

[View from the Rectory 2021 October:](#)

Dear Christian brothers and sisters of the Quidenham Group of Parishes,

I hope you are well as the weather begins to cool and unwelcome energy price rises begin to bite. If you are finding it a real struggle, don't suffer in silence – there may be things others can do to help.

One of the goals of the Banham [Arts and Crafts Weekend](#) at the end of the month is to support local businesses who have been feeling the covid pinch, as well as of course being an means of keeping ourselves at the heart of our community – 29th and 30th 10am till 4pm, all welcome 😊. Slowly things are getting back on track – Banham School is waiting until after half term to decide on whether to

invite outside speakers in again but one class visited the church this week as they brought their Harvest assembly offering for the foodbank and David Griffith gave a good talk showing the hows and whys of what happens to it, each child accepting a Gospel of Luke as a present to leave with. Next week Old



Buckenham Primary has invited me in for their Harvest Assembly and I meet with Chapel Green in a few weeks' time to plan visits to church in December, and Kenninghall, after many years lack of contact, may now be interested in church contact again. We will need some volunteers for Open the Book or similar assembly visits or it will all depend on me!



Steve comes second in the fancy dress competition

Meanwhile, we had a significant event for the [Via Beata last week](#) (click on Blog for latest news) when we commissioned and dedicated a work of art on Lowestoft South Pier. It was a breezy day, but perfect for covid free enjoyment of loud singing with the brass band – a video clip [here](#). As the Via Beata grows, originating as it did in our benefice, other organisations are beginning to realise 'it's a thing!' so from Tourist Boards and Cyclists organisations to church pilgrimage groups. Although my family suggested the less flattering caption for the picture, having the mayor and the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk (on behalf of the Lord Lieutenant) and others turn out for the installation of an artwork telling of the Resurrection shows the significance of the event and we pray that the witness of our churches may complement the witness of this string of artworks telling the gospel through our nation.

Let us seek ways to infuse a Christian way of life into our communities, and that people should walk with God and know him in Jesus Christ. As you pray, whether you sit quietly or whether you find it easier praying on the hoof, pray for labourers for the harvest who know the word to speak to those who need to hear the word of grace.

Yesterday we had the funeral of Revd. Alan Wright in New Buckenham. He will be missed by many, as was witnessed by the numbers that came, and it was moving seeing the coffin arranged the other way round, as traditional for a priest, a reminder of the great last day when we rise in glory. Advent will soon be upon us and the notice below this month takes us that far already!

Wishing you strength in the company of God,

Steve

Diary Dates

- Oct 9 Sat New Buckenham Coffeemates 10.30am
Old Buckenham Quiz night OBVH (hoping our church team can beat the Methodists 😊)
- Oct 10 Sun Kenninghall 11am Pet service
Quidenham Harvest Service 11am
Messy Church in Banham 4pm
New Buckenham 6.30pm Sung Harvest Evensong
- Oct 16 Sat Eccles Garnier Hall – free training session on using a defibrillator 2pm -4pm. All welcome.
- Oct 19 Tues 7.30pm Deanery Synod in Old Buckenham
- Oct 29th and 30th Fri/Sat Banham Arts and Crafts Fayre 10am till 6pm
- Oct 31 Sun Old Buckenham Joint Benefice service for All Saint's Sunday 10am
- Nov 2 Tues Bnm 6pm All Souls in Banham chapel
- Nov 3 Weds East Harling 7pm Licensing of Simon Richardson as their new parish priest. Please pray.
- Nov 6 Sat Kenninghall/Banham/Quidenham Cafés
Banham Film Night - 7pm meal, 7.45pm movie – The Last Bus
- Nov 14 Remembrance Sunday
9.30am Old Buckenham Remembrance in Church
10.50am OB, Banham on the Green, NB, Wilby and Kenninghall in church
- Nov 28 Advent Sunday
10am Joint Benefice service in New Buckenham with Archdeacon Steven Betts
4pm Advent (Messy) Christingle Service

A reminder – our weekly pew leaflet is available for all by email as well as in church on Sunday. If you can't make it to church and would like it on email, please tell Val on pewleaflet@gmail.com and she will add you to the mailing list.

On bigger issues: The debate on same gender marriages continues and the Living in Love and Faith debate – There's a good interview here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Ml1kFYn5rI>

Some sentences leap out
of the Big Black Book
like friends:

'Supposing him to be the gardener'

'Did not our hearts burn within us?'

'Come and have breakfast' –

What phrases do it for you?

Nancy was Catholic, but her fiancé, Chris, was not. Since my friends were planning to be married in the Catholic Church, Chris made sure to listen carefully throughout their pre-nuptial sessions. At one meeting the priest turned to Chris and told him, "Since you are not Catholic, we shall have the ceremony without Eucharist."

Later that day, Chris was noticeably upset, so Nancy asked what was wrong. "I don't understand," he said. "How can we have the ceremony without me?"