

TOGETHER

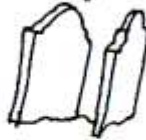
Helmingham, Debenham



Framsden, Kenton



Pettaugh, Aspall



Winston

Winter 2014

From the Vicarage: Winter 2014/15

This article is written around Trafalgar day, and the words of Nelson's message nudge us to our theme: 'England expects that every man will do his duty'. Duty is the word to play with. People demand their human rights, and others remark that our culture seems to neglect to register that with rights must go responsibilities - duties. Our society has an unwritten contract: the society will protect us, and we will support the society. Thieves and robbers, tax avoiders, benefits fraudsters and drug dealers all undermine society; the sick and unemployed whom the society supports are a mark of what we want our society to provide, a caring safety net for us if and when we need it. The duty of a government is to keep society safe – police, soldiers, airmen and sailors are needed- and it is our duty to pay taxes to ensure they are funded. [Should the sacred cow of politicians really be to cut taxes?]

Now my mind moves to words from the communion service: 'it is meet, right, and our bounden duty', and 'it is our duty and joy'. To what do those words refer? It is our duty to give thanks to God. I remember a member of a choir who was in the RAF. The sermon he often quoted was one in which the padre leaned over the pulpit and said "Jesus said, "Do this in remembrance of me". Jesus didn't say "If you'd be so good", or "If you like", but "Do this!"

Now in one sense this is not the God I want to preach: my God chooses to woo and not coerce, and opens the gate of heaven even if we haven't gone to church every week. [In mathematical terms, going to church regularly is neither a necessary nor sufficient condition for getting to heaven, not in the way taxes are necessary for our modern society to function]. But wooing is associated not with society but with individual relationships: how does duty figure in them? Take husband and wife: it is not laid down by written agreement that one does the cooking, another takes the bins out, vacuums or dusts, but underlying there is an expectation of daily and weekly duties. If one says "I'll not bother to do the shopping this week", or the other says "I don't feel like doing the washing up" they will find things are beginning to go wrong. I remember when as children we were asked to do the washing up we baulked at it, even felt aggrieved- why couldn't we just play? Later, when married with children, I washed up without questioning – it had to be done: and it became my job, my duty. There was no point in complaining or arguing that I didn't feel like it: it was part of the building block of the relationship. Any particular task is neither necessary nor sufficient for a happy relationship, yet freely accepted duties enable a relationship to grow. Each relationship builds up its own uniquely evolved set of duties. [One activity that has tended to disappear I note is eating together round a table: neither a responsibility nor a necessity, but an opportunity to talk, to share, to spend time together. Could it be a neglected duty?]

Now look at a relationship with God. True, he always there, like the father of the prodigal son, but whilst the prodigal son is wallowing in the flesh pots and pig sties of the big city he isn't building up much of a relationship. God doesn't force us to be aware of his presence by regular prayer, doesn't threaten us with hell if we don't go to church, but how can we build up a relationship with him if we ignore him? Is it perhaps a duty to try to communicate with him in prayer, worship and sacrament? [Not strictly speaking necessary, just as sharing a meal at a table is not strictly speaking necessary for a family.]

Move to Christmas – like excited relatives we flock to rejoice in the birth of this baby. That is our joy. Why? Because at heart it says "You are loved by God, and can share with God's work of love by being loving." Are we perhaps called to take on the duties like those of a

godparent to this baby who is the Word - willingly to accept the duties that might go with love of him?

Happy Christmas and a loving New Year. *Patrick*

Christmas Communion. The team is delighted to bring communion to the house of anyone who cannot easily come to church. This especially true for any such who would like Christmas Communion. Please let us know. Also, I am minded to celebrate a said communion at 11.15a.m. on Christmas morning in Debenham for those who would find the earlier celebrations difficult.

Philosophy 7. After a little break there are two talks in the offing: Franceys Allen on 'Pilgrimage – Does it Work?' **January 23rd**. Ewan Anderson will be following up a sessions on international borders.

Sunday School: this has morphed into an afternoon tea, tea-cakes and activities themed to an orthodox message: we have made bees to fit into harvest displays, peace messages around the commemoration of the start of the 1914-18 War. Chris Bishop brings his range of talents to serve a group of mums and dads and toddlers as well as some older children. Details from him or the rector. It happens in Debenham on the 3rd Sunday of a month at 4p.m.

There is a regular 'Young Mother and toddler' coffee morning at the Vicarage – details from the rector.

Services: note that Winston 4th Sunday evensong changes to 9.30 a.m. Mattins.

BOOKS

Now a time to think of Christmas books, and wonder about seasonal recommendations for presents or quiet reading after the parties have finished.

The year has pushed a lot of books in my direction: here are some.

I discovered several books by **Temple Grandin**, a very high functioning autistic author, who also contributed richly to the design of abattoirs. All of the books are good reading for any who have dealings with people with Asperger's. One rule of thumb to deal with autistic people is to imagine like Oliver Sacks, you are **An Anthropologist on Mars**.

[Another fascinating book, exploring the astonishing working of the brain] Several other books interlink: **Subliminal** by Mlodinow is readable and thorough; **Drunk Tank Pink** [Alter] perhaps a little more practical, **the Anatomy of Violence** [Raine] enables us to look the mind of a violent criminal with greater understanding and greater compassion. **The Chimp Paradox** [Steve Peters] rounds off this set of trying to understand and adjust our life.

On a more overtly religious front Rowan Williams challenges us with his **Being Christian** and **Meeting God in Mark**. Both written in a style much more accessible than his reputation would lead us to expect, and bring us new and deep insights. Desmond Tutu and his daughter Mpho offer us **the Book of Forgiving** – like all from that stable words tested in the crucible of life. Alan Billings also offers valuable insight from his experiences as he leads us to contemplate the role of the church in his readable book, **Making God Possible**.

Eamon Duffy's **the Heart in Pilgrimage** is a beautifully compiled set of prayers – maybe worth looking at if you're stuck for a present?

CHURCH AND VILLAGE NEWS

FRAMSDEN

Framsden – A winter's walk. Enjoy a winter walk around St. Mary's Churchyard. There should be a good display of snowdrops in mid February. Keep an eye open for other snowdrops in the area that should confirm when they are likely to be at their best. To make the most of your visit include a walk round Eade's Orchard, Framsden's Community Woodland (opposite the main Church entrance). It is a delight on a sunny winter's day with or without the trees being bejewelled with hoar frost or a covering of snow.

HELMINGHAM

Martha Styles was baptised on October 27th. Best wishes to parents Ben and Emily and sister Milly.

The **Carol Service** will be held on Sunday December 14th at 6pm.

Harvest Festival produce generously donated by Lady Tollemache was most gratefully received by the Salvation Army Lifehouse in Ipswich.

Thanks to everybody who supported the events held at or to raise much needed funds for Helmingham Church. It was good to welcome the visitors who dropped in during the Benefice Centenary Celebration. Peter Haas, Graham Thorpe and Bill Forsdike cycled for the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and half the money generously given by so many people will be returned to St Mary's Helmingham. Lady Tollemache's Garden Lecture held at Framlingham was an interesting and enjoyable evening.

Lord and Lady Tollemache warmly invite you to join them at Helmingham Hall and get into the Spirit of Christmas on **Tuesday December 16th** with mulled wine and canapes. £12 in aid of St Mary's Church. More information from PCC members or estate office 01473 890799

The PCC is looking for helpers to join the team who keep the Church clean and the flowers fresh to make the Church welcoming to visitors and a pleasant experience, whatever their reason to visit. If you think you could spare just a few hours a year, that is all that is needed, please contact the church wardens or phone 01473 890413 for more details and to be added to the rota.

If you are over 60 and would like to meet for tea and cake once a month (transport can be arranged) please contact Peter Haas on 01473 785381.

News from Helmingham Primary School

The summer term proved to be very busy for all involved with our school.

Sports teams took part in kwik cricket, rounders and girls football tournaments and were a credit to the school. Premier sport continued to run in school and out of school sports clubs. Our sports day was very well attended and the fete afterwards was a great success.

The whole school made a trip to Tesco to learn about where our food comes from. Other visits included a trip to the Houses of Parliament for the school council, Moon class visited a Sikh temple and year 5 attended a music morning at Debenham High School. Year 6 ended their time with us with a trip to Crucial Crew to learn about

assessing risks and a visit to Alton Water to go sailing, kayaking and windsurfing. The children in Sun class worked with a local fitness instructor to create their own fitness routines and taught these to the younger children. Also years 5 and 6 completed a bikeability course – watch out for them on the roads!

This term we welcomed three new members of staff and 8 new children to our school community. We are looking forward to a visit from an author in the near future and some of the children will be going to an air raid shelter as part of their work on World War 2. The other classes are doing topics of ‘Dahlicious’ and ‘What do I like and What am I like?’. We will be applying for planning permission to provide a covered area at the back of the school. This will enable outside work to be done whatever the weather.

We would love to invite members of the community in to school to talk to the children about their jobs and experiences. Please contact us if you would like to do this.

Bernie Cleland, Headteacher 22.10.14

PETTAUGH

Early September the seven churches in our Benefice put on a splendid display of flowers and information not only to celebrate the Centenary of the Diocese but also the centenary of the start of the First World War. St Catherine’s was filled with magnificent displays from white to mixed bright colours and the deep red of the poppies to recall all those from Pettaugh who served or lost their lives fighting for our country. Many called in to view and pause for tea and cake and suggested we should have these gatherings more frequently.

The Suffolk Historic churches bike ride was once again organised by Ruth (Jack) Crane and Jan who gently persuaded customers to sign up to sit in the church on the day! Thank you, especially to Ruth, but also all that took part in any way including sitting or cycling. It raised £149.50 for our church.

The Macmillan Coffee morning instigated by Michelle Faux proved to be a very sociable gathering in the church and over £200 was raised for Macmillan. Well done Michelle and thank you to all who contributed by baking, helping on the day and especially those who came to the event. We must do this again!

For those that walk through the church yard regularly you will see that a lot of hard work has been put into clearing and tidying some of the more overgrown areas. There is still more work to be done but thank you to all the helpers who cut the grass, the hedge, prune trees and general tidying. The Church yard, meadow and the garden of remembrance look really well.

Sadly we have to report that Maurice Denyer of Moat Grove Farm died on 12th September at the grand age of 92. The funeral took place on 23rd September at St. Catherine’s and was attended by over 100. His widow Rita, Louise, Matthew & Rebecca wish to thank all for the many messages that spanned 42 years in Pettaugh.

The Parish Council have been working very hard over many months to negotiate the provision of four VAS (Vehicle Activated Signs) for traffic safety in the village. Matthew Hicks, County Councillor for the Thredling Division has been extremely

helpful in working towards this. The Parish Council has been trying to resolve the issue to achieve the best outcome for all members of the Parish, however the request has been held up by legal and Health & Safety issues which dictate the suitability of locations for the four signs. The most recent contact from SCC confirms that only one site is suitable for the location of a VAS and this will be on the Ipswich Way C446 (road to Crowfield) within the 30 mph area. Regrettably, the final decision from SCC confirms that the other sites for VAS signs in the village are considered to be unsuitable.

WINSTON

An enjoyable afternoon was had at the Cream Teas at Winston Schoolroom on Saturday 9th August. Many thanks to Ann Rose for organising the event, all who attended and helped in any way. £341 was raised, shared between Winston Schoolroom and Mid Suffolk Carriage Driving for the Disabled.

The Benefice BBQ was held at the Winston Schoolroom following the Family Service. Despite the terrible weather many people enjoyed the BBQ with special thanks to John and Sacha Feeny-Howells and Chris Bishop and to all who donated the lovely desserts.

The Harvest Festival was combined with the Centenary Flower Festival celebrating the start of the Diocese and also commemorating the beginning of the First World War. Special thanks to Emma Wheeley and everyone who helped in any way. Thanks also to Kate Branch who took the goodies from the service to Paddock House, Eye, where residents still benefit from home cooked meals. Bill has received a lovely letter of thanks from the staff.

Thanks to everyone who recorded the cyclists during the Suffolk Historic Churches Cycle ride. Unfortunately we had no one to cycle.

Congratulations to Ben and Sarah Gummer on the safe arrival of Winfred Gabriel Selwyn on 17th September—first grandchild for John and Penny Gummer (Lord and Lady Deben).

The Harvest Supper was held at the Schoolroom on Saturday 20th September. Organised by Veda and her helpers, we all enjoyed the lovely variety of savouries and desserts. There was no charge for the supper but the raffle organised by Sandra raised £61 towards the Schoolroom fund.

We send our very best wishes to Ann Rose who has moved to Wortham. She moved to Suffolk in 1962 and Winston in 1964 and has been a regular Winston worshipper. She moved to Swilland in 1977 and remained faithful to Winston, helping to organise many fetes, harvest suppers, quizzes etc and the brilliant exhibition.

The Carol Service takes place on Christmas Eve at 6.30pm. Children are invited to take part by reading, singing or playing musical instruments etc. Please let us know if you'd like to take part. The collection goes to EACH (East Anglian Children's Hospices).

The Christmas Day service will be at 10am.

The Annual Winston Quiz takes place on **Friday 6th February** in the Schoolroom. Please call Lynn Odell 01728 860859 or email r2lodell@gmail.com nearer the date to book your team and for more details.

Anyone wishing to hire the schoolroom for children's parties etc should call Kate Branch 01728 861004 email cmcbranch@btinternet.com for details.

Winston Parish Council

At a well-attended Parish Council Meeting on October 15th, there was a lively discussion with both Suffolk County Councillor, Matthew Hicks and special guest, Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore on all matters relating to safety and speeding on both of our two major roads. The Parish Council will continue to press the authorities for improvements in road layout and signage as well as enforcement and reduction of speed limits. If you were unable to attend this Meeting the Parish Council would like all parishioners to add their support by voicing their concerns on speeding traffic in our community directly by letter or email to both Matthew Hicks at Matthew.Hicks@suffolk.gov.uk and Tim Passmore at tim.passmore@suffolk.pnn.police.uk Thank you.

Also discussed was the concerning statistic of 4 robberies occurring in the Parish during the last 4 months. The local Suffolk Police Safer Neighbourhood Officer emphasised things that could be done to improve security of property and possessions. It was agreed to set up an open meeting at the Schoolroom with our local SNT where each parishioner could hear and discuss the various steps that can be taken.

Other items such as establishment of a community website and relocation of the village sign were deferred to the next Meeting on **January 14th**. All parishioners are welcome to attend at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom.

DEBENHAM

Friday 12 December: Salvation Army concert, 7.30pm in the church. Contact Val/Ray Watts 860255. *In aid of Friends of St Mary's Debenham.*

Editor's notes

The Copy deadline for *Together* magazine for the December to February issue is **25 January**, normally published about two weeks later. Quarterly, A5 format. 700 copies printed and collated on Rizograph stencil copier, distributed free by members of Winston church.

Editor: Tony Hutt, Email: tony@tonyhutt.co.uk Tel (01728) 860173. 19 Priory Lane, Debenham, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 6QD. Send copy by email, email attachment (Word or Publisher formats preferably); Adobe PDF format may be acceptable. If you can't do any of these send the copy in the post or by smoke signals.

Advertising payments to Kate Branch, The Red House, Winston, Stowmarket IP14 6LG Tel (01728) 861004 Email: cmcbranch@btinternet.com. For payment details contact Kate Branch. Horizontal slice: 1/8 page for £20 p.a. (4 issues); ¼ page for £40 p.a.; ½ page for £80 p.a. Send advertising enquiries and advertising copy to Tony Hutt.

A Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela

by Franceys Allen

I had decided two years ago that I would have a go at walking the Camino Francés that extends from St Jean Pied de Port (SJPDP) in France, over the Pyrenees to Roncesvalles (Spanish) or Roncevaux (French) and then onwards eventually to Santiago de Compostela. The length of this particular ancient pilgrim route is around 500 miles and seemed a fair challenge for anyone contemplating a pilgrimage. Of all the Santiago Caminos it is probably the one over which the most feet have tramped since the inception of this pilgrim destination as long ago as the end of the ninth century. The only problem that soon emerged on the basis of a very minimum of research I undertook was that Day 1 involved climbing from not all that much above sea level to just under 5000 feet. You can make this a great deal easier for yourself by staying the night some way up the initial climb at a remote auberge named *Orisson* and also by having your back-pack transported by road to Roncesvalles. The back-pack is known in Spain as a *mochilla*. I had a strong feeling for myself at least that I did not want to make things easier by either using *mochilla*-transport (at any time) or by shortening the initial day's walk. I spend many hours each day sitting at an office desk and this is not a particularly great way to improve one's capacity to endure prolonged and sometimes significantly demanding exercise. I therefore decided that the sensible alternative to a demoralising failure on Day 1, or outright heart attack, would

therefore be to get a bit fitter by simply walking to London from my home in Suffolk rather than flying to Biarritz and then taking a bus to SJPDP. The provisional plan after London then being that I would board EuroStar/TGV to take me to the Spanish border, or as near to it as I could possibly get. The A12 road in Suffolk and Essex covers the old Roman road to London and is definitely the quickest route there



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from my house but it would I thought make for a dispiriting walk along the hard shoulder and it did not take in a satisfactory starting point from where I could obtain my first stamp. This is the stamp in the booklet proving your journey. This booklet is called a *credencial* and it is an essential document to obtain admission to the various

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(includes links to the other churches in the Benefice and a Facebook page for the Benefice).

For an online version of this magazine find the link in the "News" section on the web page.

December 2014	Helmingham	Framsden	Pettaugh	Wins
7 th	10 a.m. All Age, Communion Service Framsden			
14 th	6p.m. Carols	11a.m Family Service	11a.m. Communion	9.30a.
21 st	9.30a.m.Communion	9.30a.m. Morning prayer 6p.m. Carols	3.30p.m. carols	11am
Christmas Eve	11.30p.m Communion			6.30p
Christmas Day		9.30a.m.Communion	10a.m. Communion	10a.m
28 th	8a.m. Holy Communion, Aspall 10a.m. Benefice Co			
January 2015	Helmingham	Framsden	Pettaugh	Wins
4 th	10 a.m. All Age, Communion Service Winston			
11 th	6.30p.m.Evening Service	11 a.m. Family service	11a.m.Communion	9.30a.
18 th	9.30a.m.Communion	9.30a.m.Morning prayer	11a.m.Morning prayer	11a.m
25 th	9.30a.m. Morning prayer	11a.m. Communion	11a.m. Morning Prayer	9.30a.
February 2015	Helmingham	Framsden	Pettaugh	Wins
1 st	10 a.m. All Age Communion Service Pettaugh			
8 th	6.30p.m.Evening Service	11 a.m. Family service	11a.m.Communion	9.30a.
15 th	9.30a.m.Communion	9.30a.m.Morning prayer	11a.m.Morning prayer	11a.m
22 nd	9.30a.m.Morning prayer	11a.m. Communion	11a.m.Morning prayer	9.30a.

Ston	Aspall	Kenton	Debenham
	8a.m.Communion	11a.m. Family Service	9.30a.m.Family Service <i>6.30 Advent carols</i>
m.Mattins	11a.m. Carols	8 a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Communion
Communion	8a.m. Communion	5p.m. Carols	9.30a.m. Communion 4p.m. Sunday School
m. Carols			5.30 p.m. Crib Service 11.30p.m Communion
. Communion	8a.m. Communion	10.30 a.m. Family Service + Communion	10 a.m. Family Service 11.15a.m. Communion [said]

ommunion

Ston	Aspall	Kenton	Debenham
	8a.m.Communion	11a.m. Family Service	9.30a.m.Family Service <i>6.30 Epiphany carols</i>
m.Mattins		8 a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Communion
Communion	8a.m.Communion	11a.m.Morning prayer	9.30a.m. Communion 4p.m. Sunday School
m.Mattins		8a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Communion

Ston	Aspall	Kenton	Debenham
	8a.m.Communion	11a.m. Family Service	9.30a.m.Family Service
m.Mattins		8 a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Communion
.Communion	8a.m Communion	11a.m.Morning prayer	9.30a.m. Communion 4p.m. Sunday School
m.Mattins		8 a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Communion

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hostels from St Jean Pied de Port onwards. These hostels cost from a very reasonable 5 Euros per night and include the use of a shower and rudimentary washing facilities and a basic bunk bed. The Pilgrim Passport is also necessary to show to the Pilgrims' Office in Santiago de Compostela to obtain your finishing certificate or Compostela. Sometimes this word is written with two "I"s which may be nearer to the original Latin place name that has been formed from Field (campus) and Star (stella). A field of stars in Latin being perhaps best translated as *campus stellarum*. The Santiago bit being a combination of Sant (Saint) and Iago which is probably an ancient Spanish form of James, with Diego as a later version. The Field of Stars name arose from the event or myth that one day a local hermit by the name of Pelagius saw some strange lights in a forest clearing and reported the happening to his church. The local bishop, Theodemar, then went to investigate and was helpfully guided by a star to the precise spot marking the lost burial place of the apostle Saint James the Great.

You can obtain an excellent credencial booklet from our own London-based Confraternity of St James, or you can leave this until you reach Spain and get a rather more rudimentary credencial from one of the Pilgrim offices there. You do first have to become a member of the Confraternity to obtain in advance of a trip their Pilgrim Passport, but this very useful organisation is run on a charitable basis by volunteers and offers further facilities such as a library, booklets and other assistance and also runs one of the pilgrim hostels in Spain. The Confraternity contact email is office@csj.org.uk.

To be continued—but you can read the whole article at Pettaugh's web page www.achurchnearyou.com/pettaugh. Find it under "News". Also Franceys will be giving a Philosophy 7 talk on January 23rd: 'Pilgrimage – Does it Work?'. See page 3.



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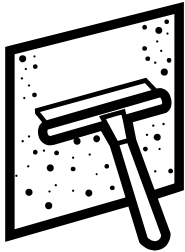
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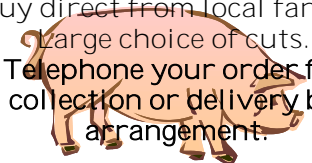
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