

Contact

PARISH NEWS OF THETFORD, CROXTON, CLOVERFIELD, KILVERSTONE

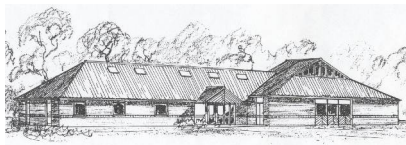
October 2025



St. Cuthbert's, Thetford



All Saints', Croxton



Cloverfield Community Church



*St. Andrew's
Kilverstone*

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www.thetfordteamministry.org.uk
www.achurchnearyou.com/thetford-st-cuthbert
www.cloverfieldchurch.org www.gracechurchthetford.org

'Contact' is also available online

Go to www.achurchnearyou.com/thetford-st-cuthbert

From the drop down menu please select **"Keep in Contact"** then select
Download to see the current magazine

***Funding Secured for
Another Three Years of Sports and Fitness Ministry***

We are delighted that God has provided over £171,000 of funding for the next three years of the Sports and Fitness Ministry. Besides internal funding, this is drawn from grant-making bodies, individual donors, partner churches as well as the diocese.

It has been wonderful to see the ministry take root, grow and develop over the last five years, and to see God working through it in myriad ways in so many lives.

The new funding, together with the net income from the ministry itself, will enable us to keep Susie Bratby as Sports & Community Minister for another three years, through to the end of September 2028, and to keep Josh Samuel as Associate Sports Minister on his recently extended hours through to the end of June 2028 – and to

continue to run and develop the many groups, activities and events that they have led.



Susie



Josh

Thank you to everyone who has prayed for the fundraising effort, to everyone who has contributed financially – and to everyone who serves and contributes

in all sorts of ways to the Sports and Fitness Ministry.

We pray for God's continued rich blessing on the work as we look forward to seeing what he does through it in the next three years.



ST. CUTHBERT'S THETFORD



**Every Wednesday
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion**

**Sunday October 5th
10.30 a.m. All-Age Harvest Festival
(see page 5)**

12th 10.30a.m.
Holy Communion with Prayer Ministry

**19th
10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer**

26th 10.30 a.m.
Holy Communion with Prayer Ministry

**Sunday November 2nd
10.30 a.m. Morning Worship
4 p.m. Annual Memorial Service
(see page 6)**

ST. ANDREW'S, KILVERSTONE



**Sunday 12th October
9 a.m. Holy Communion**

ALL SAINTS', CROXTON



**Sunday 12th October
9.30 a.m. Family Service**

**26th
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion**

**CLOVERFIELD COMMUNITY
CHURCH**



**Sunday 5th October
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion**


12th 10.30 a.m. Morning Worship

19th 10.30 a.m. Messy Sunday

26th 10.30 a.m. Morning Worship

GRACE CHURCH

**Meets every Sunday at 4 p.m. in
the Arts Centre, Bishop's School,
Canterbury Way**



CHRISTIANITY|EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST NEWS
YOU'VE EVER HEARD?

7 week course on Tuesday evenings (7:30 - 9pm)
11 Winchester Way, starting 7th October
with Josh Samuel and Tony Heywood.

Book with: Rev Tony Heywood on
01842 755175 or
tony.heywood@talk21.com

Thetford
Team
Ministry thetfordteamministry.org.uk

*A time and space
to think about
the big questions
of life and to
explore the life
of the man at
the heart of the
Christian faith.
We will find out
who Jesus is,
why he came
and what it
means to follow
him.*

St Cuthbert's Harvest Festival

The St Cuthbert's All-Age Harvest Festival service takes place
this year on Sunday 5th October (10.30 a.m.).

Any donations of non-perishable
goods for the foodbank will be
gratefully received.




Café Cuthbert at St Cuthbert's Church
Saturday Mornings 10-00am to 2-00pm.

*Come and enjoy coffee, tea or hot chocolate and some delicious cakes
& scones all freshly made in our own kitchen.*

*Looking for something hot and
savoury? Then come and try a soft
brioche bun filled with either grilled
bacon or sausage.*




Annual Memorial Service

This year our annual Memorial Service will take place
on Sunday 2nd November, at 4 p.m. in St Cuthbert's.
Everyone is welcome to join us, however recently or
long ago you have been bereaved.




During the service, we will be reading out the names
of all those whose funerals we have taken over the
past year and inviting their families to join us as we
draw together our memories, griefs and hopes. With the opportunity to
light candles in memory of loved ones, as well as plenty of space for
reflection, this is always a poignant and precious service.

If you would like to add a name to the roll of names read out during the
service, whether from a bereavement in the past year or previously,
then please let the clergy know via
www.thetfordteamministry.org.uk/memorial.

The Memorial Service for Keith Goldsmith

will be held in St. Cuthbert's Church
on Saturday 25th October at 3 p.m.



CROXTON NEWS

Yesterday we had the Harvest Thanksgiving service at Croxton. It was a happy time when we could all be together to give our thanks to God for all the blessing He has given us through the year.



Afterwards there was plenty of chatter and laughter as we enjoyed refreshments – this year we were treated to delicious home-made apple juice by the Manderfields!

At a time of Thanksgiving we also thank God for Colin and Decia Orbell who have faithfully and with great skill enabled us all to enjoy our church magazine 'Contact' every month for 35 years! As usual, it is only when we are about to lose something that we suddenly realise how important it has been and how much we may have taken it for granted.

Each month an email arrives asking if there is anything I would like to submit for the next 'Contact'. I send my contribution and often have to amend something when I have made a mistake but Colin and Decia are always very patient!

We have all enjoyed the variety – a Christian message within a topical theme, useful information, someone or something interesting which we didn't know about, puzzles, crosswords and of course always something at the end to make us smile!

Thank you Colin and Decia for your generous contribution to our lives – Happy Retirement from all your hard work.

Diana Goucher

CLOVERFIELD NEWS

Visit from our Twin Parish of Holmsund, Sweden

We will be receiving guests from our twin parish of Holmsund which is in Northern Sweden between 29th October and the 1st November. This has been an annual visit since 2015, with a group of young leaders being offered a visit to London and to Thetford at the end of their training course. This year it will be quite a small group of 5 teenagers and their 2 adult leaders. As always they will be hosted by families from within the church and will be helping out at the Cloverfield Light Night. Do say hello if you see them on your travels. Sadly they are not here for any other church services this time around.

Shauna Peacock

Drop in
Light Night
Craft
Food
Football cage
Games
and more!

Friday 31st October, 5-7pm
@ Cloverfield Community Church

FREE!

Donations Welcome

Thetford Team Ministry

TO HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR CLOVERFIELD CHURCH AND SAMARITANS PURSE
OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD
(SHOEBOX APPEAL)

ENCORE
THEATRE COMPANY
PRESENTS
A MURDER MYSTERY
MURDER
AT THE
MUSIC HALL
8TH NOVEMBER
2025
MATINEE - 2-30PM
EVENING - 7PM

Bring your detection skills to help Hercules Parrot and Jane Marbles discover Whodunnit?

*For more details please contact David Williams
Email: encoretcthetford@outlook.com*



Beetle Drive at Cloverfield Church



Saturday 15th November at 5.30pm
£7.50 a head (£5 U16's)
 to include Jacket Potato supper.
**This is a great event for all ages so come
 along and have some family fun.**
For catering purposes please
Sign up at www.cloverfieldchurch.org

KILVERSTONE NEWS

Our annual flower festival raised £345 for church funds, the church looked lovely and my thanks go to everyone who contributed to making it a success.



Kilverstone Harvest Supper

11th October at 6pm.

To book a place please contact
 Joyce on 01842 753926.

The PCC would like to wish June a speedy recovery from her recent Surgery

Caroline Hughes

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FUNERAL SERVICE**

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we will help you
with everything" –
Mark Skinner**

"After recommendations, research showed impeccable reviews and very competitive prices. You were not only totally professional and so approachable, but treated my Dad like I felt you would your own family. Wouldn't go anywhere else!" G Kent

30 Bury Road • Thetford • Norfolk • IP24 3DE T: 01842 752197
E: info@mark-skinner.org.uk www.markskinnerfunerals.org.uk

As you tidy your garden for winter...



Gardens are preparing to go to sleep, but next Spring will soon be here. So why not consider some changes now:

~ Install a water butt now, to store up the winter rain for the Spring.

~ Reduce the hard standing in your garden.

Instead, let rain soak into the soil, rather than go down a drain.

~ Plant something tall to create shade in your garden next year – the soil will remain wetter.

~ Put in more plants – the more you have, the more protection they give the ground. Try to use native species, as your local wildlife depends on them.

~ Consider adding a pond – it will be a great boost to your local wildlife!

An independent and family company with a long established history, founded by David Turner in 1980 and now run by his daughter, Lydia.

Providing a transparent and tailor-made service to every family at a time when it matters most.

Turner Funerals

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Email: thetford@turnerfunerals.co.uk

24 HOUR SERVICE

Brandon
2A Thetford Road | Brandon | IP27 0BS
Telephone: 01842 811245
Email: brandon@turnerfunerals.co.uk

Being a pastor in the Ukraine

Pastor Evgeniy continues to minister in the war-torn Kherson region of Ukraine bringing comfort, hope and food to their beleaguered congregations in the most frightening and desperate war-torn situations.



Evgeniy and his team, wearing bright, civilian clothing, chosen to identify them as volunteers, not military, came recently to a village that had been shelled. They dug through rubble, searching for survivors.

40 minutes later a reconnaissance drone circled above them ominously. Then came a different sound — sharper, lower, and closer. A small military drone headed straight for them. In a moment that could only be described as divine intervention, it clipped a tree branch and crashed to the ground.

Minutes later, a second drone appeared aiming for the fallen drone, possibly to trigger an explosion by striking the first. But it too missed its target—crashing about six meters from the car. No one was injured.

But they were under attack. They gathered their tools, helped the survivors into the vehicle, and drove away. Just seconds after they left, a third drone struck — right where their car had been parked. The resulting explosion could have easily taken their lives. But once again, by what they all believe was God's hand, they were spared.

Reflecting on the events, Pastor Evgeniy was asked if he ever felt hatred or the desire for revenge. His answer was quiet, but unshakable. *'No. I just understand. I understand the pain. I understand the fear. But if we don't bring light into this darkness, who will?'*

For Evgeniy, war is not a reason to harden the heart—it's a call to deeper compassion. Even as drones fly overhead and homes crumble, he continues his ministry, bringing food, prayer, and humanity into places others flee from.

This is what faith looks like in the ruins. It looks like a small group in bright vests, carrying hope into danger. It looks like a pastor who chooses grace over vengeance. And it looks like a God who protects, even when the bombs fall close.

Since the talks involving the US and a possible ceasefire, the local leaders testify that instead of de-escalation, they've experienced a significant rise in attacks and shelling.

Transform Europe Network (TEN) asks Christians in the UK:

Please pray for pastors and church teams, exhausted by serving many people on the frontline.

Pray for those who are confused, discouraged and angry, even with each other. Pray for healing and comfort from the Holy Spirit. Churches in Ukraine do all they can to reconcile local people, but it is getting harder and harder.

Mothers are afraid that their teenage sons will be taken away for conscription, which has become increasingly aggressive. This also causes men to run away from home and so many families are fractured and deeply stressed as the war grinds on.

The Poppy Appeal – could you help by giving some time this autumn

The Poppy is a powerful symbol worn by people right across the UK to commemorate the sacrifices of our Armed Forces and to show support to those still serving today.



The Royal British Legion was first set up to help those returning from the First World War. Almost a century on, they're still helping today's Service people, veterans, and their families coping with bereavement, living with disability or finding employment.

However, it would not be able to continue without the dedicated teams of volunteers who stand in the streets, shops and supermarkets.

Let Him lead me to the banquet hall, and let His banner over me is love.

Song of Songs 2:4 by David Pickup,

I like a good harvest festival. 'Come, Ye Thankful People, Come', 'For the Fruits of His Creation', 'Now Thank We All Our God'? and my favourite, 'We Plough the Fields and Scatter'; the last one is not everyone's favourite but I like it. It reminds me of school assembly and a teacher who pointed out that the words sound like ploughing fields and then running away. I can remember the fields near where I lived and seeing the tractor followed by flocks of birds, eager for food.

Harvest is about being thankful for God's provision and how the harvest, in this part of the world at least, never fails. No matter how dry or wet the growing seasons are, we always get a harvest.



I enjoy a good harvest lunch. We used to have really good ones in the parish, and it brought out people who were not regular church goers but occasional attenders, mainly when food was on the table. I like a buffet because you can choose what you want and how much of it, and if you are clever, you can get two helpings.

My advice is let the polite people go first, as they eat little and then go for it when most people have had their fill. No! don't be greedy but do tuck in and make sure you help others.

God invites us to a banquet where there is plenty to eat for everyone and it is for us to make sure all have their fill.

All in the month of October...

125 years ago, on 20th Oct 1900 American aviation pioneers the Wright Brothers made their first glider flight at Kill Devil Hills, in North Carolina.

100 years ago, on 13th Oct 1925 Margaret Thatcher, Baroness Thatcher, was born. She was the first woman Prime Minister of Britain (1979-90).

90 years ago, on 12th Oct 1935 Luciano Pavarotti, Italian operatic tenor, was born. Considered one of the finest tenors of the 20th century, and one of the most commercially successful of all time. (Died 2007.)

80 years ago, on 12th Oct 1945 US Army combat medic Desmond Doss became the first conscientious objector in US history to receive a Medal of Honour for heroic actions. He saved the lives of 75 men during the Battle of Okinawa. The film *Hacksaw Ridge* told his story.

65 years ago, on 12th Oct 1960, at the UN General Assembly in New York, the Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev is reported to have removed his shoe and pounded his table, in protest at a speech by another delegate.

65 years ago, on 30th Oct 1965 Diego Maradona was born. The Argentine football player, manager and coach is regarded as one of the greatest football players in history. (Died 2020.)

60 years ago, on 8th Oct 1965 the Post Office Tower (now the BT Tower) in London was officially opened. It was the tallest building in the UK until 1980.

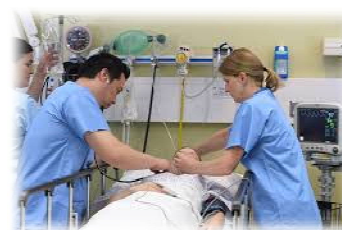
40 years ago, on 1st Oct 1985 riots broke out in Toxteth in Liverpool and Peckham in London. Five days later (6th Oct) Met Police Constable Keith Blacklock was killed in the Broadwater Farm housing estate riot in Tottenham - the first British constable to be killed in a riot since 1833.

20 years ago, on 3rd Oct 2005 Ronnie Barker, TV comedian, actor and writer, died. Known for *The Frost Report*, *The Two Ronnies*, *Porridge*, *Going Straight* and *Open All Hours*.

15 years ago, on 13th Oct 2010 33 Chilean miners who had been trapped underground for 69 days following the collapse of the San Jose copper-gold mine were rescued. Around one billion TV viewers around the world watched them being pulled to the surface one-by-one, in a specially designed capsule.

Surge in violent attacks on A&E nurses

18th October is the feast day of St Luke, who is the patron saint of physicians. So this is a good month to pray for those in the NHS...



A&E nurses face an increasing barrage of punches, kicks and spitting - and having weapons aimed at them. One was even threatened with acid.

The violence has been blamed on enforced long waits in A&E departments, corridor care, and chronic staffing problems.

The Royal College of Nursing report that the number of attacks has doubled in five years, from 2093 cases in 2019, to 4054 in 2024.

One senior charge nurse in the East Midlands said: *"Even patients you would expect to be placid are becoming irate because of just how long they have to wait. So, you can only imagine the behaviour of those who are already prone to violence."* She herself has been punched in the face by a *"drunken six-foot-two bloke."*

A senior sister in East London was knocked unconscious after being punched in the head by a patient. *"The violence is awful,"* she said. *"And it's just constant. Nurses, doctors, receptionists – none of us feels safe."*

Another nurse said: *"It's not going to help with our retention and recruitment if you think you're going to be clobbered every shift."*

The RCN warns that such attacks lead to both physical and mental scarring, lengthy time off and sometimes staff never returning

.....

Plastic carrier bags

This year marks ten years since England introduced the 5p charge for single-use plastic carrier bags. The charge has had a dramatic effect – with a reduction of 98% in sales.

The average person in the UK now buys only about two single-use plastic bags per year.



The Iron Lady of Britain



One hundred years ago, on 13th October 1925, Margaret Thatcher, Baroness Thatcher of Kesteven, was born. She was the first woman Prime Minister of Britain (1979-90).

Her father, Alfred Roberts, was a grocer and Methodist local preacher in Grantham, and she was brought up as a strict Wesleyan Methodist. At one point just before the Second World War, the family gave sanctuary to a young Jewish girl who had escaped the Nazis.

Margaret later became a lay preacher herself, and was married at Wesley's Chapel in City Road, London, where her children were baptised. Afterwards she and her husband Denis (later Sir Denis) attended Church of England services and became Anglicans. She felt her policies as a Conservative aligned closely with Christianity.

She was the longest-serving Prime Minister of the 20th century and, partly because of her resilience, aroused strong feelings both for and against, having to weather difficulties and misjudgements, such as the poll tax. Those opposing her described her policies as 'Thatcherism', but others put a positive slant on this. Her nickname of Iron Lady – first used by a Soviet journalist – aptly described her leadership style and lack of compromise.

Before becoming Prime Minister, she had studied chemistry at Oxford, and then the law, qualifying as a barrister. She became an MP – for Finchley – in 1959 and progressed to Secretary of State for Education and Science before defeating Edward Heath in the 1975 Tory leadership election, making her leader of the Opposition and the first woman to lead a major UK political party.

When she arrived at Downing Street, she adapted a prayer of St Francis beginning "*Where there is discord, may we bring harmony*". She died from a stroke while staying at the Ritz Hotel in London in 2013 at the age of 87, having been unwell for some years.

Mahatma Gandhi

"The Seven Deadly Sins are:

Wealth without Work
Pleasure without Conscience
Knowledge without Character
Business without Morality
Science without Humanity
Worship without Sacrifice
Politics without Principle"



"There are people in the world so hungry that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread"

"I am prepared to die, but there is no cause for which I am willing to kill"

In 1915 he launched his campaign for Indian Independence based on a policy of non-violent protest. He believed in peaceful coexistence

PARKINSON'S^{UK} CHANGE ATTITUDES, FIND A CURE, JOIN US

THETFORD PARKINSON'S CAFÉ

All Parkinson's sufferers and their partners/carers are welcome to chat, share information and maybe make new friends

Tuesday 14th October 11a.m. in the Methodist Church

Ana from the NR Health Club is coming to give an exercise class, which we know is one of the best treatments for people with Parkinson's. Coffee and biscuits always available.

All Welcome

**For more information please contact Rachel Woods
Tel: 07796 958 404, email: rwiad2@gmail.com**

Silverthreads Club for the over 60s



**Every Tuesday afternoon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
at Cloverfield Community Church.**

£5 which includes sandwiches, scones & lots of tea

Regular activities include Raffle, Bingo, Quiz, Guest Speakers and more

Contact Moya Brown Tel: 01842 761863 to book your place

Stretch and Pray

**Wednesdays 9:30 - 10am
in St. Cuthbert's Church**

An opportunity to use our bodies doing some light exercise
while focusing on God and praying.

More information from susie.bratby@thetfordteamministry.org.uk

Reply

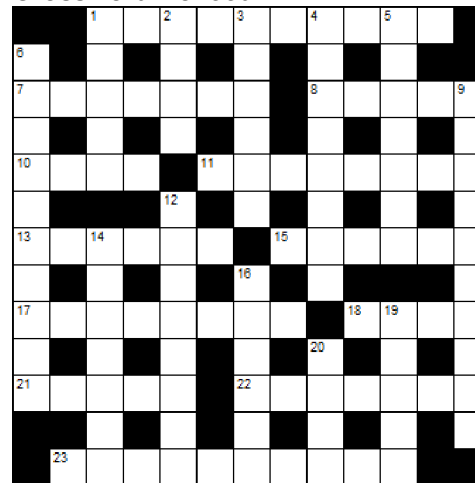
A curt reply to a bishop who had suggested that a certain incumbent
consider moving read:

Dear bishop, I REMAIN, yours faithfully....

If you understand it... When you get to the point where you really
understand your computer, it's probably obsolete.

Sales It is getting harder to find a courteous person who isn't trying to sell
you something.

Crossword No. 380



Across

1 Travelling from Jericho to Antioch;
no comfort to evil king 2 Kings 24:8
(10)

7 Aims to get across Yorks river.
Survives outcome (7)

8 Relaxed in roofless rented
property? (5)

10 Artist keeps quiet about skin
condition (4)

11 Surprised to let darts be played (8)
13 Some give a stern lecture at
Church festival (6)

15 Game to put British in charge of
service direction (6)

17 Endanger involving a regal term
(8)

18 Unable to identify pretence (4)

21 Praise former partner - a military
officer (5)

22 Cop able to make drug inactive (7)

23 Pity his role almost turns into
Intercessor (4,6)

Down

1 Traitor starts to justify using
deviously arranged signal Matt 10:4
(5)

2 Noah's son about right to commit
sabotage (4)

3 Units I adjusted - now fixed in place
(2,4)

4 Church gets rebuke it sounds, but
stays happy (8)

5 Parochial urinals set up (7)

6 In France I get final letter about
nobility from one like Naboth 1 Kings
21:1 (10)

9 Do indicate form of commitment
(10)

12 Lyres etc. played behind the
scenes (8)

14 Parson gets round to sorting out
singer (7)

16 Two animals get boost. (4-2)

19 Some in the Reichstag entertain
Bond, say (5)

20 I go along way to find amusement
event (4)

Solution to Crossword No. 379

Across: **1** Travel, **4** Athens, **8** Pared,
9 Zebedee, **10** Emperor, **11** Endue,
12 Scripture, **17** Shrub, **19** Abashed,
21 Foolish, **22** Upset, **23** Loathe,
24 Censer.

Down: **1** Tophet, **2** Apropos, **3** Endor,
5 Tableau, **6** Ended, **7** Shekel,
9 Zarephath, **13** Rubbish, **14** Ephesus,
15 Useful, **16** Editor, **18** Rhoda,
20 Abuse.