

MID LOES BENEFICE
Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Charsfield with Debach
Cretingham, Dallinghoo, Earl Soham,
Hoo, Letheringham and Monewden

August 2020

From The Rector

Dear friends

This time had to come sooner or later, and now this will be my last magazine letter. The rest of August will be spent getting rid of a great deal of stuff as we prepare to downsize into our retirement house in Surrey, and packing for the day we move, which looks like it will probably be the 27th of August.

The thirteen years we have been here has been by far the longest either of us has lived anywhere since each of us was eighteen. Even in my previous life as a teacher I moved around the country every few years. Yet when asked how I like Suffolk, I have always said that this has been the best move I have ever made. It has been marvellous having such easy access to the countryside, and particularly enjoyable getting to know the people who make up our small communities. When I am out in my car or on my bike, travelling round the eight villages, there is always a good chance that I will know the people I see on the way. That is not the case in the big suburban or town parishes, but is one of the joys of rural ministry.

I have always felt hugely supported and appreciated in my ministry here, and have found people friendly and eager to do whatever they can to share in the life of the churches. I will take away many fond memories of all our friends in the Mid Loes Benefice, and I know Liz feels the same.

The future of this benefice is uncertain and new patterns of ministry will emerge in this and neighbouring benefices. But whatever happens, the Christian witness will continue in our parishes because that is where the real work is done. I should also mention what a delight it has been in recent years to see Kathleen Martin's ministry develop. She will continue as the curate, supported by Graham Hedger, whom many will know, who is now the rural dean and

Kathleen's supervisor. Between them they will look after the baptisms, weddings and funerals during the interregnum, and I hope parishes will continue to work with Kathleen when it comes to the provision of services. We are also fortunate to have Wendy Gourlay on hand to help with the sacramental ministry in particular, and our able Lay Elders: Mary, Jo and Amber. However, we do currently have a lot of services in our benefice, considering the small size of our parishes and some of our congregations and the limited size of our ministry team, and the status quo may not be sustainable much longer. To coin a phrase, there may have to be a 'new normal' as we draw more into line with the rest of the diocese and cut our suit according to our cloth.

But I want to end on an upbeat note. I would like to express our thanks for the friendship, support and encouragement we have received at your hands. It has been a delight to serve this benefice as a minister of word and sacrament, and I will always feel privileged to have been the first (and probably last!) Rector of the Mid Loes Benefice.

My final service will be a Benefice Service at Dallinghoo on Sunday 2nd August at **11am**. PLEASE BRING A PICNIC! We are intending to hold the service outside, followed by a socially-distanced picnic. I look forward to seeing you there.

With my very best wishes
Stephen



DEANERY NEWS

Last year, as part of the Diocesan “Growing in God” initiative, our neighbouring Benefice of Orebeck (Brandeston, Kettleburgh, Easton, Hacheston, Parham, Marlesford and Campsea Ashe) hosted a series of worship services based on the Taizé tradition with chants, prayers, mediation and contemplative time. These were led by the Revd Wendy Gourlay along with the Revd Canon Graham Hedger, local musicians and contributors from across the benefice.

This year, the services have been provided online with many of the same participants joining remotely across the internet with everything being edited together and then published on YouTube. The August Taizé worship will be available from the 16th of the month. The YouTube link can be accessed at <https://www.mid-loes.com/cretingham.php>

If you wish to see the June service (Father’s Day) please go to <https://youtu.be/divcc2MnbY0> and the July service can be found at <https://youtu.be/I1FqhA1jU7c> A further Taizé service is planned for the 20th of September - once again access details will be available on the Cretingham page of the benefice web-site www.mid-loes.com from mid-September.

Alister Gourlay

Do you know your hymns?

Dentist's Hymn.....Crown Him with Many Crowns
 Weatherman's Hymn..... There Shall Be Showers of Blessings
 Contractor's Hymn.....The Church’s One Foundation
 Tailor's Hymn.....Holy, Holy, Holy
 Golfer's Hymn.....There's a Green Hill Far Away

EARL SOHAM NOTES

Rota for the Altar and Roll of Honour Flowers and Brasses-St. Mary’s		
AUGUST	Mrs Patterson	Mrs Denton
SEPTEMBER	Mrs Rothery	Mrs Hinton
Any problems phone Lyn—685278		

THANK YOU

We like to say a very big THANK YOU to Jenny & Jonathan (Wells) and all the BOYS at John Hutton Butchers , without your help we would have struggled through this pandemic thank you again.

With best wishes & love Lyn & Richard xx

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DR DAN POULTER MP

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

Lockdown has perhaps given us all the opportunity to rethink how we live our lives and what we value most about living and working in Suffolk. For me, I am incredibly proud of our rural heritage, the fantastic Suffolk countryside and the great community spirit that is evident in all our towns and villages.

As the COVID restrictions start to lift and our local shops and pubs have cautiously begun to reopen, we must now turn our attention to protecting jobs and supporting our economy to slowly start to recover. With smaller, independent retailers needing our support, it is perhaps more important than ever that we all take the opportunity to support our great Suffolk farmers, food producers and retailers, who have been working throughout the COVID pandemic ensuring that high quality, local produce is available in our local shops and communities.

Recently, there has been much interest in the matter of food safety and animal welfare standards and a number of you may have already been in touch with me directly. Contrary to media reports that UK food standards will be lowered as part of future trade deals, I want to reassure you that the Government will not compromise on our impeccably high standards of food production and animal welfare. The amendments which have been widely reported would consequently have created new trade barriers, potentially preventing the Government from being able to agree fair and mutually beneficial trade deals.

The UK's food standards, for both domestic production and import, are overseen by the Food Standards Agency and Food Standards Scotland. These are independent agencies and provide advice to the UK and Scottish Governments. They will continue to do so in order to ensure that all food imports comply with the UK's high safety standards. Decisions on these standards are a matter for the UK and will be made separately from any trade agreement.

Here in Suffolk, and around the UK, we should be proud of our world-leading food, health and animal welfare standards and we simply must not lower our standards as we negotiate new trade deals. Any trade deal the UK strikes must be fair and reciprocal to our farmers and must not compromise on our high environmental protection, animal welfare and food safety standards. I am therefore pleased that the Government has, in principle, agreed to the establishment of a Trade & Agriculture Commission. The Commission will ensure the importance of close engagement with the agricultural sector, which will help to inform, shape and guide our agricultural trade policy. This news has been welcomed by the NFU, with whom I regularly meet, and I will continue to fight for the best interests of our farmers here in Suffolk.

CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES

Church Rotas

Readers and Sides persons

The rota of readers and side persons is to be confirmed

Pam Spivey

Many of you will have known Pam, a regular churchgoer and helper at Charsfield Church for many years. Pam very sadly died on 19th April, her birthday, after a short illness, which she bore with remarkable strength and courage. We would like to thank everyone who sent cards and such thoughtful words of comfort after she died, and for all the kindness shown to her over the years, especially since Dad died. We were able to have just a few close family at the cremation, but hope that there will be an opportunity to hold a memorial service as a celebration of Mum's life at some point in the future, at which all will be welcome.

Jonathan and Jane, and families.

CHARSFIELD FLOWER SHOW

Charsfield flower show has been cancelled but we are still going to judge the Potato Growing Competition. Calling all people who have grown potatoes, weighing in will take place on Saturday 8th August between 10.00am and 12.00pm on the grass on the left hand side of the village hall please remember to trim the tops off your plants. All of you who have eaten the potatoes could we please have the large pots back! These can be returned to the village hall, Pauline Llewellyn or Maureen Arbon in St Peters Close. Flower Show Committee.

Charsfield Village Hall Bar News!

Having carefully considered all the risks and after a successful trial of Charsfield Village Hall Bar, we will be opening the every Sunday 2-5pm in July and August (weather permitting, otherwise cancelled). Drinks will be served in the garden only and we may also extend to Friday. Keep an eye out for any updates on the board outside the village hall.

Please bring your own chairs and rugs and note we only accept contactless payments.

Come along and give our new drinks a try! Charsfield Village Hall Committee

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 .

News from Charsfield C of E Primary School

Since the announcement of school closures on 20th March, the school has very much been a hive of activity, albeit slightly differently to how it normally would be! Throughout March, April and May the children were supported with home learning. This involved online lessons, virtual meetings, phone calls, emails and a lot of hard work from pupils, parents and staff alike.

On 1st June we were delighted to be able to welcome back our pupils from Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, whilst still supporting pupils in the other year groups with their home learning. From the 1st July we invited pupils from all year groups to return to school, should they wish to. We now have 2 groups (which are called bubbles) that work separately on the school site. We have still been able to provide a diverse curriculum with Music, French, Art, DT, Forest Schools, Mental Health and Wellbeing sessions, History, Geography as well as Maths and English. Our KS 1 bubble even managed to have a Pirate Day as part of their seaside theme where they set up a balance beam and had to "walk the plank!"

On Thursday 16th July we will be holding a sports afternoon as we were unable to hold our annual sports day. The children will design the different races they would like to take part in and each bubble will be able to support one another from a distance, as we are lucky enough to have a large playing field that we have been able to section off into zones. Pupils at home have been invited to hold their own sports afternoon on this day too.

For those pupils who have been unable to return to school at this time, they are still very much included in school life with home learning and support from the school still being given. Pupils in school and at home have been writing to each other, KS 1 pupils were invited to be a part of the Pirate Day and all pupils at home have been invited to take part in our sports afternoon by designing their own games and activities in their gardens.

For further information about our school, please take a look at our website - visits to the school are always warmly welcomed.

Tel: 01473 737347 / Website: www.charsfieldprimaryschool.org.uk

HOO NOTES

It will be nice to have the magazine back it seems so long since we had one. This morning, July 12th, we had our first service it was nice to see people again. I hope you are all keeping well in the benefice. We keep praying there will soon be an end to this awful virus but I cant see that happening for a long time yet.

TREASURER

We would like to thank Ros who was our treasurer for a few years, hopefully now she is having a rest. Francis Whitbread has said he will take the job on for which we are most grateful thank you,

Margaret Doe

John arrives home from work to be greeted by his dog holding his neighbour's pet rabbit in its mouth. The rabbit is dead, and John panics.

He thinks his neighbours are going to hate him forever, so he takes the dirty chewed up rabbit into his house. He gives it a bath, blow dries its fur and puts the rabbit back into the cage at his neighbour's house, hoping that when they find it, they'll think it died of natural causes.

A few days later, the neighbour is outside in the garden and asks John over the fence; "Did you hear that our rabbit, Fluffy, had died?"

John stumbled around and replied, "Um. No, what happened?" "We just found him dead in his cage one day," the neighbour replied, "but the weird thing is that the day after we buried Fluffy, we went to clean out his cage and someone had dug fluffy up. Given him a bath and put him back into his cage!"

DALLINGHOO NOTES

Date		Service/Readers	Sides people
2nd	11am	BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION, 11AM, FOLLOWED BY BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC. ALL WELCOME.	
16th	10am	FAMILY SERVICE	
30th	10am	MORNING PRAYER	

Church Rotas
Flower and Cleaning Rota

Suspended until further notice

Church Opening and Closing

Suspended until further notice

FAREWELL

The parishioners of Dallinghoo would like to say thank you to Revd Stephen Brian for being our Rector for the last so many years and we would like to wish him and Liz a very happy retirement.

THANK YOU

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has taken time to call me on the telephone to check on my welfare throughout the COVID-19 lockdown. Also those who have offered to pick up groceries/shopping for me, it has all been very much appreciated.

God Bless you all

Betty Cole

Hannah's Borneo Trip 2020 –

Firstly, I would like to thank all those who have kindly made donations to help raise the funds I needed to make this trip of a life time. Unfortunately , due to the Coronavirus, the decision has been taken to postpone the trip until next year.

This has been a big disappointment but at least it is only postponed, as there was talk of having to cancel. This means I will still be going on the trip but now it will July / August 2021.

I am still very much looking forward to this trip and helping with the environmental projects and supporting the local families, while also having the chance to teach children about our culture and language, as well as learning about theirs.

Once again many thanks to all of you who have supported me.

Hannah Gill.

Where do children feel most lonely?

Children who grow up in the city are nearly four times more lonely than those who grow up in the countryside.

That is the finding of a recent official study into childhood loneliness. It found that 19.5 per cent of children in cities report 'often' feeling lonely, as opposed to just five per cent in towns or rural areas.

The Office for National Statistics also found that it could be linked to the fact that in the city, parents are more hesitant about letting children go out on their own.

As one doctor explained, "Despite easier access to people via social media, that doesn't seem to be helping in terms of loneliness. It emphasises the need for face to face contact and social support in a physical way."

MONNEWDEN NOTES

Church Rotas

Date	Flowers & Brasses	Cleaning
2nd August	BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION, 11AM, AT DAL-LINGHOO. FOLLOWED BY BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC LUNCH—EVERYONE WELCOME.	
9th HOLY COMMUNION		
23rd FAMILY SERVICE		
30th EVENING PRAYER		

RIP

Since the magazine last went to print we have lost two old friends. Percy Mapperly and Sheila Crompton have both died recently. They both lived in Charsfield but were regular worshippers in Monewden church, but they were very different characters. Percy would roll up to church on his bike wearing wellies and open neck shirt with no coat in the coldest weather, whereas Sheila arrived in her Mercedes, impeccably dressed as always. They could both be relied upon to help when needed in their different ways.

Percy was a very generous humble man who will be remembered for his infectious laugh and his singing, he would lead the hymn singing from the back of the church in his inimitable style.

Sheila served on Monewden PCC for many years and will be remembered particularly in church for her artistic talents, flower arranging and decorating the church for special services. Sheila and Bill were always happy to open their house and garden and barn for fund raising for the church and village

ALL THE BEST

Monewden PCC would like to thank Stephen for his ministry for the past thirteen years, wherever has all that time gone! When coming to Suffolk Stephen was not very familiar with rural ministry or rural life in general, but over the years he has adapted to our slower pace of life.

Those of us who attended Bible study in Monewden will miss Stephen's depth of knowledge which he tried to impart onto us, in what was always an enjoyable way. I know that our congregation always appreciated Stephen's sermons, which were always presented in an understandable way.

Trying to please everyone in what was a new eight church benefice must have been quite a challenge for Stephen when he arrived here, but over the years with a bit of give and take it has worked well, and I hope will continue to work during interregnum.

Finally may I wish Stephen and Liz a happy retirement and wish them all the best for their move into a new home .

CHURCH OPENING

Monewden church will be open on Wednesday and Sunday each week between 9am and 5pm for private prayer only.

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SERVICES FOR AUGUST 2020

Church	Aug 2nd Trin 8 Proper 13 <i>Green</i>	Aug 9th Trin 9 Proper 14 <i>Green</i>	Aug 16th Trin 10 Proper 15 <i>Green</i>	Aug 23rd Trin 11 Proper 16 <i>Green</i>	Aug 30th Trin 12 Proper 17 <i>Green</i>
Ashfield-cum-Thorpe	↓	6.30pm Evening Prayer	6.30pm Holy Communion		
Chars field w. Debach	↓		6.30pm Evening Prayer	10am Holy Communion	10am Morning Prayer
Cretingham	↓		10am Morning Prayer	10am Morning Prayer	10am Holy Communion
Dallinghoo	11 am Benefice Holy Communion		10am Family Service		10am Morning Prayer
Earl Soham	↑	10am Family Service	10am Holy Communion	10am Morning Prayer	
Hoo	↑	8.30am Holy Communion		Wed 26th 6.30pm Evening Prayer	
Monewden	↑	10am Holy Communion		10 am Family Service	6.30pm Evening Prayer
Letheringham	↑				

READINGS FOR AUGUST 2020



	Holy Communion	MP & EP	Psalm
August 2nd	Romans Ch 9 vs 1-5 Matt Ch 14 vs 13-21		
August 9th	Romans Ch 10 vs 5-15 Matt Ch 14 vs 22-33	1 Kings Ch 19 vs 9-18 Matt Ch 14 vs 22-33	Psalm 85 vs 8-13
August 16th	Romans Ch 11 vs 1-2a, 29-32 Matt Ch 15 vs 10-28	Isaiah Ch 56 vs 1, 6-8 Matt Ch 15 vs 10-28	Psalm 67
August 23rd	Romans Ch 12 vs 1-8 Matt Ch 16 vs 13-20	Isaiah Ch 51 vs 1-6 Matt Ch 16 vs 13-20	Psalm 138
August 30th	Romans Ch 12 vs 9-end Matt Ch 16 vs 21-end	Jeremiah Ch 15 vs 15-21 Matt Ch 16 vs 21-end	Psalm 26 vs 1-8
September 6th	Romans Ch 13 vs 8-end Matt Ch 18 vs 15-20		

The Benefice Holy Communion Service

On 6th September

10am

Will be held at

St Mary's, Monewden

All Welcome

CRETINGHAM NOTES

Flower and Cleaning Rota

	Altar Flowers	Cleaning
August	Mrs Sedgwick	Churchwardens
September	Miss Whiting	Churchwardens

Services for August in St. Peters are –

16th August 10 am Morning Prayer.
 23rd August 10 am Morning Prayer.
 30th August 10 am Holy Communion.

I am conscious that, writing this piece on the 12th of July, the situation with Covid-19 might have changed but.....

St Peter's has been open for some weeks now for Private Prayer on Sundays from 10.45am to 3.00pm and on Wednesdays from 3.00pm to 8.00pm. These times are deliberately chosen to satisfy the Covid-Secure regulation of a 72-hour quarantine between opening sessions. Whatever the current social distancing rules are - they must be followed and hand-sanitiser must be used on entering and leaving the church. To meet NHS Track and Trace guidelines we also ask that visitors sign-in with their contact details. These will be retained for 21 days only.

Sunday services have also restarted - please see the schedule elsewhere in this magazine.

We are grateful for the patience of everyone who asked about the church being re-opened - we needed to wait for clear guidance from the Government and then match what we could do given the age-profile of our congregation and volunteers. Please speak to Heather or myself if you have any questions.

LEATHERINGHAM NOTES

There are no services being held in Letheringham church in August but all parishioners are welcome to attend other services in the benefice—full list of services in the middle pages. The Benefice Holy Communion service will be held at Dallinhoo on Sunday 2nd August, 11am. This will be followed by a bring your own picnic lunch, everyone would be very welcome.



Unfortunately, the vicar's idea to save on the cost of incense by allowing vaping in church proved to be impractical

ASHFIELD NOTES

TONY ELLIOTT RIP.

It is with sadness that we record the death of another until recently long term Ashfield resident. Tony died after a short illness following a fall. It was good that the funeral cortege passed through Ashfield en route to the crematorium and I know several of you stood at the roadside to witness this and share your respects with the family. An obituary for Tony is being put together and should appear in the September magazine. In the meantime our deepest sympathies go out to Elaine, Christopher and Tony's large family.
RG.

ASHFIELD CHURCH.

At the time of writing this the church building remains closed because of the Covid19 situation. It is hoped that we can resume our normal pattern of services in August although there will be no hymn singing for the being. Please check the church noticeboard for updates.

RG.

"The members of the Rotary Club of High Suffolk have taken the difficult decision that the club be dissolved with effect from 30th June 2020. This decision was not taken lightly, but has been made necessary due to declining membership and advancing years. Residual funds have been distributed to charities previously supported by the Club, and physical assets have been given to other Clubs in the district. The Club extends its grateful thanks to all 'Friends of Rotary' for support over the years and for the good times we have shared whilst fundraising and socialising. John Cooper, President, 2019-2020.

RIP GEORGE RUSHMORE 1929-2020

George was born in Ontario, Canada where his parents had gone to seek work in the depression. He was the youngest of four children and the family moved back to Ilford in Essex when he was still very young, but old enough to have picked up an accent and pronunciations which got him in trouble at school.

Like many people, his education was disrupted by the war, but he pursued a correspondence course to qualify as an accountant. He met Shirley when they were both working for the same firm in London and they married in Ilford in 1956.

He fathered a son in 1961 and a daughter followed a few years later while he was working for Hunts Agricultural Engineers in Earls Colne, Essex.

George progressed to become Company Secretary and a member of the board, but boardroom battles led him to leave once both children were safely off to university. George and Shirley sold up and took on Campsea Ashe Post Office Stores in Suffolk. Here they put into practice the policies he had been arguing for with the board. The Stores thrived, while Hunts went out of business.

Having built up and sold the business they then spent a very happy 10 years running a Bed & Breakfast business on the Isle of Skye. Each was able to play to their strengths, Shirley as the perfect hostess, George as witty raconteur and wind-up merchant.

The couple moved back to England in 1995, settling in Ashfield in 1996 where they remained until George's death in March 2020, the first Rushmore ever to reach the age of 90. Shirley still lives in the village today.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions there was no opportunity for a full funeral service, but Shirley and the family hope to be able to invite you all to a proper celebration of George's life once the ongoing relaxation of restrictions allows.

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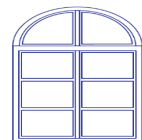
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USEFUL CONTACTS

Clerks to Parish Councils

Ashfield	Mrs Sarah Clare E-mail: actpc.clerk@gmail.com Tel: 01449 781671
Charsfield	Pamela Hembra E-mail: charsfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com Tel: 01473 737655
Cretingham	Acting Clerk : Caroline Saxby E-mail: cmhparishcouncil@gmail.com Tel:
Dallinghoo	Chris Ling E-mail: Dallinghoo.parish@outlook.com Tel: 07963305205
Earl Soham	Guy Harvey E-mail: gutharvey1@btinternet.com Tel: 01728 685729
Hoo	Jane Page (see Cretingham above)
Letheringham	David Allan E-mail: letheringham@btinternet.com 07411 277784
Monewden	Caroline Saxby (see Cretingham above)
Village Hall/Community Centre Booking Secretaries:	
Ashfield	Geoff Henney Tel: 07507 040041 Email: sueandgeoffhenney@hotmail.co.uk
Charsfield	Website: www.charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk Email: enquiries@charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk Or Tel: 07935 445193
Dallinghoo	Mr Chris Pennington Tel: 01473 737 836
Earl Soham	Lorna Perkins Tel: 01728 684827 Email: esvhbookings@gmail.com
Monewden	Sian Kingston Tel: 07887606717 Email: sian@rskingston.com

Village Organisations			
ASHFIELD	Community Council	Ms Sam Thomas	07985 807683
"	Ladies Group	Mrs Susan Hansen	01728 685 738
CHARSFIELD	CEVC Primary School	Dr Paul Parslow-Williams	01473 737 347
"	WI Secretary	Mrs Rosalin Baley	01473 737171
"	Rec. Ground Com	Mrs Jan Pedgrift	01473 737 701
"	Tennis Club	Mrs Pauline Llewellyn	01473 737 517
"	Flower Show Secretary	Mrs Pip Smith	01473 277166
"	Village Hall	Pam Hembra committee@charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk	
CRETINGHAM	100 Club	Mr. Alister Gourlay	01728 685 335
DALLINGHOO	Rec. Ground Com.	Mr. Derek Spall	01473 737 565
"	Carpet Bowls Club	Mr. Cliff Green	01473 737 421
"	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.	Lorna McCurrach	01394 388807
"	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

Young Readers Page

