



## MID LOES BENEFICE

Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Charsfield with Debach  
Crettingham, Dallinghoo, Earl Soham,  
Hoo, Letheringham and Monewden  
December 2020/January 2021

### Note From Your Curate

This year the time of Advent is filled with questions and very few answers. We find ourselves in lockdown again at least until the beginning of December and we are asking ourselves: when will lockdown end? When can we open the churches again? Can we have a family party if we are seven? Can we travel to see family? How can we get presents for the children? When can we cuddle our grandchildren again? How big will the turkey need to be? How many mince pies do we need? And not least, when do we get the vaccine so that we can return to some sort of normality? And the bigger questions, Will I have a job at the end of all this and how will it all be paid for?

The one certainty amongst all this uncertainty is that we can still celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. Not perhaps with all the glitz and trimmings of previous years, but remember Jesus was born into the humble surroundings of a stable. Jesus loves us and was born to save us.

Our churches are busy getting together to find ways to celebrate Christmas in church this year in different ways. With no singing in church we are all trying to find ways to reinvent the Carol Service with readings, poems and music and other imaginative ideas. These will still be services to remember in years to come. Please refer to this magazine for dates and times of the services in your church

May I take this opportunity to wish you all Christmas blessings and a happy and healthy New Year

Love and prayers, Kathleen

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN THE MID LOES BENEFICE

Ashfield	20th December: 4pm Carol Service Christmas Day: 9.30am Holy Comm.
Charsfield	20th December: Carols at the Chapel Christmas Eve: 9pm Communion
Crettingham	20th December: 4pm Carol Service Christmas Day: 10.30am Family Service and Holy Communion 31st December: 11:45pm Compline
Dallinghoo	20th December: 3:30pm Christmas Celeb. Christmas Day: 9.30am Communion
Earl Soham	20th December: 6:30pm Carol Service Christmas Eve: 6:30pm Crib Service; 11:30pm Holy Communion Christmas Day: 10am Family Service
Hoo	Christmas Eve: 3pm Carol Service
Letheringham	23rd December: 6.30pm Carol Service
Monewden	13th December: 10am Toy Service Fri 18th December: 7pm Carol Service Christmas Day: 10.15am Communion

## CHRISTMAS RECIPE FOR YOU...

### No-bake millionaire's chocolate cheesecake

Serves 10-12

75g butter, melted, plus extra for the tin

250g shortbread biscuits

250g mascarpone

300g full-fat soft cheese

50g icing sugar

40g cocoa powder

300ml double cream

Half x 397g can caramel or 200g dulce de leche

50g dark chocolate, chopped

Star-shaped sprinkles or chocolate stars, to decorate

1 Butter the base of a 20cm springform cake tin and line with baking parchment. Blitz the biscuits to fine crumbs, then add the butter and blitz again. Tip into the tin and press down firmly with the back of a spoon. Chill.

2 Combine the mascarpone, soft cheese, icing and cocoa until smooth. In a separate bowl, whip the cream until stiff, then fold into the mascarpone mix. Spoon over the biscuit base and level. Chill for 1 hour.

3 Warm the caramel in a pan until easily spreadable. Pour this over the cheesecake. , then spread out gently and chill until slightly set. Meanwhile, melt the chocolate in a heatproof bowl set over a pan of simmering water, or in the microwave. Drizzle the melted chocolate back and forth over the caramel, then decorate with a sprinkle of stars. Chill until ready to serve. Remove from the tin, take off the baking parchment and transfer to a serving plate.



## EARL SOHAM NOTES

Rota for the Altar and Roll of Honour Flowers and Brasses-St. Mary's

As we are still observing guidelines we are assessing the situation month by month, I will contact those concerned.

ALSO I am not printing the flower rota yet, thank you to all, I hope you all understand the situation at this very odd time.

Stay safe... Lyn—685278

### Earl Soham Christmas Crib Service

As I write this, we are currently planning to hold the Christmas Crib Service as usual outside St Mary's Church, Earl Soham on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm. However, this will be on a smaller scale than usual and with a limited number of children taking part. Due to the restrictions because of Covid 19, this will be organised as a **ticket only event for the audience** and there will be a limit on the numbers attending because of the space available. The families of children participating in the Crib will need to let me know how many audience tickets they will require as soon as possible, including siblings. Ticket holders will need to wear face coverings (unless exempt) and maintain appropriate social distancing from other households.

Tickets will be available from Jo Reed – ideally, by email [reedjo@hotmail.com](mailto:reedjo@hotmail.com) so that I may keep a register. Or phone me on 01728 685794.

We sincerely hope to maintain this wonderful village tradition, despite these current challenging times and look forward to bringing the Christmas message to our community.



**Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride**  
**Saturday 12 September 2020**  
**9.00am-5.00pm**



**A “somewhat different ride this year” we were told but despite all the event went ahead! Most churches were open but not manned so we were advised to complete our own sponsor forms! It was a somewhat quieter event this year. However, Earl Soham provided 3 keen cyclists, who between them raised over £230 for S.H.C.T. a brilliant effort. Thank you so much to them. For my part a huge thank you to the those who gave of their time to sit in the church and welcome the cyclists. I had great sponsors yet again, who willingly support the cause. Maybe next year things will be different. Who knows!**

**Mary Patterson**  
**Local Organiser S.H.C.T.**

**EARL SOHAM 100 CLUB**  
**Annual Draw 2020**

The 2020 Annual Draw of the 100 Club was held on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at the home of Chris and Anne Pratt due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The Draw was made by non-member, Mrs. L. Percival. Cheques of £317.50, including a donation each, were presented to the Village Hall and St Mary’s Church and £486 was distributed in prizes to 18 Members

the winning numbers were

£75 - 1 & 45

£50 - 34 & 72

£24 - 19, 11, 17, 6, 62 & 31

£12 - 23, 22, 73, 16, 32, 43 & 38

£8 - 27

Richard Tinkler  
Chairman

**Earl Soham Village Hall - Update**

Firstly, I hope that you are well in these most unusual times. As you will appreciate, the AGM for Earl Soham Village Hall (the "Village Hall"), which would ordinarily be held in April, has had to be postponed. We will look to hold a replacement meeting as soon as practicable, even if this ends up having to be via telephone or video conference. However, in the meantime, this update is designed to provide you with details which would otherwise have been discussed since the last AGM. This extended period has been a busy one in the life of the Village Hall, both in terms of events and behind the scenes fundraising efforts, and more recently with a programme of long-awaited improvements. Many thanks to all of you who have attended events before the enforced closure due to the worldwide pandemic (especially to those who have played some part in organising these) as well as those who have contributed (financially or otherwise). The Village Hall continues to be a focal point in the village and helps to bring extra life and spirit to our community which I am sure many will appreciate. As you will no doubt be aware, the Village Hall is currently closed once again after a short few week of being re-opened and will continue to be so for the foreseeable future. It will re-open again as soon as considered appropriate (and taking account of government guidelines). However, even with the Village Hall closed, the spirit of the community was very much alive, and we are delighted that so many of you are keeping in contact (...from a distance) and trying to help each other/the wider community. Hopefully you will find this update useful and if you have any questions about this, or indeed in respect of the Village Hall more generally, please do speak to one of the committee members.

**Village Hall Committee:** As a reminder, the Village Hall Committee currently consists of: Paul Perkins (Chair), Neil Warden (Vice Chair), Vacant (Secretary), Colin Melhuish (Treasurer) Lorna Perkins (Bookings Secretary/Hall Manager), Chris Pratt, Mary Vellacott, Mary Patterson Peter Russell, Candida Cook, Mike Pleasants Lorna Perkins takes responsibility for day-to-day operations of the Village Hall and special thanks must go to her for ensuring the smooth operation of the Village Hall. As a Committee, we are also very grateful to the various other subcommittees/friends of the Village Hall who do so much in organising events and participating in these.

Sadly, Neil and Colin have indicated that they wish to step down from the committee after several years of stellar service and will do so once Village Hall life returns to normal and we can ensure a smooth handover. They will be greatly missed from the Committee. If anyone else would like to join the Committee (or recommend a friend...) please do let us know. We are looking to fill the positions of treasurer, secretary, and vice chair at or the next AGM.

**Update:** This extended period has focussed largely on three areas: (1) community events; (2) fundraising efforts, and (3) a programme of improvements.

There have been so many wonderful events in the Village Hall including: ▪Dance Club ▪Film Club ▪ Christmas coffee morning ▪ Burns supper ▪ Live band nights ▪ Carpet Bowls,



Art Club, Women's Institute, Cubs and Scouts. I know many of you have attended several of the events in the Village Hall and these continue to be well received and enjoyed by many in the village. As well as helping raise funds they have helped bring many people together (both in terms of organising and participating) and thanks must go to all involved. The addition of the Christmas coffee morning proved successful and was a welcome addition to the events calendar. The key aim/purpose of the Village Hall (as a charity, and so our responsibility as trustees) is to foster community spirit and interaction, and I hope that we are achieving this through hosting such events.

COVID-19 forced us to close the doors in March, but we supported the community by using the village hall as a food bank collection point, again an example of how the people of Earl Soham came together to support each other. It also provided an opportunity to progress plans to upgrade the facilities in the Village Hall (and so encourage/facilitate wider use by the community. For those who have been up to the Village Hall recently, you will have noticed changes in the grounds as well as redecorating under way both inside and outside. However, these 'cosmetic improvements' do not reflect the level of work that has been going on behind the scenes with important structural issues also being made good. A special mention must be given to Colin Melhuish who has worked tirelessly on this project (including the need to oversee the Government Guidelines for Covid-19 in the absence of a Secretary).

The intention was for work on the hall to be completed in time for re-opening on a full-time basis at the end of the first Lockdown. Sadly, unexpected problems resulted in delays and rising costs has meant that remaining work is being completed by a small 'working party'.

One positive, but 'hidden', development of note is that a new boiler was installed in 2019 and is already serving to reduce heat loss (and so heating costs).

Fundraising, as was apparent at the AGM last year, was proving increasingly difficult even before the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, with factors such as Brexit and general economic concerns reducing the number of funding options available to us. However, we have been grateful to the Parish Council for their annual contributions and for an unexpected ('no strings attached') Grant of £10,000 from a COVID-19 support fund. I would also like to mention the valuable contribution of over £300 each year from the '100 Club'.

**Finances:** The Treasurer will shortly be preparing a report to follow this update and to include both the financial year to 31st January 2020 and the income and expenditure for the period to 30 November encompassing the improvements to the Village Hall so far.

Going forward we hope to be upgrading the lighting and (subject to fundraising and grants) to build a new combined kitchen and toilet block to the rear of the hall, which, with the installation of a full internet connection with WIFI would bring the hall into the 21st century! However, a word of caution is required at this stage as a survey just carried out has indicated the need for the asbestos roof to be replaced within the 'foreseeable future', albeit this again should be good grounds for a successful grant application for the upgrade of a 1930's building in the heart of the village.

**Conclusion:** I hope that you find the above update useful. Formal matters ordinarily covered at the AGM such as election of the Committee and approval of 2019 AGM minutes will be completed at the 2020 AGM once a suitable date is selected. If you have any questions/comments in the meantime, please do let any of the Committee know. Thank you to everyone who supports the Village Hall in whatever form. Hopefully it will not be too long until we see the doors of the Village Hall open to everyone once again and village life return to normal. Thank you again for your continued support.

Paul Perkins Chair, Earl Soham Village Hall 06 November 2020

## Earl Soham Community Primary School

### New admissions for September 2021

During this term at Earl Soham Primary School we welcome visits from parents of pupils who are starting school next September. We like to say that every day is Open Day and it is a joy to see new youngsters spending a little time in school whilst their parents look round. Seeing our school 'in action' is a really good way to get to know us. This year, however, is different as the coronavirus restrictions have limited the opportunity to visit us during the day. We have had many enquiries this term and I have invited parents to join me after school wearing masks and socially distanced. These have taken place before the school is cleaned. The current lockdown restrictions mean that sadly even this is not possible until they are lifted on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you are looking for a school place for your child please contact us for a chat and to see if we can arrange a visit once the restrictions are relaxed. Please remember that the closing date for primary school applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Finally I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and let's hope for a normal New Year.

Peter Lambillion-Jameson  
Headteacher





DR DAN POULTER MP

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

As I sit to write this article, the Prime Minister has once more addressed the nation and we find ourselves in a second period of national lockdown.

As I write, infection rates in Suffolk remain relatively low, but the rest of the country is seeing a large growth both in terms of numbers of people infected and hospital admissions; even low incidence areas like Suffolk will face challenges with capacity in our NHS. It is a very difficult balancing act for the Government between protecting life and protecting the economy and on balance, I agree that, even here in Suffolk, a temporary nationwide lockdown makes sense.

It is vital that throughout lockdown, we protect jobs and our local economy, and a strong support package has been put in place by the Government for businesses and individuals. Locally, the **Suffolk Support and Advice Line** has been set up to help with financial and employment advice - **0800 068 3131**. In addition, the **Home But Not Alone** free phonenumber has also been reactivated, supporting the most vulnerable in our communities and support is available via **0800 876 6926**. Both lines are staffed from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

This will undoubtedly be a very different Christmas for all of us and this year, more than ever, we must remember those in our NHS and emergency services who work around the clock to keep people safe and cared for and to ensure help is at hand when needed. I will certainly be spending some of my Christmas break working as a doctor in the NHS, looking after those who are vulnerable.

But of course it's not just those working in hospitals who work on Christmas Day, the list is endless, with so many working 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. And 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, so 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 loved ones are waiting at home to enjoy Christmas with them after a lengthy shift.

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

In closing, may I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very peaceful Christmas.

## HOO NOTES

### DECEMBER BENEFICE SERVICE

Forward planning is very uncertain this month, but Hoo Church hopes to be able to host the next Benefice Service on December 6<sup>th</sup>.



### CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION

December 24<sup>th</sup> at 3.00 p.m. is the date of our Christmas Eve celebration this year. As we are unable to sing together we look forward to a different programme of readings, anecdotes & musical accompaniment playing the much loved carols.

Due to “social distancing” rules we would be grateful to hear from people in advance of the day so that we can plan seating arrangements & details of name, telephone & number of expected visitors would help us greatly.

### FIND

For several years now Hoo Church has donated the collection of offerings at Harvest Festival & Christmas Eve Carol Service to the charity, Families In Need (FIND). However, this year we are organising hampers of non-perishable foodstuffs & necessities to go to help needy people in the New Year of 2021. Two hampers will be on display at the foot of the font & we would welcome any gifts of goods or money to add to this donation.

### RIDE & STRIDE

Suffolk Churches Bike Ride update.....The Clive Arbon Team, who visited 40 churches & cycled 47 miles, have now raised sponsorship of £225 & half this sum is to support Hoo Church. Many thanks from us all to Clive, Paul & Nigel.

Gay Lister

### PERCY MAPPERLY

Trudy, Cynthia & Eddie would like to say a very big thank you to all of the people who helped Percy and Phyllis during their latter days. It was very much appreciated indeed.

We will have a memorial service to celebrate Percy's life when we can. Wishing you all a safe and happy Christmas.

Also our thoughts and prayers go to David, Margaret Doe and family. God Bless You All.

Cynthia Howlett

## LEATHERINGHAM NOTES

The APCM was for the first time in many years held in St Mary's Church Letheringham.

The PCC was unable to fill the vacancy left by Chris Gage our Church Warden, however, Polly Ffitch has offered to field all related enquiries pro temp.

We welcomed Janet Ross as a new member of our PCC. The PCC agreed to survey Letheringham residents to establish whether there is a preference to distribute the benefice magazine via email rather than a physical copy, to potentially save on environmental waste and costs. The resident survey will take place in December.

Our thanks to all those from the benefice that, despite Covid, attended the benefice service on the 1st November. With the 2nd lockdown now in force, we have regrettably had to lock the doors of St Mary's until the end of November.

### Sir John Margetson born October 9 1927, died on 17 October 2020

We were saddened to hear of the death of Sir John Margetson after his long struggle with illness. We offer our thoughts and condolence's to his wife Miranda and his two children Andrew and Clare.

As a young Soldier and subsequently as a distinguished Diplomat, Sir John served his country for 40 years in many of the turbulent parts of the world ranging from Palestine, at the end of the British Mandate, through to Saigon at the height of the Vietnam War. He served as the British Ambassador in Hanoi and then as Ambassador to the Netherlands in The Hague.

Sir John settled briefly in Easton (The Agents House) before moving to Letheringham in 1980 (The Old Rectory). He was for many years an active member of Letheringham PCC and our Synod representative. As an accomplished musician many will fondly remember Sir John as our organist for over twenty years. As a former St John's College, Cambridge choral scholar, we are not altogether sure what he made of the often off-key notes sung in St Mary's... he never did say, however, it was a great relief to him when the old harmonium was replaced by the electric organ – “so much easier on the legs!”

Whilst we all knew that Sir John was an accomplished musician, and diplomat, we knew very little of his life in both the F&CO and MI6 (SIS),

He was awarded a number of honours in recognition of his service to the Country: appointed CMG in 1979, KCMG in 1986, and from 1992 to 2002 served as Gentleman Usher of the Blue Rod. A more detailed obituary can be found at

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/obituaries/2020/10/20/sir-john-margetson-diplomat-ambassador-hanoi-speechwriter-george/>

## DALLINGHOO NOTES

### Church Rotas

Date	Service/Readers	Sides people
5th Dec 10am	<b>BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION, 10AM AT HOO. ALL WELCOME.</b>	
13th 6.30pm	<b>EVENING PRAYER</b>	
20th 3pm	<b>CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION</b>	
25th 9.30am	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY HOLY COMMUNION</b>	
10th Jan 6.30pm	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>	
17th 10am	<b>FAMILY SERVICE</b>	
31st 10am	<b>MORNING PRAYER</b>	

Peter and Di Turner having sold their house at East View, Dallinghoo have begun a new chapter in their lives, moving to a bungalow in Halesworth.

We thank them for all their support and work for the village, Village Hall and the Church over many, many years despite not always being in the best of health.

We shall miss them, but we are assured that they will be back to 'lend a hand' and visit as and when they can.

Peter Taylor

We were all very sad to hear that Peter had passed away in October, and send our love and sympathy to his family. He will be greatly missed and was a most loyal and supportive member of Dallinhoo Church where he served on the PCC. Peter liked to read the first lesson in church, preferably from the Old Testament, and a chapter with several verses, because as he said, "Otherwise it is hardly worth moving from my pew to the lectern!" He created beautiful wood carvings, the font cover in St. Mary's is an exquisite example of his work. He was also an excellent cake maker, and definitely a man of many talents who will be affectionately remembered.

*SKW*

### **St Mary's, Dallinhoo – Maintenance & Repairs - Progress Report**

Following our maintenance plan, on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October, a working party got busy. Much good work was done, particularly clearing a number of the downpipes that were completely blocked. We have also identified a number of further maintenance actions that will need to be taken over the coming weeks.

The scaffolding is now due to go up in the week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> November and the job completed by the end of March.

Thank you Mark Barry: visitors to his usual celebration of All Hallows Eve kindly gave us £50 towards expenses.



### **PETER HOLDEN TAYLOR (1926– 2020)**

Peter Taylor spent his early years in Bredfield before winning a scholarship to study at Leiston High School. During the Second World War his school was evacuated to Sudbury and during the week Peter stayed in lodgings whilst at Leiston and Sudbury.

After leaving school Peter returned to Bredfield to work on the family farm with his father.

When Peter settled down with his wife Vera they lived in Dallinhoo at East View whilst later moving to Home Farm and then Merton Farm. Whilst living at Dallinhoo Peter and Vera had three children, Grahame, Alison and Jane. Sadly Alison died in infancy.

After taking over the running of the farm Peter gradually increased the size of the holding and adopted new techniques to increase productivity.

During the 1980's one of his special projects was the extension and total refurbishment of Dallinhoo Jubilee Hall which Peter and Douglas Holland undertook. Peter had always been instrumental in building a new village hall in Bredfield.

When he retired from farming Peter devoted much time to woodturning and following a suggestion by Vera he set out to raise funds for St. Elizabeth's Hospice in Ipswich. Over the next 30 years he turned thousands of items which he sold at woodturning shows and craft fairs eventually raising #100000 for St Elizabeth's Hospice. At other times the proceeds from his woodturning stall went to the East Anglian Children's Hospice, Dallinhoo Church or various other Suffolk churches which he supported. In recognition of his charitable work Peter was awarded the British Empire Medal.

Peter liked making wooden items for local churches including the altar for the chapel at St. Elizabeth's Hospice and the font covers for Dallinhoo, Hoo and Brundish churches.

Peter had an enquiring mind and made many innovations to his woodturning lathe and equipment which were featured in craft magazines such as the Woodturner. He was active in woodturning circles and widely known and respected for his work by national and international craftsmen. Peter served on the committee of the Suffolk Mid-Coastal Woodturners for over 25 years and was asked to become the club's first president—a position which he held for the rest of his life.

Peter sadly passed away at Grove Court Care Home in Woodbridge on 5 October 2020.



## **ASHFIELD NOTES**

### **CHRISTMAS 2020 AT ST MARY'S.**

At the time of writing this we are midway through Lockdown2 and it is by no means certain when we will be out of it although hopefully from 2nd December. Our planned services will be shown in the centre of this magazine although please be aware that things may well change! Nearer to Christmas posters will be displayed and information sent out via the Village Email.

In the meantime I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas in whatever form that may take and let's all pray for a better 2021.

### **QUINQUENNIAL INSPECTION.**

During December St Mary's will be given its quinquennial [5 yearly] inspection by our architect. Whilst we always hope that this will not uncover anything major or untoward we have to wait and see. I am quietly confident that after significant expenditure earlier in the decade we will not be faced with anything horrific.

### **CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE.**

As some of you will be aware I have with the help of one of my staff done quite a bit of tidying in the churchyard recently. Two of the large heaps of rubbish have now been burned up and other than about half of the rear ditch all the trimming has been completed. If we have a dry spell I may try and run a mower over the peripheral areas to check the growth of the Alexander's weed which given a chance would take over! After leaf fall an independent arboricultural inspection of all the trees will be carried out.

R G.

### **FOOTPATHS.**

With a second lockdown in place I am very conscious that many of you will be going out for walks when the weather permits. Mindful of this I have walked the whole Ashfield footpath network in the last few days. All the paths are in a usable condition although freshly cultivated cross-field paths are VERY heavy going at present. Ashfield has long been regarded by Suffolk County Council as having a good network of paths which we try to keep in good order. My recent excursions only came across one sleeper on a bridge requiring replacement and a limited number of waymark posts that either need renewing or quite often just to be reinstated. Roadside 'footpath' signs are the responsibility of SCC! I hope that you are despite the grotty weather able to enjoy a walk now and again. Should you encounter anything untoward please let Malcolm Pease or myself know so that restorative action can be taken promptly as required.

## **READINGS FOR DECEMBER 2020**

	Holy Communion	EP and MP	Psalms
Dec 6th	2 Peter Ch 3: 8-15a Mark Ch 1: 1-8		
Dec 13th	1 Thessalonians Ch 5: 16-24 John Ch 1: 6-8 and 19-28	Isiah Ch 61: 1-4 and 8-end John Ch 1: 6-8 and 19-28	Psalm 126
Dec 20th	Romans Ch 16: 25-end Luke Ch 1: 26-38	2 Samuel Ch 7: 1-11 and 16 Luke Ch 1: 26-38	Psalm 89 vs 1-8
Christ. Eve Christmas Day	Titus Ch 2: 11-14 Titus Ch 3: 4-7 Hebrews Ch 1: 1-12 Luke Ch 2: 1-20 OR John Ch 1: 1-14		
Dec 27th	1 John Ch 1: John Ch 21: 19b-end	Exodus Ch 33: 7-11a John Ch 21: 19b-end	Psalm 117





## READINGS FOR JANUARY 2021



	Holy Communion	EP and MP	Psalms
Jan 3rd	Ephesians Ch 3: 1-12 Matthew Ch 2:1-12		
Jan 10th	Acts Ch 19: 1-7 Mark Ch 1: 4-11	Genesis Ch 1: 1-5 Mark Ch 1: 4-11	Psalm 29
Jan 17th	Revelations Ch 5: 1-10 John Ch 1: 43-end	1 Samuel Ch 3: 1-1 -20 h 3: 1-20 John Ch 1: 43-end	Psalm 139 vs 1-9
Jan 24th	Revelations Ch 19: 6-10 John Ch 2: 1-11	Genesis Ch 14: 17-20 John Ch 2: 1-11	Psalm 128
Jan 31st	Hebrews Ch 2: 14-end Luke Ch 2: 22-40	Malachi Ch 3: 1-5 Luke Ch 2: 22-40	Psalm 24 vs 1-6
Feb 7th	Colossians Ch 1: 15-20		

**The Benefice Holy Communion Service**  
**On Sunday 7th February 10am**  
**Will be held at St Peters, Charsfield**  
**All Welcome**

## SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2020

Church	Dec 6th Advent 2 <i>Purple</i>	Dec 13th Advent 3 <i>Purple</i>	Dec 20th Advent 4 <i>Purple</i>	Dec 24th/25th <i>White</i>	Dec 27th Christmas 1 <i>White</i>
Ashfield- cum- Thorpe	↓	6.30pm Holy Communion	4pm Carols	<b>SEE PAGE 3</b>	
Chars field w. Debach	↓		10am Holly Communion Carols At the Chapel		10am Holy Communion
Cretingham	↓		4pm Carols		
Dallinghoo	↓	To Monewden	3.30pm Carols		
Earl Soham	↓	10.00am Holy Communion	6.30pm Carols		10am Morning Prayer
Hoo	<b>10 am Benefice Holy Communion</b>				<i>8.30am Morning Prayer</i>
Monewden	↑	10.00am Family Toy Service	Fri 18th 7pm Carols		
Lethering- ham	↑		<i>Wed 23rd</i> <b>↑6.30pm Carols</b>		

### SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2021

Church	Jan 3rd Epiphany	Jan 10th Baptism of Christ	Jan 17th Epiphany 2	Jan 24th Epiphany 3	Jan 31st Presentation Of Christ
	<i>White</i>	<i>White</i>	<i>White</i>	<i>White</i>	<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	10am Morning Prayer
Cretingham	10 am Benefice Holy Communion		10am Morning Prayer	10am Morning Prayer	10am Holy Communion
Dallinghoo	↑	6.30pm Holy Communion	10am Family Service		10am Morning Prayer
Earl Soham	↑	10am Family Service	10am Holy Communion	10am Morning Prayer	
Hoo	↑	8.30am Holy Communion		8.30am Morning Prayer	
Monewden	↑	10am Holy Communion		10 am Family Service	6.30pm Evening Prayer
Lethering- ham	↑				

### MONNEWDEN NOTES

#### Church Rota's

Date	Flowers & Brasses	Cleaning
6th Dec	<b>BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION, HOO, 10AM, EVERYONE WELCOME.</b>	
13th TOY SERVICE 10am		
19th CAROL SERVICE 7pm		
25th HOLY COMM. 10.15am		
3rd Jan	<b>BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION, CRETINGHAM, 10AM, EVERYONE WELCOME.</b>	
10th HOLY COMM. 10am		
24th FAMILY SERVICE 10am		
31st EVENING PRAYER 6.30pm		

**READERS** - December to be decided. Christmas Day - Peter, David  
January Readers—TBC

**REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE.** Our service this year, held outside and socially distanced of course, was conducted by Rev. Wendy Gourlay. There was a very good attendance and once again the Last Post was excellently played by Henry Dinwiddy. The collection, which will be augmented by a donation from the PCC, will be donated to the RBL.

### **Toy Service**

It's that time of year again when we all start thinking about Christmas. Like the rest of 2020 it will probably be a little different for all of us with lockdowns and limits on family gatherings. There are some women and children who dread this time of year. Women who live with an abusive partner and children who suffer abuse of some kind from the man in the home.

This year Lighthouse Women's Refuge has seen more families than ever seeking refuge and children who have been forced to stay at home when the schools were closed earlier in the pandemic, ultimately this has been a strain on their resources.

This year we are asking you to give a generous monetary gift, rather than a toy, to support the Women's Refuge Team who are working so hard to look after those families in need.

Margaret Skeet

Sadly the annual toy service in Monewden church cannot take place in its usual format, with tree decorating and putting presents under the tree. There would just be too much moving around to allow any level of social distancing, but there will still be a service on that day. As you know the presents kindly donated by the people of this village and Dallinghoo are given to the Lighthouse women's refuge. Lighthouse have requested that we DO NOT give presents this year because of the dangers of Covid 19 spread through the multiple handling of the presents, but have asked if we can donate money for their cause. If you are able to give a cash donation instead of presents it will be much appreciated, all donations and collection from the service will be given to the women's refuge. Please leave donations with churchwardens, David Grier or Brian Martin, or put them in the offertory box in the church (the church is open on Wednesdays and Sundays).

The Lighthouse women's refuge is a very worthwhile local charity, supporting women who have suffered abuse particularly during this difficult time

Brian Martin

### **SEASONAL CELEBRATION**

Please join us for a not so silent night, where we will be opening our ears and our hearts to listen to Carols and readings old and new. Friday 18th December 7pm.

**MONIEWDEN 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 this very difficult time..

**PCC MEETING:** There will be a PCC meeting on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 7.30 p.m., venue to be decided.

**CMS BOXES:** Will anybody who still has a Church Mission Society collecting box please return it to Margaret Skeet **as soon as possible**. Under the current circumstances - please leave in Margaret's Porch in a COVID friendly way, thank you..

#### **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:**

**Kathleen Martin - 01473 737 285**

**Pauline Cobley - 01473 737 317**

**Margaret Salter - 01473 737 182**

**Mary Vellacott - 01728 685423**

**Your call will be treated in the strictest confidence .**



**1<sup>st</sup> Deben Valley Scout Group**  
**The Return To Scouting 2021.**

**Dear Parents / Carers / Fellow Residents / New Recruits**

Did you know that Deben Valley Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are looking to return (if possible) in Spring 2021?

As we write we are in another lockdown and it is obviously not possible to meet. This does not stop us planning and thinking about our return for when the weather improves

and we can be outside more easily.

It has been a long time since our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have been able to meet and we have all missed the opportunities for fun and adventure. Some would say skills have been lost - it is because of this we are keen to re launch as soon as we can in the spring.

**We are looking for new leaders to join us and continue the Scouting movement in our area.**

Would you be interested in becoming a Beaver, Cub or Scout Leader?  
 Are you keen to support the Scouting movement for our villages and allow our children to receive this great opportunity?

Are you able to volunteer for a new role, supporting the youngsters in the community?

For our Scout Group it has not been an easy few months with cancelled camps, activities and generally less Scouting fun. It is our intention to return in the Spring of 2021 with new groups and leaders and provide the local children with the experiences they have missed as well as allow them to continue to learn, enjoy and have fun as either a Beaver, Cub or Scout.

Depending on our numbers we may merge some groups and sessions. Currently we are drafting our groups and meeting locations and would be keen to hear from any new leaders / helpers or even new members. To register your interest in joining your child / children and to find out more about the leader roles please contact Clare Catton via email [clarecatton7@gmail.com](mailto:clarecatton7@gmail.com)

Perhaps 'lockdown' has made you reflect and seek the outdoor/ adventurous lifestyle, did you gain an enjoyment of camping during your summer staycation? Have you a new routine and more time on your hands without the commute?

Why not come along and share the fun within our organisation?

Please spread the word to other local friends and families that we are recruiting and are all looking forward to seeing everyone again soon.

**With best wishes 1<sup>st</sup> Deben Valley Scout Group Exec Committee.**

**CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES**

**Church Rotas**

Date	Readers	Sides person
Dec 6 <sup>th</sup> 10am Benefice Holy Communion Hoo	10am Benefice Holy Communion Hoo All Welcome	
Dec 20 <sup>th</sup> 10 am Holy Communion Time tbc Joint Carol Service at the Chapel All welcome	Christmas Carols at the Chapel	
Dec 24/25 <sup>th</sup> Time tbc Holy Communion	To be agreed	To be agreed
Dec 27 <sup>th</sup> 10am Holy Communion	Margaret Jill	Mike

**Please note that the Services are subject to Covid restrictions and may change at short notice.**

**Dates of January services are to be confirmed.**

**Commemorations with a difference at Charsfield Primary School**

To mark this year's Armistice Day, pupils at Charsfield C of E Primary School have been learning about the different Poppy Appeals, what the colours mean and the different charities they represent.

As part of the school's Remembrance commemorations, staff and pupils were delighted to have Suffolk Soprano and Purple Poppy Ambassador for the War Horse Memorial, Christina Johnston, join them virtually for their Remembrance Assembly on 11<sup>th</sup> November. The children were able to ask Christina about her work as an ambassador for the Purple Poppy Appeal as well as finding out more about her life as a professional singer, including whether she likes fish and chips or not! To finish the assembly pupils were then treated to two of Christina's songs: Fallen Soldier by Frederick Forsyth and Gareth Williams, and the official song for the Purple Poppy Appeal; A Million Tears by Warwick, Young and Maclean.



At 11am staff and pupils, held a two minute silence outside the front of the school by the beautiful Red and Purple Poppy wreath and the crosses that the children had made. To finish, the pupils sang "Remember" to members of the public who had stopped outside the school (which is opposite the church) to mark the two minute silence.

We have lots of fun things planned for our 2 bubbles of pupils in the lead up to Christmas, including a Reverse Advent Calendar; our yearly collection of items for those less fortunate than ourselves at The Lighthouse Refuge; finding out about and making Christingles, and a viewing of the pantomime Cinderella, virtually of course! "Oh no it isn't!" – "Oh yes it is!"

Should you be looking for schooling in the area, please phone the school office on 01473 737347 for current visiting arrangements or see our website for more information [www.charsfieldprimaryschool.org.uk](http://www.charsfieldprimaryschool.org.uk)

Christina's weekly online concerts can be watched on her YouTube Channel: The Christina Johnston. **Commemorations with a difference at Charsfield Primary School**

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## CRETINGHAM NOTES

### Flower and Cleaning Rota

	Altar Flowers	Cleaning
December	Mrs McBride	Churchwardens Covid 19
January 21	As per rota	Churchwardens Covid 19

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Our wonderful flower arrangers will have been into Church on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> to decorate for Christmas. Do please come and see them on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> and how they will lift our celebrations for the season of Christmas when the light of Jesus' birth will shine for each and every one of us.



Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December:  
**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION SERVICE**  
 in Church at 4 pm.

Do please join us for Christmas readings and music.

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

(Family Service followed by shortened Holy Communion).



New Years Eve -31<sup>st</sup> December: A service of COMPLINE.

A time for contemplation and see in 2021. 11.45 pm start in St. Peters Church.

Please see middle sheet of magazine for January services.

-----ooo0ooo-----

Huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who has helped out during this strange year of 2020 - in particular the care we have seen for each other and the help and kindness that has vibrated throughout Cretingham. The light will shine again and we will be able to gather again in joyfulness. Take care,

*Heather & Alister*  
(Churchwardens)



Wishing everyone a Kind Christmas and hope you are able to spend time talking to distant relatives and can find some peace this festive season.

Hi Everyone

In case you are a bit bemused by this Hft, the Charity which supports my brother Robin at his home in Rowde Wiltshire announced without warning on October 13th that the residential care facility where he has lived for the last 27 years is to close. The process of assessing and finding alternative accommodation is under-way and the last person will have left by June 2021.

No consultation, no opportunity to consider alternatives to closure. All assessments meetings etc to be carried out by Wilts Council remotely!

This will have a devastating effect on Robin and the @30 other residents, all severely learning disabled adults, many with severe physical disability and underlying health problems.

We the parents, relatives and friends have mounted a campaign to stop the closure and ask that you sign and pass on the petition, please.

There are campaigns running on Twitter and Facebook and do get in touch with me if you would like more information.


Thank you so much

Antonia



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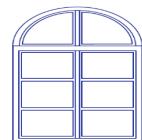
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"	WI Secretary	Mrs Daphne Dale	01728 621 292
"	Village Hall Com.	Lorna McCurrach	01394 388807
"	100 Club	Mr. R. Tinkler	01728 685 278
"	Tennis Club	Mrs Mary Patterson	01728 685 362
"	Bowls Club	Mrs Pam Sykes	01728 685 519
"	Scouts/Cubs/Beavers	Mrs 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
<b>MONEWDEN</b>	Local History Society	Mr. Peter Driver	01728 724 951

# Christmas Word Search

## Christmas Word Search

B	a	b	y	y	t	d	o	n	k	e	y
e	J	e	s	u	s	w	s	g	x	a	z
t	e	c	h	f	s	o	a	q	d	n	z
h	g	e	s	M	a	r	y	k	p	g	u
l	i	n	n	s	g	s	s	L	g	e	e
e	m	s	k	p	u	h	e	u	H	l	c
h	a	u	b	d	j	i	x	k	e	n	j
e	d	s	s	h	e	p	h	e	r	d	s
m	u	i	t	e	h	d	m	l	o	x	t
e	q	w	a	x	h	r	y	o	d	i	a
a	b	i	r	t	h	n	k	t	g	d	b
o	u	J	o	s	e	p	h	k	d	n	l
a	h	r	h	d	g	l	B	i	b	l	e
m	a	n	g	e	r	a	e	n	b	g	h
a	y	k	g	b	c	e	w	g	a	f	j



Baby	census	manger	donkey
king	Mary	Herod	angel
Bethlehem	inn	birth	shepherds
Joseph	stable	Luke	star
Jesus	worship	Bible	hay