grants are given to other good causes too. We helped the First Responders with training and equipment costs as they were just getting underway and were pleased to support the Fakenham Film Festival whose Red Carpet premiere took place a few months ago. If you know of a group who needs a little help, just head to the council's website where you will find more information for applicants.
www.fakenhamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Fakenham Charities
This charity, ably chaired by Dan Andrews, disburses grants from funds historically donated by local families which are invested and redistributed to those in need. As everything seems to be more expensive these days, it can help with donations for everyday household items such as beds, furniture and carpets or clothing such as school uniforms. It can also support students who need books or a laptop before leaving town to go to university.

Angela Glynn
Chairman, Fakenham Town Council.

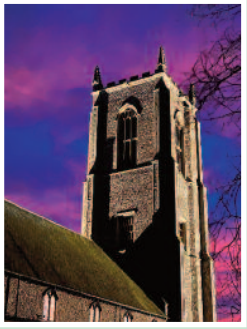
Fakenham and District Community Archive

Many of the royal family are familiar with Fakenham, probably because of its vicinity to Sandringham. This month's photo from the Archive is a good example of this where we can see the future King Charles, in 1992, unveiling a plaque at the Abbeyfield residential care home. Built on the Heath (at the top of Norwich Road) in 1832 this was originally the Fakenham workhouse before being bought in 1840 by Fakenham's congregational minister William Legge and later the Edmondson family. In 1987 it was taken over by the Abbeyfield Society. The lady on the right is Mrs Lynne Davis who was chair of Abbeyfields at the time.
The picture was kindly donated by Fakenham Heritage Group.
If you would like to see any more of our huge collection of photographs, scrapbooks and videos, and watch some fascinating slide shows you can visit any one of our meetings in church from 2.00 to 4.00 on the last Tuesday of every month.
You can also look at them on our website which is:
www.fakenhamcommunityarchive.weebly.com

Howard Young



Floodlighting Sponsorship



It is a joy to see St Peter and St Paul Church floodlit during the evenings, especially in the dark winter months. We have launched a new fundraising scheme to give you the opportunity to commemorate an occasion – perhaps celebrating a birth, a marriage, an anniversary, or remembering a loved one no longer with us.

You can keep our Church beautifully lit by sponsoring one of our floodlights for £15 a week. If you are a taxpayer, please do consider gift-aiding your contribution. The form gives details of how to make your sponsorship payment.

Dedication details will be displayed on the Church noticeboard, our website and included in The Beacon. You can also donate anonymously.

If you would like to sponsor our floodlighting in honour of a special person or event, please use the form available from church or on our website or call us on 01328 862268 for more information.

Flood lighting sponsors

20 April 2025 donated by Sheila and Gordon in memory of Arthur Wright.
'Remembering a precious son, until we meet again.'

June 2025 donated in memory of The Revd Preb Andy Windross 'A faithful priest and friend.'

CHURCH CHARITY VALUATION DAY

The Charity Valuation Day, raising funds for Fakenham Parish Church projects, was held on Saturday 26th April. A total of over £700.00 was raised.

David and Angela from Keys, Auctioneers and Valuers, gave freely of their time and participants remarked on the high quality of knowledge that David and Angela shared about the items presented.

Many thanks to the church members who enabled the event to take place by offering administration, catering and publicity.

It is hoped to repeat this event in the future.

Adrian Underwood, Organiser

June Walks with Fakenham Ramblers

Saturday walks start at 10.30am. Wednesday walks begin at 10am. Bring a packed lunch on Saturday walks which are generally over 6 miles. Otherwise, sturdy boots and waterproofs are all that's required. Please arrive ten minutes or so before the walk start time..

Please contact the walk leader for up-to-date walk information.

Date & Time	Venue	Grid Reference Postcode Distance	Walk Leader(s)
Wednesday 4th June 10am	**Gressenhall** Park/meet at Rural Life Museum	OS 238 / 974170 **NR20 4DR** 6.5miles	**Jane & Dave** 07790 642185
Saturday 14th June 10.30am	**Three Barshams and Walsingham** Park/meet at Barsham Oaks Layby on A1105	OS 251/ 899335 **NR21 9NL** 7.3miles	**Lesley & Christine** 07875 177210
Wednesday 18th June 10am	**Felbrigg & Susted** Park/meet at Felbrigg NT car park Parking free for NT members	OS 252/ 195393 **NR11 8PR** 5.5miles	**Vic & Jenny** 01263 713613
Saturday 28th June 10.30am	**Sheringham Park & Weybourne** Park/meet Sheringham Park NT car park Parking free for NT members Some walking on shingle	OS 252/ 139411 **NR26 8TL** 10.5miles	**Barbara & Richard** 01328 862834

Old Fakenhamian

As a student in the early Seventies, I used to work as an Auxiliary Nurse during the holidays in what in those days was called an Old People's Home. This was outside Boston in Lincolnshire where my parents were living at the time. These homes were state owned and pretty basic. Frequently they were housed in large halls (much as places here locally such as Letheringsett and Bilney Halls). They operated like hospitals with a ward system and staff with hospital designations, hence me being a 'nurse' with a uniform to match the title (although I had no training and learned on the job).

The residents were more like hospital patients with only a bedside locker and no personal possessions. Those were the days before the introduction of incontinence aids, so a lot of the work involved changing sheets, bed bathing and the use of commodes. There were no hoists, so lifting was done by the staff using well tried techniques. The word geriatric was not used nor was the word carer.

The situation I describe would be unthinkable today (although a significant improvement on the Workhouses which were the final destination of the poor in my grandparents' day). Today we have Care Homes and Care in the Community, and it is in praise of carers that I write this month.

North Norfolk has one of the most ageing populations in the country thus the demand for residential care is high which means that the demand for carers is enormous. In Fakenham alone we have four care homes and Meadow Walk Apartments, also countless elderly people living in their own homes, many of them visited on a daily basis by a team of carers often working to a punishing schedule, in all weathers and rather poorly remunerated.

I have nothing but praise for these people and the work they do to alleviate the problems that old age brings. It takes a certain type of person, someone who is obviously caring, but also endued with qualities such as patience, empathy, resilience, organisational skills plus physical and mental strength. They must be prepared to work unsocial hours and be able to react quickly to a sudden change in circumstances. Their responsibilities are as endless as the problems they seek to resolve.

I know many carers and I am constantly amazed by their modesty about the extraordinary roles they fulfill. And when the end comes for those they have cared for, then you will inevitably find them attending the funeral as their final show of respect.

God bless these unsung heroes (mostly heroines!) who represent one of the most civilizing aspects of our society.

Gilly Foortse

(Gilly stopped short of recounting a near-miss incident involving a tooth mug, a steredent tablet and a false eye. That's for another time - Ed)



ROSEMARY ROOMS
Dementia Support Group

The Gallow, Fakenham Racecourse
Every Monday 10.30 – 12.30 (except Christmas Day)

We offer a chance to socialise for people with memory problems and those who are helping them. There are refreshments, games, jigsaws and conversations.

Contact Judith 01328 864061 or Pam 01328 829735 if you have queries.

Can you deliver The Beacon?

We need deliverers in the following areas – you don't need to live there!

Thorn Rd and Heather Barrow Court

Wensum Way

Greenway Lane

All help appreciated! Thank you!

Summer events at Gt Ryburgh

All details from 01328 829413

CONCERT: ORPHEUS FLUTES

St. Andrew's, Great Ryburgh
Sunday, 1st June 3.30 p.m.
Mozart, Gluck and Mysliveček
Followed by afternoon tea
Free admission. Retiring collection.

RYBURGH OPEN GARDENS

Saturday, 21st June 1- 5 p.m.
Gardens open throughout the village.
Garden passes: £5 from the Church or the Memorial Hall.

SUMMER CONCERT: THE THORNHILL SINGERS

St. Andrew's, Great Ryburgh
Friday, 27th June 6.30 p.m.
Free admission. Retiring collection.

Are you Troubled by Someone's Drinking?
Al-Anon is for you!

One in 25 people have a problem controlling their drinking.

If someone's drinking is affecting your life you are not alone. Al-Anon has no affiliation with any religion, political entity or organisation.

Help line 0080 086 811 if you have any questions or if you would like to contact a local member. You are not alone.

Fakenham Film Society

Fakenham Cinema
Thurs 12 June 7.30pm
'Eternal Sunshine of the spotless mind'
Starring Jim Carey, Kate Winslet, Tom Wilkinson
Cash only, please.
Members £5 Mon-Members £7.50





SUMMER FAIR

Sat 28 June. 2:00 - 5:00pm

in St Peter's Garden (in church if wet).

Help and donations needed, please
If you'd like to help, please contact us.
We'd also welcome donations:
(plant/garden, jigsaws, tombola, good bric-a-brac. crafts).
Please leave them in church on
Thurs 26/Fri 27/or on Sat 28 June before the Fair.

Contact Lily (01328 851124) or Roger (01328 851848)
Thank you!

Christ Church, Fulmodeston

Services and events in June

Sunday 1st	6pm	Evening Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)
Saturday 7th	10.00 – 2.30	Village Yard Sale and Barbecue
Sunday 8th	11.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 15th	10am	Parish Communion at Fakenham
Sunday 22nd	6pm	Evening Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)
Sunday 29th	10am	Parish Communion at Fakenham



Summer is here and Fulmodeston will be en fête again. On June 7th the village will be busy with a yard sale between 10.00am and noon and you are warmly invited to come and have a good old snuffle. The church will be open for a replenished book mart and local artist/detectorist/all-round good chap Gary Howe will be selling his beautiful drawings of local churches, also in support of Christ Church (example shown). Gary has also had some attractive greetings cards made from his drawings. Plenty to browse here.

From 12.30-2.30 James will be doing his legendary cheffing at the Old School Hall barbecue and the bar will be open. Join us!

Carolyn Thomas-Coxhead

Help us create a stunning Remembrance poppy display

This year, for our Remembrance services we need your help to create a beautiful and meaningful tribute, adding to a display of handmade poppies that will decorate our War Memorial and Fakenham Parish Church.

We are reaching out to all local knitters and crocheters – from beginners to experts – to get involved. Whether you have years of experience or are simply looking for a way to contribute to this important occasion, we welcome your participation.

How you can help:
Knit or Crochet a Poppy: If you're able to knit or crochet, we'd love you to create as many poppies as you can. Patterns are available from the RBL website:
https://support.britishlegion.org.uk/app/answers/detail/aid/1346/~/knit-or-crochet-a-poppy

They are also available in hard copy at Fakenham Parish Church, Fakenham Town Council in the Oak Street Connect building and at Claire Howard Jewellery, Q's restaurant, and Venetia's Yarn shop.

Deadline: Please drop off your completed poppies at either Fakenham Parish Church or the Fakenham Town Council Offices during Sept and no later than 30th September 2025. Thank you for your support.

Lesley Meanley,
Fakenham Town Clerk.



The story of a hymn: Breathe on me, breath of God…

This month we are in the church season of Pentecost, which celebrates the Holy Spirit descending on the disciples, empowering them to spread the Gospel of Good News. 'Breathe on me Breath of God', is a hymn for this season.

Its origins are said to be from Genesis Chapter 2, verse 7, "the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." John chapter 20 verse 21-22 may also have inspired the writer. "Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even, so send I you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'" (RSV)

The author, the Revd Edwin Hatch (1835- 1889) invokes the Holy Spirit to come into his life and transform it. The use of first-person singular, helps focus on the simple, yet profound message this hymn provides. By so doing, he adds to the hymn's power as the singer seeks the breath of God as a source for renewal. Rev Hatch was educated at Pembroke College, Oxford, and ministered in an Anglican parish in the slums of east London before accepting a position at Trinity College in Quebec where he taught classics. He returned to Oxford in several prestigious posts including the highly regarded Bampton Lecturer. Originally given the title of 'Spiritus Dei', this is the only remaining hymn by the Revd Hatch in common use.

The tune most often used today is Carlisle, a much-loved version although there have been four other versions, popular in their time.

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
   Fill me with life anew,
   That I may love what Thou dost love,
   And do what Thou wouldst do.

2. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
   Until my heart is pure,
   Until with Thee I will one will,
   To do and to endure.

Sources: Disciple Ministries, Wikipedia, The Church of England.

Kay Hathway

Concert - Celestial Voices

Sat 7 June 6pm FREE entry

St Mary & All Saints Church, Little Walsingham NR22 6BL.

Enjoy wonderful music dating from the late 1500s to the present day, via Faure, Bruckner, Weelkes, Britten, Bach, Loveday, Gjeilo and Abba, amongst others!

The concert will last about an hour and a quarter and there will be a retiring cash collection.

Some parking is available alongside the church but much more at the large Mill Car Park towards the end of High Street in Little Walsingham, a short walk from the church.

This choir takes part in Chateau Singing holidays and recently spent 5 days on a singing workshop in France rehearsing for a concert, which they performed in Poitiers. This is your chance to hear that concert here in Norfolk. Information about the concert and about Château Singing Holidays is available from Fiona Thompson at* ***ft.am@btinternet.com* *or 07979 400139.*



New to Fakenham?
Hoping to make new friends?

We have a thriving Mothers' Union at Fakenham Parish Church.

Come and meet us
you will be warmly welcomed!
Meetings on 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2pm in the Trinity Room in the Church.

Open Meetings to which everyone is welcome!

Would like a chat beforehand?
Contact Eunice on 01328 855665

TOWN TALK

Growing up in the deep south of England, I had only the vaguest idea about Norfolk. The suggestion that I might one day come to live here was never really entertained. I did do a lot of hitch-hiking as a teenager but that eastern bulge containing Norfolk and Suffolk was somehow always bypassed. One year I took a wrong turning and ended up in Aldeburgh and was immediately captivated. What a stunning spot by the sea. Its image stayed in my head so that after I qualified as a teacher I applied for a post at Kirkley High school in Lowestoft. So began a love affair with Suffolk. After Alison and I were married in the tiny hamlet of Westhall in 1975 and shortly after flew off Down Under for a couple of years teaching in Victoria, Norfolk came into the picture when we returned. There was a P.E. vacancy at Fakenham Grammar which I filled to begin our long association with the town and its environs. Through some conversations with my Mum, still living in the family home down in Old Woking, I discovered how she had spent time in Norfolk before the war, working 'in service' at a big country house not far from Dereham. Bradenham Hall seemed to me to typify the 'upstairs/downstairs' world so vividly portrayed in Downton Abbey. Mum's role was to care for two youngsters, her life pretty much under total control by those above her. Time off was at a premium. There was a Rolls Royce in the garage and annual summer holidays were spent in a hotel overlooking Cromer beach. Years back, on a visit to us, I drove my parents out to the Hall but failed to enter its drive and make contact. I regret that now. Anyway, this association got me thinking that maybe, without realizing it, I was somehow following in family footsteps by settling in Fakenham. A bit late now but, anyway, thanks Mum.

Wayfarer

This article was previously published in June 2022.

Gardening notes for June

June 21 is the longest day of the year, and the extra light and warmth encourages the garden to put on an exuberant burst of growth. This brings some of the first harvests from the vegetable garden, including tasty new potatoes and salads. As the conditions become drier, keep an eye on containers and if you haven't already got one, it's never a bad time to install a water butt. (RHS)

June gardening tasks for your flower garden

- Pruning or thinning plants surrounding newly transplanted perennials to keep them from taking over their neighbours.
- Tie annual and perennial vines to their supports as they put on new growth.
- Place linking and single stakes to support taller flowers if not already done.
- Prop up any stray branches away from neighbouring plants, if needed.

Happy gardening!

Bizzy Lizzie

Curlews

On windless white-blue summer nights
They skim the skies invisible,
Water voices trailing over fields
And people open wide back doors
So lemon light inside spills out.
They stand, look up and listen
Besides the fields and soft talking of the river,
As all the anger and sadness of the world
Is gone awhile, a timeless time,
Till slow and beautiful that song
Is all there is, and all there ever was.

Kenneth Stevens

Age Concern

Fakenham area mini bus

Could you be a Volunteer Assistant or Driver?

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Mike Caesari
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01328-863700 or 07946-078896
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