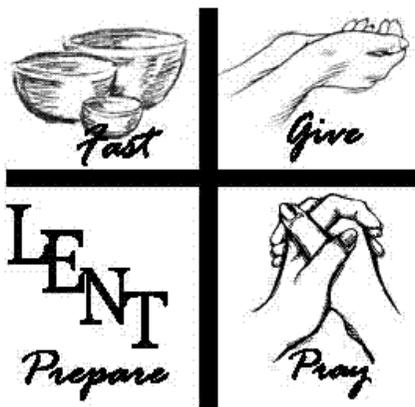


EAST MARSHLAND BENEFICE GOOD NEWS PARISH MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 2016



ALL ENQUIRIES ON CHURCH MATTERS
(including weddings, baptisms and funerals)

to Revd Martin Dale

01945-880259 or by e-mail to mndale@aol.com

Please forward all items for the **March** newsletter
to mndale@aol.com

no later than 8th FEBRUARY 2016

As I will be away in MARCH
I would appreciate your co-operation in
sending me your items for the
APRIL NEWSLETTER

no later than 26th FEBRUARY 2016

Clergy and Readers

East Marshland Benefice		
Revd Martin Dale	The Vicarage, 37 Church Rd, Tilney St Lawrence, PE34 4QQ	01945-880 259-
Revd Barbara Pearman	8 School Rd, Tilney All Saints, PE34 4SJ	01553-810808
Mark Wright	Black Horse, Surrey St, Wiggenhall St Germans, PE34 3EX	01553-617 689
Mrs Stevie Brooks	11 Church Rd., Tilney All Saints PE34 4SJ	01553-829 276

Churchwardens

Terrington St John		
Mrs Christine Chaffe	10 King John Avenue, Kings Lynn, PE30 4QA	01553-691 613
Mr Tim Clayton	Silverton House, Church Road Terrington St John, PE14 7RY	01945-880 406

Tilney St Lawrence		
Mr Geoffrey Place	Woodstock, Workhouse Lane, Tilney St Lawrence, PE34 4QH	01945-881 126
Mrs Wendy Shattock	5 Aylmer Dr. Tilney St Lawrence PE34 4RQ	01945-881 285

Tilney All Saints		
Mrs Stevie Brooks	11 Church Rd., Tilney All Saints PE34 4SJ	01553-829 276
Mrs Jeanette Scott	Casa Nostro, Cotts Lane Tilney All Saints, PE34 4SL	01553-828 795

Wiggenhall St Germans		
Mrs Addy Alexander	14 Fitton Road, Wiggenhall St Germans PE34 3AU	01553-617 513
Mrs Angela Yeoman	84 High Rd., Tilney-cum-Islington PE34 3BN	01553-617 518

Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalene		
Mr Peter Gagen (Churchwarden Emeritus)	73 Stow Rd, Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalene, PE34 3DJ	01553-810509
Mrs Christine Hale	Riverside, 77 Stow Rd, Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalene, PE34 3DJ	01553-810 385
Mr Alan Sherfield	Toll Bar Cottage, Toll Bar Corner, Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalene, PE34 3BE	01553-810 796

THE VICAR'S LETTER

A story is told of a young Russian who inherited his father's small farm. He immediately starts dreaming of how to expand his property when one morning a well-dressed stranger visited him and made him an offer that was too good to be true - he could have free of charge all the land he could cover in one day. The only condition was that he returned to the same spot from which he started, the grave of his father, before the sun went down.

Seeing the rich fields in the distance, the young man set out without taking any provisions or saying goodbye to his family. He figured he could cover six square miles in a day. After a short while he decided to make it nine, then twelve and finally fifteen square miles. By noon he made it to the halfway point. Though hungry with his legs aching he continued.

He was near the point of exhaustion but the obsession to own the land drove him on. With only a few minutes left before the sun went down, he gathered all his strength, stumbled across the line, the new owner of fifteen square miles of land, and then collapsed on the ground, dead.

The stranger smiled and said, 'I offered him all the land he could cover. Now you can see what that is, six feet long by two feet wide, and I thought he would like to have the land close to his father's grave, rather than to have it anywhere else.' Having said that, the stranger whose name is Death vanishes, saying 'I have kept my pledge.' (based loosely on the story "How Much Land Does A Man Need?" by Leo Tolstoy)

Greed is not a new phenomenon, but the recent financial crisis has brought it home to us quite forcibly. Even so, I was surprised to read this in a copy of "Swiss Review" in December 2008, a secular magazine put out by the Swiss Government for Swiss living abroad.

"The biblical prophet Ezekiel addressed the leaders of Israel with profound words. He said: "Listen to the words of God the father: "You are the shepherds of my people, but instead of looking after the flock, you have only thought about yourselves. You must atone for this.""

The prophet Isaiah called the ruling class of the time a "band of thieves", who were only interested in "gifts" (taxes).

The prophet Amos bemoaned the fact that "the rich have splendid homes which they fill with treasures".

The prophets' words of wrath in the Old Testament resonate in public opinion today. The general public and the media in Switzerland complain that the gap between the incomes of the rich and poor is growing all the time.

Economic sociologist Hanspeter Stamm says: "There is currently a high degree of inequality in Swiss society, which is condemned by most of the population."

"The gulf between rich and poor has become greater", explains Jürg Kruppenacher, head of the leading aid organisation Caritas Switzerland for 17 years. He says that the majority of the population have less available income today than at the beginning of the 1990s. Kruppenacher adds that Switzerland is "one of the countries with the greatest inequality in terms of distribution of wealth, almost making it comparable with a banana republic".

(Swiss Review: A social report on Switzerland's rich and poor)

By Rolf Ribi)

And it is not just in Switzerland that society is waking up to the injustice of our insatiable greed. If the financial crisis has done one thing positive, it has made us aware of how bankrupt our "dog eats dog" society is.

John Ortberg in his book *"When the Game Is Over It All Goes Back in the Box"* writes about the game of life, and the difference between winning and playing the way God intended. As Ortberg says: "It's a thrill to win a board game - to dominate the other players and "own" the board. It's also a thrill to win a promotion at work, get your dream house, or a sports car. But like the tokens and game cards, those prizes are just temporary. The wisest players remember that the game is going to end, when we die, and that all we can take with us to the Kingdom of God is our love for Jesus Christ and for each other, and our souls. "

As we enter a new year and leave the old behind, I would like to pose a question: "Is there a better way for us to live?" I

think there is. The Bible tells us that it is the love of money that is the root of all evil. Money itself is neutral. It is what we do with our wealth will make all the difference to the way we live and die.

In concluding, Maddy and I would like to thank each one of you who sent us Christmas Cards. There were so many that we would like to ask you to accept this way of our expressing our thanks

Martin

Terrington St John Church News

FUND RAISING EVENT AT THE CHURCH

ON FRIDAY 1st APRIL 2016

60'S, 70'S, IRISH AND COUNTRY MUSIC

WITH KEVIN BARRY

FROM 7-30pm to 10-00pm

REFRESHMENTS AND RAFFLE

TICKETS £7-50

PROCEEDS TO TERRINGTON ST JOHN CHURCH FUN

ENQUIRIES TO:

JILL - 01945 880866 DIANE - 01945 880811

TIM - 01945 880406 (evenings only)

Tilney All Saints Church News

Christmas seems a long time ago, but I do hope that you all found special moments during the season. The Carol Service for the village was held on 20th December. It was well attended and we joined together to sing the beautiful, familiar carols in the candlelight. Each of the readers played their part beautifully and the organist, John Everington managed to make wonderful music on our rather temperamental organ! Afterwards we were able to mingle whilst enjoying delicious refreshments. Thank you to all who helped in any way.

Looking even further back, it was All Saint's turn to host the Remembrance Day Service. It was well attended and it was wonderful to see so many young people proudly wearing their uniforms and presenting their flags. We were grateful to the British Legion representatives whose presence is a very real reminder of why we are there. On the 11th we had another ceremony around the War Memorial which was attended by the school children and a good many villagers. The children were very aware of the solemnity of the occasion and it was very moving to see them lay wreathes that they'd made themselves along with the other wreathes. This seems to have become a village tradition & it's certainly one worth preserving.

The Book Exchange

We have been grateful for all the generous donations of books. Unfortunately we have completely run out of space to store any more books so no more donations for a while please! We do have some wood to make extra shelves but we need some strong volunteers to move some of the existing shelves around a bit and someone who is clever enough to construct the new shelves. Please get in touch with me if you think you can help.

Church Roof

There is another opportunity to apply for a roof grant from the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund. I am applying but there is an enormous amount of competition for funding so we must be prepared to be turned down again and mustn't lose sight of the fact that we will most likely have to raise the money ourselves. If anyone can help with fund-raising ideas (not just ideas but actually taking on the organising of them) or would be willing to make a regular donation via direct debit, please get in touch.

Dates for your Diary

There will be a 'Murder Mystery' evening on 18th March, 7 for 7.30pm in the Woolpack Inn, Terrington St John. Tickets are £22 each and include a 3 course meal. The theme is 'Who Shot the Sheriff?' so dust your cowboy hat off and come and join the fun! (n.b. fancy dress is entirely optional.)

Easter is early this year (27th March). Easter Day will be celebrated at 9.30am with Holy Communion. There will be small chocolate eggs for children of all ages.

Please try and make time to come to the Good Friday Service of Music and meditation at 3pm in the church. The service time is particularly relevant as it is believed to be the time of Jesus' death.

Rev'd Barbara Pearman 01553 828808

barbarapearman@hotmail.com

Home Communion

If you, or someone you know, cannot get to church and would like to receive communion at home, please contact either Rev. Martin Dale (01945 880259) or Rev. Barbara Pearman (01553 828808)

Tilney St Lawrence Church News

NEW SATURDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

10.00 AM - 1.00 PM

19TH MARCH 2016

16TH APRIL 2016

14TH MAY 2016

18TH JUNE 2016

9TH JULY 2016

20TH AUGUST 2016

24TH SEPTEMBER 2016

15TH OCTOBER 2016

STALLS * BOOKS * PLANTS * BRIC-A-BRAC

RAFFLE

and much more

Refreshments will be served

IF ANYBODY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A STALL ON ANY
OF THESE DAYS OR HELP IN ANY WAY

PLEASE CONTACT LINDA OR WENDY ON 01945 882114

OR ANNE ON 01945 880222

If anybody has any bric-a-brac to donate,
we would be very grateful

Wiggenhall St German's Church News

Toilet Project

We are very pleased to announce that we now have the funds to hand to complete the installation of the toilet in the church. We are now waiting on the contractors to complete the work which will be done in their own time outside their scheduled contracted work. The PCC would like to express their grateful thanks to everyone who has donated towards this project and we look forward to having this facility available in the near future.

Various events

**Card Making Workshop with Lunch
Friday 5th February at 1 p.m.**

The Memorial Hall, Wiggenhall St. Germans

Buffet lunch at 1 p.m.
followed by a Card Making Workshop

All materials provided
Please bring scissors, if possible.

Tickets £5 each
from Margaret Cook on 01553 617617
All Proceeds towards the Church Toilet Project

"y" Club

Games, Crafts & Activities with a Christian theme

For ages 5 - 11 years

Wednesday 5.45 p.m. - 7 p.m. during School Term Time

In the Methodist Chapel School Room

50p per session

For further information call Lorna on 01553 617256

Pancake & Coffee Morning

Tuesday 9th February 10 a.m. - 12 noon

Come and enjoy a pancake, coffee and a chat

Lenten Lunches

Friday 19th February

Fridays 4th & 18th March

From 12 noon - 2 p.m.

Soup and roll followed by cheese and biscuits

Raffle

Both events at

14 Fitton Road, Wighenhall St. Germans

***There is no charge for either event
but any donations will go to church funds***

Wiggenhall St German's Church

United Breakfast Family Service Sunday 21st February at 9.30 a.m.

Come and join in with a breakfast of toast and croissants
followed by an informal family service

Breakfast served at 9.30 a.m. and the service will begin
at 10.00 a.m.

We look forward to seeing you

ALL CHANGE IN WIGGENHALL ST GERMAN'S

Last month marked the 50th anniversary of the closure of the Black Horse public house, one of four in the village in those days. Morgans Brewery, which owned the Black Horse, had gone bust in 1961 and the new owners needed to weed out the less remunerative premises; with sales of just 31 barrels of beer in a whole year in 1960, the Black Horse was on the list.

The Bales family had run the pub since 1890 and had augmented the pub business with a butchery in the early 20th century and a milk round latterly. This was part of big changes in the centre of the village which had included the closure also of the Chequers, the Jubilee Bridge to replace its frail wooden predecessor in 1935, the demolition of most of the small cottages in the middle of the village and subsequent straightening of the road. The Central Stores was rebuilt to nearly twice its frontage and John Deere appeared!

Mark Wright

Wiggenhall St Germans Methodist Church Services

7 th February	11.00 a.m.	Informal Morning Service
14 th February	9.30 a.m.	Mary Uttin
21 st February	9.30 a.m.	United Family Breakfast Service Parish Church
28 th Feb 2016	9.30 a.m.	United Holy Communion in Chapel Revd. Andrew Maguire
Contact:	Pearl Place	07804 650174

WHEN THE PECKING HAS TO STOP

The blackbird and the robin
Came to visit us
There are seeds upon their table
And seeds upon the grass
The robin bobbed politely
And then began to feed
While a pigeon waited eagerly
As he spied the seed with greed
And then cock pheasant nobly
Took charge of seed and things
'Til playfully chasing squirrels
Appeared among the wings
Fair game, fair fowl, fair flocks may fly
Fair squirrels wild and free
Fair game, fair fowl, fair flocks must fly
For grey squirrels rule okay!

Lyn Sandford 10.01.16

Prayer Chain

If anyone would like prayers said for anyone or have any concerns
please contact Angie Yeoman on 01553 617518

Wiggenhall St Mary The Virgin Church

Winter Church Opening Times

The church is open at weekends between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The key may be obtained at other times from the house at the bottom of the drive.

Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalene Church News

Family Service 11.00am
Every first and third Sunday.

Come and have fun whilst praising God and His Son Jesus and learning more about him.

Fellowship afterwards over coffee and cakes

Easter Cracked

Wednesday 30th March 10am - 3pm

Are you 6-11 years old - why not try it?

Contact Chris Hale (KL 810385) or Alan Sherfield (KL 810796) for details, information and an application form.

To avoid disappointment please register before 20th March 2016
Numbers are limited

Terrington St John Methodist Church Services

7th February 11.00 a.m. United Cafe Service at Chapel Revd. M. Dale

14th February 10.00 a.m. Circuit Cafe Service Trinity Church, Wisbech
Revd. S. Sowden

21st February 11.00 a.m. Communion Revd. P. Dewdney

28th February 11.00 a.m. United Cafe Service Parish Church Revd. M. Dale

Contact: Veronica Nelson 01945 880255

EAST MARSHLAND BENEFICE (Anglican services)

FEBRUARY 2016

February 2015	Terrington St John	Tilney St Lawrence	Tilney All Saints	Wiggenhall St Germans	Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalene
7 th Feb 2016 Sunday next before Lent	11.00am Cafe Family Service in TSJ Chapel MND	9.30 am Morning Prayer MND	9.30am Morning Prayer SB	9.30 am Holy Communion BP 5pm Compline MW	11.00am Family Service SB
10th Feb 2016 Ash Wednesday		3pm Holy Communion BP			7pm Holy Communion with Ashes MND
14 th Feb 2016 Lent 1	See Benefice service in TAS	See Benefice service in TAS	10.00 am BENEFICE Holy Communion MND/BP	See Benefice service in TAS 5pm Compline MW	11.00am Morning Prayer PG
21st Feb 2016 Lent 2	8.00am Holy Communion MND	9.30am Morning Prayer SB	9.30am Holy Communion BP	9.30am Breakfast Family Service with WSG Methodists MND 5pm Compline MW	11.00am Family Service SB
28th Feb 2015 Lent 3	11.00 Cafe service in TSJ ANGLICAN CHURCH (not Chapel) MND	9.30am Holy Communion BP	9.30am Holy Communion MND	9.30am United Service in the Chapel 5pm Holy Communion (Fr Brian)	11.00am Holy Communion