

MID LOES BENEFICE

Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Charsfield with Debach
Crettingham, Dallinhoo, Earl Soham,
Hoo, Letheringham and Monewden

December 2019/January 2020

From The Rector

Dear friends

Many years ago in another life, as a student, I had a Christmas holiday job working in the toy department of a large department store. Sure enough, Father Christmas was in his grotto and it was my job to keep his shelves well stacked. You may have difficulty imagining me as one of Santa's little helpers - let alone an elf - but there I was. And of course I, and the other student working there, were only too happy to demonstrate to any potential customers all the new toys that were on offer in the department. We had the whole floor to utilise, and the large Scalextric track was a favourite.

In Advent - now re-christened 'the run-up to Christmas' - adults (as well as students) are encouraged to adopt childish ways, if advertisements are anything to go by. Children are to set the agenda and adults are to adapt their behaviour accordingly. Some parents may find in this some relief from the demands of their jobs the rest of the year, and, to be sure, it does no harm to spend a bit of extra time with their children. No-one would want to take away from the 'magic' - the enchantment - of the season. It is a time for telling stories, which is no doubt one reason why pantomimes are so popular. Everyone - adults as well as children - loves a good story. Let's hope that there's one story - the one at the heart of it all - that is kept alive. If it is well told and repeated often (children love repetition) so that they learn it, then we will ensure that the Christian message which the story carries will continue down through the generations.

Happy Christmas
Stephen



BENEFICE BIBLE STUDY

This month's Bible Study will be on Tuesday 17th December, 7:30pm at Monewden Village Hall. You are very welcome to come along whether you've been before or not, and no prior knowledge is required.



STUDY LEAVE

My Study Leave runs from Thursday 26th December 2019 to Thursday 19th March 2020. This period has been chosen to avoid any major festivals but allows me to be back well in time for Easter and the annual meetings. During that period, our curate, the Revd Kathleen Martin will be in charge of all matters relating to the benefice. All queries regarding services and everything else should go to her in the first instance, though some matters may have to wait until my return.

SB



MONTHLY STITCHING SESSION.....

There will be no monthly stitching in January but we will have a session on **Friday 6th December** and then resume on

Friday 7th February, 10 – 2pm. Please note the extended time, this is so that we can get more completed in the time. We are a small friendly

group from beginners to advanced stitchers, sewing under the guidance of Alison Pearce who has almost 30 years of experience in hand sewing, patchwork, quilting, applique and cross stitch.

These sessions will now be held in my home instead of the village hall now that my craft room is up and running!

£5 per session, materials etc extra.

For more information call Alison on 01473 737155 or
email: Alison.pearce1970@yahoo.co.uk.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN THE MID LOES BENEFICE

- Ashfield** 22nd December: 4pm Carol Service
Christmas Day: 9.30am Holy Comm.
- Charsfield** 22nd December: 6:30pm Carol Service
Christmas Eve: 11:30pm Communion
- Cretingham** 22nd December: 4pm Carol Service
Christmas Day: 10.30am Family Service
and Holy Communion
31st December: 11:45pm Compline
- Dallinghoo** 22nd December: 3:30pm Carol Service
Christmas Day: 10am Holy Communion
- Earl Soham** 15th December: 6:30pm Carol Service
Christmas Eve: 6:30pm Crib Service;
11:30pm Holy Communion
Christmas Day: 8am Holy Communion;
10am Family Service
- Hoo** Christmas Eve: 3pm Carol Service
- Letheringham** 23rd December: 6.30pm Carol Service
- Monewden** 8th December: 10am Toy Service
Fri 20th December: 7pm Carol Service
Christmas Day: 10am Holy Communion

EARL SOHAM NOTES

Rota for the Altar and Roll of Honour Flowers and Brasses-St. Mary's		
DECEMBER	Mrs Crimp	
JANUARY	Mrs Haines	
FEBRUARY	Mrs Tinkler	
<p>Can I please take this opportunity to thank everyone for the floral displays and brass cleaning, it makes our lovely church look well kept & loved. Thank you again. LT</p> <p>Any problems phone Lyn—685278</p>		

The Friends of St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham.



Our recent bridge afternoon and tea raised £800 and the players all seemed to enjoy themselves! My thanks to them and to all those who helped by making cakes, moving tables etc., washing up and with the raffle. Our remit is to maintain and preserve the fabric of our church and we work in co-operation with the PCC. The next project will be the repainting of the interior of the church in the summer of 2020. Since our inception in 2001 about £100,000 has been raised. Vernon Cotton recently stood down as a Trustee after 18 years and we would like to thank him for his sterling service. Our next fund raising event will be a Quiz Evening in 2020.

Lizzie Hyde

Wanted

Earl Soham needs a Secretary for the Village Hall Committee

Please contact Neil Warden email neilbwarden@btinternet.com

Two things have happened over the last few weeks that I feel need recognition.

Firstly, congratulations to John Hutton and his staff as overall winners of the Sausage Fest in Framlingham at the beginning of October. It is the second year that they have won and once again they were up against very strong opposition. Why not go along and try some of their prizewinning sausages?

Secondly, a big thank you to Kevin, the son of Jill and Brian Whitaker who travels from the other side of the country to play his Baritone Horn for us at the Annual Remembrance Day Service. He has been doing this for quite a number of years now, ever since he heard our tape recording and stated he could do better than that! The pre-service music and last post, accompanied by Naomi Pilling on the organ, was a delight. Thank you Kevin and Naomi.

Jo Rothery

Earl Soham Christmas Crib Service

Once again, our special Christmas Eve service will be held on Tuesday 24th December at St Mary's Church Earl Soham at 6.30 pm and we are inviting all school aged children to participate in this wonderful family event. There will be a rehearsal for all involved on Sunday 23rd December at 2 pm at the Church. All costumes and props are provided but we do need lots of children to help us reveal the story of Christmas. Please let me know if you would like your child/children to be part of this wonderful village celebration, the more the merrier!

Jo Reed 01728 685794 email: reedjo@hotmail.com




Earl Soham WI
Thursday 19th December 2019
Christmas Party - Festive food, fun and games!

Meetings are held at 7.30pm on the fourth Thursday of every month, except August, at Earl Soham Village Hall. New members are always assured a warm welcome. If you join the WI, you can look forward to making a lot of new friends as well as enjoying talks on a wide range of subjects.

If you can't come along to our Christmas meeting, why not make it a New Years' resolution to come along and join us in January 2020?

Thursday 23rd January
"What did you eat in the war Mummy?"
Joyce Taylor and Gloria Theobald tell us all about wartime food and Offer us a few samples!

WI Secretary: Mrs Daphne Dale 01728 621292

CAROL SINGING IN THE VIC

Thursday, 19th December

7 – 8 pm

Come and sing your heart out
with all your favourite carols

The Victoria Public House

Earl Soham.

Everyone welcome



ST MARYS EARL SOHAM

BURNS NIGHT SUPPER



Saturday 1st February 2020

7 for 7.30 pm

Earl Soham Village Hall

Traditional 3 course haggis supper

*Piped in by our own 'Highlander' and
followed by Scottish dancing*

£11 PER PERSON - beer/ wine/ soft drinks available

(children under 12 years £7)

Book your tickets by January 24th

RING Mavis 01728 685700 or Irene 01728 685814

IN AID OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

Earl Community Primary School

Happy Christmas to everyone! A joyful and good time for us all I hope, but what are we celebrating?

Christmas centres around the birth of Christ over 2000 years ago. The coming of the baby Jesus to bring God's message of love and forgiveness to the world. A time to celebrate and rejoice that God did not forget this world but wanted to show His love and forgiveness to his creation.

So it is a time for celebration but we do need to remember what we are celebrating if we are really celebrating **CHRIST**mas.

On 24th December we will be joining together in the village here to sing about the story of Christmas and for the children to build up a tableaux of the Christmas story outside our church and we hope that this will remind us all of the real meaning of this time and I am sure that there will be other times that we will remember what we are celebrating.

May the Love, Joy and Peace of God. be with us all at this time.

All children are welcome to be involved in our Crib Service as angels, shepherds, Kings and other characters at 6.30pm on 24th December and they are asked to contact Jo Reed on 685 794 or Mary Vellacott 685 423 if they would like to take part.

Mary Vellacott

Dates to remember

Friday 29th November	3.30pm	PTFA Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 17th December	6:00pm	School Carol Service in the Church
Thursday 19th December		Last day of Term
Monday 6th January 2021		PD Day (no children)
Tuesday 7th January 2021		School starts



EARL SOHAM FILM NIGHT

7.30pm Saturday 7th December

EARL SOHAM VILLAGE HALL



YESTERDAY

Award winning director Danny Boyle and screenwriter Richard Curtis team up to create a romantic comedy and tell the story of Jack Malik a struggling songwriter who, after a mysterious blackout, discovers that he is the only person on Earth who remembers The Beatles. Jack rockets to fame by passing the Fab Four's songs off as his own, but risks losing girlfriend Ellie. The film was shot around Suffolk in Halesworth, Dunwich, Shingle street, Latitude

EARL SOHAM FILM NIGHT

7.30pm Saturday 4 th January 2020

EARL SOHAM VILLAGE HALL



The original cast of Mamma Mia! The Movie are joined by Lily James, Cher and Andy Garcia for this sequel which follows, the now pregnant, Sophie's transformation of the taverna on Kalokairi into the magnificent Hotel Bella Donna. The story also jumps back in time to follow Donna (Sophie's mother) on her journey from England to the Greek Islands, and her romances with Sam, Bill and Harry, any one of whom could be Sophie's father. Once again, this movie is based on the songs of ABBA, written by Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus. (2017) (Cert.PG)

News from High Suffolk Rotary See Facebook for more!



**WE NEED
YOU
TO JOIN
OUR
CREW**

Professionals, Skilled workers, Business people, Community Leaders... all using their skills to benefit others. And having a good time doing it. **Want to help? Then get in touch.**

✉ Email: info@highsuffolkrotary.org
 🌐 www.highsuffolkrotary.org
 📱 Highsuffolkrotary

Join Rotary
Make friends
Have fun
Help others

POLIO TYPE 3 DECLARED ERADICATED

 October the 24th was **World Polio day**, and this year was the occasion for a declaration by the World Health Organisation that **one of the major types of polio has been eradicated**. The battle against Polio has been Rotary's major campaign, and since 1985 Rotary has contributed **more than \$1.9bn** towards eradicating this terrible disease.

 In between doing what we can for the community both local and international, we try to get talks from interesting speakers, especially those with a local connection. This month **Derek Sim of the Norfolk Fire Service** told us about some of the challenges of being a modern fireman, the preparation and training needed, and also some of the less-serious incidents he's attended. Yes, they really do get called out for cats up trees – not to mention tortoises stuck in ornaments... **The History of the River Gipping** was the subject of another talk, from **Lewis Tyler, Secretary of The River Gipping Trust**, who told us some of the story of how this local river was cleaned up and made beautiful again.

SANTA IS ON HIS WAY!



Yes, he's booked his transport with is already! Here are the dates for this year:

Eye Tues 10th Dec
Stradbroke Wed 11th Dec
Debenham(1) Mon 16th Dec
Debenham(2) Tue 17th Dec

All Santa's tours start at about 6pm and will be finished by 8pm.

Details of the routes will be posted on our website by the end of November.

SANTA NEEDS HELP!

We need more elves to help with the collection. Can you help - please?

Rewards include good exercise, big smiles on faces young and old, and a very Christmassy feeling!

Contact us at info@highsuffolkrotary.org

CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES Church Rotas

Date	Readers	Sides person
Dec 1st 10am Benefice Holy Communion Charsfield	10am Benefice Holy Communion Charsfield All Welcome	
Dec 15th 6.30pm Evening Prayer	Margaret Pauline	Pauline
Dec 22nd 6.30pm Carol Service here, with the Chapel All Welcome	To be agreed	To be agreed
Dec 24/25th 11.30pm Holy Communion	To be agreed	To be agreed
Dec 29th 10am Morning Prayer	Sarah Sheila	Sheila
Jan 5th 10am Benefice Holy Communion Dallinghoo	10am Benefice Holy Communion Dallinghoo All Welcome	
Jan 19th 6.30pm Evening Prayer	Ros Antony	Antony
Jan 26th 10am Holy Communion	Cherry Pam	Pam



Cleaning Rota for December

7th	14th	21st	28th
No Cleaning	Ros Lucy	Angela Joyce	Sheila Pauline

Flower Rota for December/January

Dec 7th & 14th	21st & 28th	Jan 4th & 11th	18th & 25th
Alison Fletcher	Everyone Please	Joyce Whitley	Sheila Green

Coffee Rota

December - Pam
January - Lucy
February - Sheila
March - Margaret
April - Pauline

An Evening of FESTIVE MUSIC & CAROLS by the IPSWICH HOSPITAL BAND

**St Peter's Church, Charsfield Friday 6th December 2019
at 7pm for 7.30pm**

Entry £10, payable on the door, includes mulled wine and light refreshments

From modest beginnings, the band is now in great demand and we are lucky to have been able to book time in their busy schedule. To find out more about them, look on

www.ipswichhospitalband.org.uk

It promises to be a great eveninga perfect start to the Christmas festivities Do come!

Charsfield Baptist Chapel

Sunday services

11am each week

Coffee Pot

Every Tuesday from 10-12

At the chapel hall



There is a warm welcome for all. We hope you can join us.

Further information available from:

Mary Rowe on 01728 582243

***PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO COFFEE POT ON 24TH
OR 31ST DECEMBER.***

Personal prayer The chapel is open each morning, Monday - Saturday for personal prayer between 9.30 and 10.30am.

Singalong Suppers

Friday 6th December 2019

Held once a month in the Chapel hall. We start each evening at 6.30pm with something of general interest for half an hour. We then enjoy a buffet meal together. This is followed by a 'singalong' of hymns and songs at 8pm, finishing at 9pm. Do come and join us - you will be most welcome.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Our Christmas service will be held in the chapel on December 22nd at 11am. It will be lead by Mr John Green. Everyone Welcome.



CHARSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

VACANCY PARISH COUNCILLOR

Notice is hereby given that two vacancies have occurred within Charsfield Parish Council.

Are you interested in local current affairs?

Do you wish to serve your community?

Could you provide a voice for residents?

For further information or an informal chat please contact the Parish Clerk

Pam Hembra

Charsfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com

01473 737655

or

Jan Pedgrift

Janpedgrift@btinternet.com

01473 737701

The term of office will run until the next ordinary elections in May 2023.

There are approximately six Parish Council meetings a year.

This position is only open to people living in the Parish of Charsfield or within 3 miles of the Parish boundary (and on the Register of Electors) and those working or owning land within the Parish for the preceding 12 months.

SUFFOLK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Suffolk Community Foundation is a charity involved in grant making through partnerships with individuals, families, businesses, public bodies and trusts. Working together for the people of Suffolk: to ensure areas of acute need are addressed to help make Suffolk a better place for all; to change local lives by connecting causes that matter with people who care; and to reach those in most need by combining evidence with local service delivery. You can find out more about their work via the website: www.suffolkcf.org.uk. Community Champion for Charsfield is Sally Haird who lives in Hall Road.

Tim Holder, Head of Public Affairs, has agreed to come and talk at the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday, 21st January, 2020 at 7:30 pm. We do hope that as many people as possible from the Village Hall Committee, the Recreation Ground Committee, the Church, the Chapel and anyone else from the village who may be interested will come along.

CHARSFIELD VILLAGE HALL WILL BE HOLDING THEIR

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON

Monday, 27th January 2020 at 7:30 pm

All Welcome

PRAYER FOR HEALING

A small group meets every month and if you would like prayer for yourself or someone close who is ill or in any kind of need please get in touch with any of the following:

Stephen Brian - 01728 685 308

Kathleen Martin - 01473 737 285

Pauline Cobley - 01473 737 317

Margaret Salter - 01473 737 182

Your call will be treated in the strictest confidence .



DR DAN POULTER MP

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

The run-up to Christmas is undoubtedly one of the busiest times of the year – not only preparing for Christmas at home, but also out and about attending the many Christmas community events and fares. One of the best things about Suffolk is our fantastic community spirit and with many events and lunches put on specially to ensure that no-one in the community is left out or lonely, I would like to personally thank each and every one of our volunteers who work selflessly at Christmas and throughout the year.

When visiting the many Christmas events and fayres, I also very much enjoy taking the time to browse and to buy locally where I can. We have such a fantastic range of small and independent retailers here in Suffolk, not to mention farm shops and local producers, so it's very important that we do our best to support our local economy.

As many of us start to get into the party spirit, we must also remember those in our NHS and emergency services who work around the clock to keep people safe and cared for. I will certainly be spending some of my Christmas break working as a doctor in the NHS, looking after those who are vulnerable. The Christmas period is one of the busiest times of year for our NHS and emergency services, with staff working around the clock to ensure help is at hand when needed.

Of course it's not just those working in hospitals who work on Christmas Day, the list is endless but so many work right across the festive season to ensure that services continue day and night – carers visiting the elderly and vulnerable in our communities, highways teams, ambulance staff and paramedics, firefighters and police officers, to name but a few. Then there is the army of hard working public sector staff, working behind the scenes, to keep everything running smoothly.

Collectively they ensure that our communities are safe and functioning over the festive period, while we all enjoy ourselves with friends and family. This Christmas, please spare a thought for all those working tirelessly on our behalf, often in challenging circumstances, yet remaining committed to delivering services compassionately and professionally, despite knowing their families and loved ones are waiting at home to enjoy Christmas with out them after a lengthy shift.

I would therefore like to pay special tribute to all of our dedicated and hardworking workforce here in Suffolk, thank you for all you do at Christmas, and all year round.

May I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

MONNEWDEN NOTES

Church Rotas

Date	Flowers & Brasses	Cleaning	Sides person	Coffee
Dec 1st	M Gibson	F Watts C Saxby	BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION 10AM at CHARSFIELD, ALL WELCOME	
8th	M Skeet		W Heath	L Grier
15th	J Coe	K Martin J Vonberg		
22nd	A Hamilton		B Martin	C Saxby
29th	L Grier	W Heath	D Grier	M Skeet
Jan 5th	J Vonberg		BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION 10AM at DALLINGHOO, ALL WELCOME	
12th	C Saxby	M Skeet L Grier	P Keeble	W Heath
19th	K Martin			
26th	W Heath	F Watts C Saxby	N Skeet	A Pearce

READERS

Dec. 8 Toy Service; Dec. 25 James, Wendy; Dec. 29 Jill, Paul.

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE.

Remembrance Day Service at Monewden was held on Sunday 10th November at 11.45am. The service was led by the Reverend Wendy Gourlay, whose sermon was very moving, including reference to a local character who was known to some of the congregation. The names of the fallen were read by Peter Driver and the wreath laid by Neville Skeet. Once again the Last Post and Reveille were played by Henry Dinwiddy. Thankyou to all involved in making it a very moving occasion. The collection from the service was donated to the Royal British Legion



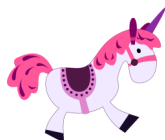
Our next **COFFEE MORNING** will be on Saturday, December 21st, from 10 a.m. onwards. Coffee, tea and bacon rolls will be served. Come and join us, this monthly event is now very popular. The 100 Club draw prizes will be drawn at this event

100 CLUB WINNERS: November - 1 £25 Diane Mumford, 2 £15 Jean Coe, 3 £10 Peter Keeble.

LOCAL HISTORY:. The Christmas meeting, on December 11 will be a Members Forum. If the gentlemen could please bring a bottle of wine and the ladies, savouries, mince pies, etc. it would be much appreciated. The first meeting of the New Year, will be on January 15, when Chris Parfit will talk about the River Alde.

CMS BOXES: Will anybody who still has a Church Mission Society collecting box please return it to Margaret Skeet as soon as possible.

COMBINED TOY SERVICE: The joint Toy Service, where we join with our friends from Dallinghoo, will take place on Sunday, December 8 at 10 a.m. at Monewden Church. Please bring gift wrapped presents for children, including teenagers, labelled suitably for gender and age ranges. As in previous years the gifts, and collection, will be sent to Lighthouse in Ipswich, where they are always gratefully received



CAROL SERVICE: Monewden Carol Service this year will be held in the church on Friday, December 20th at 7 p.m., Supper will be available in the village hall after the service. If you would like to stay for supper please contact Brian Martin on 737285

CHURCH DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS: Please could the usual helpers who decorate the church for Christmas do so before the Carol Service. Thank you.



MONEWDEN P.C.C. wishes everyone a
**Happy Christmas and Blessed and Peaceful
New Year**

The Churchwardens and P.C.C. would like to thank all the people who were involved with church activities during the year, also all those who helped in any way with the many fund raising events, whether donating gifts or draw prizes or contributing their valuable time.

PCC MEETING: There will be a PCC meeting on January 27, 2019, at 7.30 p.m., at Northgates, Monewden

Our first **COFFEE MORNING** of the new year will be on Saturday, January 18, 2020, from 10 a.m. onwards. Coffee, tea and bacon rolls will be served. Come and join us, this monthly event is now very popular. The 100 Club draw prizes will be drawn at this event

LAMB FOR THE FREEZER

Half or quarter of lamb or
smaller packs ready for
the freezer

For more information contact
Brian Martin on 01473 737285

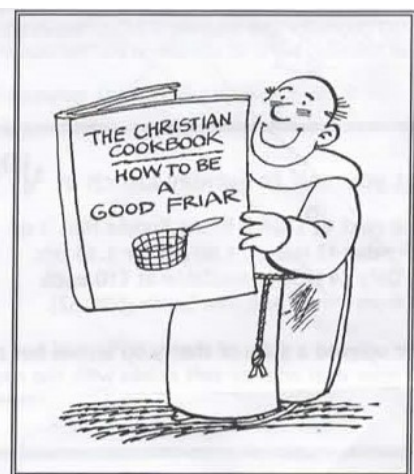


Alison Pearce
St. Mary's Church
Monewden
Woodbridge

5 November 2019

Dear Alison ,
Please thank all your Church Members so much for the many tins and dried goods sent to FIND from your recent Harvest Festival. Most of the Harvest foods donated have remained at our site at Hines Road , where we shall be preparing the Christmas Hampers later this month. Our distribution of these and the individual presents will also be from this centre.
By the 9 November we shall have started moving other foods to the new premises at the Gainsborough Sports area in Ipswich ready to distribute the emergency food bags from there.
Thank you for your continued support for FIND's work amongst disadvantaged people in our local communities.
Yours sincerely,

Heather Cade (FIND Trustee)



SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2019

Church	Dec 1st Advent 1 <i>Purple</i>	Dec 8th Advent 2 <i>Purple</i>	Dec 15th Advent 3 <i>Purple</i>	Dec 22nd Advent 4 <i>Purple</i>	Dec 29th Christmas 1 <i>White</i>
Ashfield-cum-Thorpe	↓	6.30pm Evening Prayer	6.30pm Holy Communion	4pm Carol Service	----
Chars field w. Debach	10am Benefice Holy Communion	----	6.30pm Evening Prayer	6.30pm Carol Service	10.am Morning Prayer
Cretingham	↑	— —	10.am Morning Prayer	4pm Carol Service	10am Holy Communion
Dallinghoo	↑	<i>To Monewden For Toy Service</i>	10am Family Ser- vice Baptism	3.30pm Carol Service	----
Earl Soham	↑	10.00am Morning Prayer	6.30pm Carol Service	10am Holy Communion & Baptism	----
Hoo	↑	8.30am Holy Communion	----	8.30am Morning Prayer	— —
Monewden	↑	10.00am Toy Service	Friday 20th 7pm Carol Service	----	6.30pm Evening Prayer
Letheringham	↑	----	-----	<i>Mon 23rd</i> 6.30pm Carol Service	----

SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2020

Church	Jan 5 Christmas 2 <i>White</i>	Jan 12 Baptism of Christ <i>White</i>	Jan 19 Epiphany 2 <i>White</i>	Jan 26 Epiphany 3 <i>White</i>
Ashfield-cum-Thorpe	↓	6.30pm Evening Prayer	6.30pm Holy Communion	— —
Chars field w. Debach	↓	— — —	6.30pm Evening Prayer	10am Holy Communion
Cretingham	Dec 31st 11.45pm Compline	— — —	10am Morning Prayer	4pm Evening Prayer & Holy Communion
Dallinghoo	10am Benefice Holy Communion	6.30pm Evening Prayer & Holy Communion	10am Family Service	— — —
Earl Soham	↑	10am Family Service	10am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion 10am Morning Prayer
Hoo	↑	8.30am Holy Communion	— — —	8.30am Morning Prayer
Monewden	↑	10am Holy Communion	— —	10am Family Service
Letheringham	↑	— — —		

READINGS FOR DECEMBER 2019/JANUARY 2020

	Holy Communion	MP or EP	Psalm
December 1st	Romans Ch 13 vs 11-end Matthew Ch 24 vs 36-44		
December 8th	Romans Ch 15 vs 4-13 Matthew Ch 3 vs 1-12	Isaiah Ch 11 vs 1-10 Matthew Ch 3 vs 1-12	Psalm 72 vs 1-7
December 15th	James Ch 5 vs 7-10 Matthew Ch 11 vs 2-11	Isaiah Ch 35 vs 1-10 Matthew Ch 11 vs 2-11	Psalm 146 vs 4-10
December 22nd	Romans Ch 1 vs 1-7 Matthew Ch 1 vs 18-end	Isaiah Ch 7 vs 10-16 Matthew Ch 1 vs 18-end	Psalm 80 vs 1-8
Christmas Eve/ Christmas Day	Titus Ch 2 vs 11-14 or Titus Ch 3 vs 4-7 or Hebrews Ch 1 vs 1-12 Luke Ch 21 vs 1-20 or John Ch 1 vs 1-14		
December 29th	Hebrews Ch 2 vs 10-end Matthew Ch 2 vs 13-end	Isaiah Ch 63 vs 7-9 Matthew Ch 2 vs 13-end	Psalm 148 vs 7-end
January 5th	Ephesians Ch 1 vs 3-14 John Ch 1 vs 1-18		
January 12th	Acts Ch 10 vs 34-43 Matthew Ch 3 vs 13-end	Isaiah Ch 42 vs 1-9 Matthew Ch 3 vs 13-end	Psalm 72 vs 10-15
January 19th	I Corinthians Ch 1 vs 1-9 John Ch 1 vs 29-42	Isaiah Ch 49 vs 1-7 John Ch 1 vs 29-42	Psalm 40 vs 1-12
January 26th	I Corinthians Ch 1 vs 10-18 Matthew Ch 4 vs 12-23	Isaiah Ch 9 vs 1-4 Matthew Ch 4 vs 12-23	Psalm 27 vs 1-11
February 2nd	Hebrews Ch 2 vs 14-end Luke Ch 2 vs 22-40		

**The Benefice Service on
Sunday 2nd February
Will be hosted by
St Peter's, Cretingham
All Welcome**

ASHFIELD NOTES

CHRISTMAS AT ST MARY'S.

We look forward to welcoming you to either or both of the services to be held in St Mary's over Christmas;
22/12 4pm Carol Service.
25/12 9.30am Holy Communion.

ASHFIELD FOOTPATHS.

At the time of writing I am pleased to be able to report that at long last work is taking place to repair the footbridge over the River Deben along Cretingham Lane. The bridge has been closed for a long time now and has prevented walkers from Ashfield getting to paths in Framsdon and vice-versa. Hopefully the bridge will reopen very soon.

Whilst the wet weather doesn't lend itself to walking crossfield paths at present as far as I am aware all routes are open and passable at the present time.

If you do encounter any obstruction or other issue with any path in Ashfield please let Malcolm Pease or myself [email address at the front of this mag] know straight away so that remedial action can if required be taken to put things right. Thanks.

HIGHWAY [ROADS] MATTERS.

As you may be aware already Suffolk County Council are trying to set up a self help scheme to cover low level highways issues in parishes. This effectively covers many of the tasks that I am already dealing with, drainage, sign cleaning etc and when required reporting potholes or other items requiring professional attention. In due course, hopefully it will be possible to help residents with overgrown hedges obstructing traffic or posing difficulties for accessing or egressing their properties. Quite often simply trimming back a hedge or removing a few inches from the top can greatly improve your visibility and road safety at the same time! In extreme cases SCC as the Highway's Authority can issue a 'Hedge Cutting Notice', hopefully there will be no need for these in Ashfield! Please get in touch with me if you think I can help you improve road safety near your property.

THANK YOU.

As 2019 comes to a close I would like to thank everyone who contributes to the work of St Mary's Church over the years, those that deliver your magazines, help keep the Churchyard tidy, clean the Church or help Jane with the Harvest Supper. Not forgetting of course those who attend our services and who so generously donate money to help us keep your parish church open for all.

Thank you.

DALLINGHOO NOTES

Church Rotas

Date	Service/Readers	Sides people
Dec 1st 10am	BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION, CHARSFIELD, 10AM, ALL WELCOME	
8th 10am	JOINT TOY SERVICE AT MONEWDEN ALL WELCOME	
15th 10am	Family Service & Baptism Readers TBC	D Gill T Love
22nd 3.30pm	CAROL SERVICE TBC	C Sullivan T Love All Helpers Please
25th 10am	HOLY COMMUNION TBC	S West
Jan 5th 10am	BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION Ministry Team	C Sullivan All helpers please
12th 6.30pm	EVENING PRAYER & HOLY COMMUNION C Sullivan S West	C Sullivan
19th 10am	FAMILY SERVICE TBA	D Gill T Love
Feb 2nd 10am	BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION, CRETINGHAM, 10AM, ALL WELCOME	

Flower and Cleaning Rota

30th Nov & 7th Dec - Sue Truman

Friday 6th December - Decorate church for Christmas - All Helpers

14th & 21st - Di & Linda

28th Dec & 4th Jan - Linda & Di

11th & 18th - Barbara

25th Jan & 1st Feb - Roz & Sheila

Church Opening and Closing

Bridgette & Jeremy Quinlan have offered to open and close the church until the workmen have finished. After this I will be opening and closing until I make a new rota. I would like to thank Bridgette and Jeremy for doing this we can keep the church open!

THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone who cleans, does flowers and opens and closes the church throughout the year. Without you all we would not be able to keep our church going. I am sure Primrose would be proud of you all.

Thanks, Di Turner

The Dallingham Church Repair Fund

Raising money to repair St Mary's church, Dallingham



Christmas Bazaar Sunday 1st December

Dallingham Village Hall 2 - 4 pm

Including: Stalls, **children's activities**, teas and

Santa has promised to visit - his transport is always a surprise!

Entry 50p. Please come and bring your friends.

HARVEST LUNCH

Thanks to Tina for an excellent Sunday Roast lunch following the harvest festival service. There was a lovely selection of desserts and a great time was had by all. #135 was raised toward church funds.

We have had lots of people coming to say that the lunch was superb and the crackling was to die for!



COFFEE MORNING!

The December coffee morning will be held on the 14th December in the vestry with a small amount of Christmas goodies on sale. So please come and join us for a chat, cuppa and mince pie, and to buy some cakes and bits and bobs for Christmas all money raised is going to St Mary's repair fund. There will be no coffee morning in January will be back in February on 22nd.

We would like to thank Chris Ling, Dallinghoo Parish Chairman for sorting the new noticeboard outside the village hall and I am sure it will serve the village for many years to come.

DALLINGHOO QUIZ

The last quiz night held in October raised a total of £425 for the church repair fund. An excellent evening was had by all with an attendance of around 60 people. Many thanks to Pauline Hedley and her helpers for all the hard work they put in.

St Mary's church Dallinghoo requires a number of substantial repairs to the tower, roof and masonry and is likely to cost in excess of £80,000 so all this fundraising will help to make this happen.

FIREWORK NIGHT

The firework night went off well, bit short on numbers but with the weather against us it was expected. The fireworks were good with lots of people commenting on them. We cannot at this moment say how much was raised but hope to tell you all in February Magazine. Many thanks to all the trustees for their time to make this event take place.

DALLINGHOO CARPET BOWLS

This friendly group meets on alternate Wednesday's in Dallinghoo Village Hall at 7.30pm. Play finishes around 9.30pm and there is a coffee break in the middle.

Beginners always welcome and help and tactful tuition available if required. In December we meet on 4th & 18th and in January on the 15th & 29th.

Good gentle exercise and a pleasant social evening.

Contact Cliff Green 01473 737421

LEATHERINGHAM NOTES

The Leaking roof

Our thanks to everyone that have supported the Concerts and Mardle events organised by Letheringham St Mary's PCC over recent years. The money raised from these events supplemented by a £8,700 Government "Stitch in time grant," has enabled us to replace 90% of the North side of our Nave roof. The work undertaken should stop the leaking roof and prevent further damage to the church's ancient fabric.

A special thanks to Rob Pearce and Tim Buxbaum for their invaluable support in helping us obtain the grant and to all the volunteers and performers that have helped us with the Mardles and Concerts, without their help the £23,000 total bill for this work could never have been met.

There is much more restoration work to be done and these works are vital to ensure that this ancient place of worship is there for future generations.

Mardles

Our thanks to Chris Gage on his excellent and amusing talk on his life in farming and work at the Imperial War Museum Duxford airfield as a volunteer restoring and maintaining the "Fighter collection" of vintage aircraft.

We will take a break from the Monday Mardles over the Christmas period. Our next Mardle will focus on the Fair Charter granted to the Prior of Letheringham Priory by Edward I in 1297 and the many medieval personages that were involved in the granting of the Charter and what became of them (a sort of medieval Game of thrones) the February date for this, not to be missed Mardle, to be finalised shortly.

Remembrance Sunday.

The remembrance Service at Letheringham was a combined Service with Hoo. The Church service was followed by a short ceremony at 10.45 where villagers and their children planted 25 porcelain poppies around the village sign, that they had made with the help of local artist Pauline Bickerton. There was one Poppy for each of the men from Letheringham that had fought in WWI.

Our thanks to Scarlett Ratcliffe (aged 9) and Amara Young (aged 8) who together made an excellent job of reading out the 25 names from the Roll of Honour as each of the poppies were planted.

Carols by Candle light 23rd December 6.30 pm

Traditional Carol Service sung by candle light with guest soloist, mulled wine and mince pies will be served at the end of the service.

HOO NOTES

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

We had a very good remembrance service at Letheringham—thank you Stephen for a lovely sermon.

ERIC BRANTON

Eric Branton has been very poorly. At the moment he is very ill in hospital, we pray he will make a good recovery and soon be on the mend. We pray for Perry to be strong and send her our love.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

The time is coming round again for Christmas, we thank everyone who has helped us throughout the year. We wish everyone in the Benefice a very happy and healthy Christmas and a healthy new year. May God bless you all.



THESE TWO TICKLED ME....

A police recruit was asked during the exam, 'What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?' He answered, 'Call for backup.'

A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem. A small child replied, 'They couldn't get a baby-sitter.'

(Thank you Margaret for your input to the magazine and putting smiles on people's faces - Ed)

CRETINGHAM NOTES

Flower and Cleaning Rota

	Altar Flowers	Cleaning
December	Mrs Defoe	Runacres Family
January 2019	As per rota	As per rota



Christmas in Cretingham

Saturday 14th December: CHRISTMAS

STALL in Church 10am – 12 noon. See all the

fabulous Christmas flowers filling every window, refreshments and coffee/tea to warm you up, homemade cake stall plus Christmas raffle and quiz! Chance to vote for your favourite carol. Also a great time to catch up with friends and acquaintances. Not to be missed and don't be late as only open for 2 hours.

Wednesday 18th December:

CAROL SINGING IN THE VILLAGE PUB. We are again gathering in The Cretingham Bell (by kind invitation of Paul and Clare) to sing our hearts out, partake of some liquid refreshment to raise money for a local children's charity. All gather please in fine voice at 7 pm.

Sunday 22nd December:

CAROL SERVICE in Church 4 pm.

Do please join us.



Tuesday 25th December: CHRISTMAS DAY

Family Service in St. Peters Church at 10.30

am. A warm welcome is extended to everyone to come and gather on this very special day in our village church. (Maximum 45 minute Family Service with Holy Communion).



New Years Eve – 31st December: A service of COMPLINE.

A time for contemplation and see in 2020. 11.45 pm start in St. Peters Church.

----ooo0ooo----

Huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who has helped out during 2019 from flowers, grass cutting, cleaning, fund raising, reading, bell ringing, supporting events and ultimately ensuring that our beautiful church is here for everyone now and in the future. Thank you again.

Heather & Alister
(Churchwardens)

St. Peters Church Dates for Dec 2019 /Jan 2020

15th Dec Morning Prayer 10 am

22nd Dec Carol Service 4 pm

25th Dec Family Service & Holy Communion 10.30 am

29th Dec Holy Communion 10 am

31st Dec Compline 11.45 pm

19th Jan Morning Prayer 10 am

26th Jan Evening Prayer with Holy Communion 4 pm

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and hope you are able
to join us for some of the events in your Village
Church of St. Peters this festive season.



Pamela and Michael

Thank all our good friends and neighbours
for their support and help during the year and to
Wish you all

a

Very Happy Christmas
and
Good Health throughout 2020

Cretingham St Peter's 100 Club.

Our November winners were Helen Marjoram (1st - £25) and Heather Runacres (2nd - £15). The December draw will take place at 11am during the Christmas Stall in Church on Saturday 14th December. Some tickets remain unsold - contact Alister for details - alister.gourlay@gmail.com

CRETINGHAM TOWNLANDS TRUST

An air of mystery surrounds the Cretingham Townlands Trust, perhaps because, of the five village organisations, it is the one which does not appear to DO anything; no socials, no public AGMs. Perhaps, also, because the Trust is thought to own something, but no one is quite sure what.

The Trust is one of many hundreds throughout the country which date back to the mid-sixteenth century when, following the dissolution of the monasteries, care for the poor fell on the parishes, a burden which they were generally not over keen to take on. In the past the religious institutions had looked after the sick, poor and needy as part of their religious duty and many religious houses were given money to do so by wealthy benefactors hoping to ease their own path into the afterlife.

With a more secular age it fell upon the community to take care of its own and so those with wealth to spare and position to uphold took on the responsibility and looked for ways in which to settle monies in perpetuity for poor relief and the benefit of clergy and church buildings.

These public-spirited citizens settled land, buildings and money for the purpose. In many cases these tiny charitable institutions were all but forgotten as the centuries passed and often it was not until the middle of the twentieth century that communities became aware of the funds and wondered what to do with them.

So it was in Cretingham. The Townlands Trust was set up by Arthur Penning and William Barwick in 1561, early in the reign of Elizabeth 1, to keep the church in good repair and for the general benefit of the parishioners, the poor and the needy. In 1819 the then vicar, the Rev Joseph Jefferson added two acres of his own land to augment the glebe lands to be let at ten shillings a year for the benefit of the poor. By 1826 the Trust owned some land, the blacksmith's shop, where now Dial House garages stand, a cottage for the blacksmith, the public house, now Dial House, and three other cottages for the poor of the parish.

You might think that such a respectable body would carry on its business in a quiet and decorous manner, but in the 1930s following a major row, about what nobody who was in the village at the time has ever been prepared to explain, it was stipulated that the local constable should attend all meetings "in case of fisticuffs".

When Michael and Pamela Pinner moved to Cretingham, into what had been The Bell, but was now all but derelict, Michael began to research the Trust and with the help of a local solicitor, Nigel Bonham-Carter resurrected the Trust and after much correspondence with the Charity Commission established that 40% of the available income should be paid to the Church for maintenance of the building and the rest paid out for the benefit of any local people who may need some small help towards their fuel costs.

Over the years much of the property has been sold off, but there remain one building, the old post office, currently let as a workshop, a small parcel of amenity land and some seven acres let as farmland. The residual income from these holdings continues to be distributed to help towards living costs for anyone in the village who may need the help. There is also a small fund which can be used to help out in exceptional circumstances.

Of the trustees, two are appointed by the Parochial Church Council, two by the Cretingham, Monewden and Hoo Parish Council and the remaining two are co-opted from residents in the parish. The current chair is Gerry Field.

Today meetings are held twice-yearly, so far without further violent incident!
Antonia Field.

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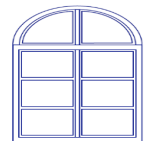
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"	Village Hall Com.	Mr. Derek Spall	01473 737 565
EARL SOHAM	FO St. Mary's	Mr. John Stott	01728 861 340
"	Primary School	Mr. Lambillion-Jameson	01728 685 359
"	Neighbourhood Watch	Mrs J. Sheffield Mrs Mary Patterson	01728 685 403 01728 685 362
"	WI Secretary	Mrs Daphne Dale	01728 621 292
"	Village Hall Com.	Anne Pratt	01728 685 745
"	100 Club	Mr. R. Tinkler	01728 685 278
"	Tennis Club	Mrs Mary Patterson	01728 685 362
"	Bowls Club	Mrs Pam Sykes	01728 685 519
"	Scouts/Cubs/Beavers	Mrs J. Lovett	01728 723 712
"	Carpet Bowls Club	Chris Pratt	01728 685745
"	Allotment/Gardeners Association	Mrs Mavis Kerridge Mr. John Stark	01728 685 700 01728 684 385
MONEWDEN	Local History Society	Mr. Peter Driver	01728 724 951

