

MID LOES BENEFICE

Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Charsfield with Debach
Cretingham, Dallingham, Earl Soham,
Hoo, Letheringham and Monewden

May 2021

Note From Your Curate

How wonderful it was to see our churches opened up for Easter, it was a pleasure and a joy to be leading worship again in church after three months of lockdown. The churches were all beautifully decorated with daffodils and other Spring flowers which all helped to lift the spirit of the people who came to worship. I was delighted to see so many in the congregations on Easter Sunday.

Going back a week from Easter Sunday to Palm Sunday, we had a Benefice Service at Ashfield. This was scheduled to be an outdoor service but the weather was not suitable, but we did have the opportunity to sing the first hymn "ride on, ride on in majesty" before moving inside. Having been told on Friday that we can sing outside.

We are looking forward to returning to a more normal pattern of services and seeing our old friends and new faces in church. The May Benefice Rogation Service will be at Monewden this year. This will be an outdoor service in the churchyard, so singing will be allowed. I know many people have missed the singing in church and this has made some reluctant to return.

With Covid restrictions slowly lifting I am looking forward to meeting up with you all both inside the churches and in other settings around the villages, as we all gradually gain the confidence to get out and about again

Peace and blessings, Kathleen

This month's Prayer

Lord Jesus, in the stillness
let us know that you love us
and help us to give our love to you.
As you love all of us
help us to love each other.
You have called us to be your friends,
send us out in joy to witness to you,
to your power and your glory.
Amen

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 Cobby - 01473 737 317

Margaret Salter - 01473 737 182

Mary Vellacott - 01728 685423

Your call will be treated in the strictest confidence .

Cretingham, Monewden and Hoo Parish Council

At our March meeting we discussed the installation of the Speed Indicator Device (SID) in Cretingham. This is due for delivery in late April and should be operational by the time you read this article. Quotes are being requested from SCC Highways for replacement finger posts where the existing ones are damaged, illegible or rusted beyond repair. Once we have this data we will consider how many of the 17 fingerposts around our three villages we can afford to replace. The money to pay for this work will come from the Community Infrastructure Levy budget we have been allocated as a result of new house-building in Cretingham - this is also funding the SID.

Your Councillors also agreed to work with our colleagues in Brandeston, Kettleburgh and Easton councils to extend the number of "Floral Highways" in the area. In order to preserve the wildflowers on road verges we have asked that the road-verges from Monewden to Brandeston (Friday Street) and from Cretingham to Brandeston (Brandeston Road) be left uncut until the flowers have set their seeds. Where a visibility or other road safety issue requires cutting this will, however, be carried out as usual. We will review this decision in a year's time.

We received verbal reports from our County Councillor, Cllr Gowrley, and our District Councillor, Cllr Cook, who both spoke of the support that their Councils have passed from central government to local businesses during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our next meeting is to be held by Zoom on Tuesday 11th May. Log-in details will be published on our website seven days prior to the meeting along with an agenda. <http://cretinghammonewdenhoo.onesuffolk.net>

Alister Gourlay
Chair CMH PC

EARL SOHAM NOTES

Rota for the Altar and Roll of Honour Flowers and Brasses-St. Mary's		
MAY	Mrs Cotton	Mrs Stoter
JUNE	Mrs Kerridge	Mrs Roberts
Any Problems Ring Lyn—685278 Thank you to all concerned for the Easter Displays.		

EARL SOHAM BOWLS CLUB

Established 1789



**We hope to start our 2021 season on
Saturday, 1st May at 2.30 p.m.**

Covid restrictions permitting, we plan to open the bowls green for play as above. Our match season is scheduled to start on Monday, 17th May. If you are interested in joining us, please get in touch – we would be pleased to hear from you.

More detailed information about the club is available from
Pam Sykes, Secretary,



Earl Soham WI



Have you thought about joining your local WI?

Despite having to meet online, we are still welcoming new members to our group. We are temporarily getting together via 'Zoom' and enjoying some great speakers, entertainment, and coffee mornings. We also keep in touch with a monthly newsletter which includes quizzes, fun and facts and all manner of contributions from our members.

The National Federation of Women's Institutes also provides educational opportunities, the chance to build new skills, take part in a wide variety of activities and campaign on issues that matter to them and their communities.

Our regular meetings are currently held online at 7.00pm on the fourth Thursday of the month. We can't wait to get back to meeting in person and we are keeping fingers crossed that will be in July at our 'Garden Meeting' and returning to Earl Soham Village Hall after that. Why not join in and make a lot of new friends?

Next Meeting

7.00pm Thursday 27th May 2021 (via zoom)

Sarah Kelly

Hear Sarah describe her adventures completing a 70km trek into the Arctic circle pulling all her own kit and camping in a tent. She completed her challenge and raised much needed funds for a cancer charity.

WI Secretary: Mrs Daphne Dale 01728 621292

CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES Church Rotas

Date	Readers	Sides person
May 16 th 6.30pm Evening Prayer	Roger Stephanie	Stephanie
May 23 rd 10.00am Holy Communion	Cherry Ros	Ros
May 30 th 10.00am Morning Prayer (This service is to be confirmed)	Mike Margaret	Margaret

Readers, please remember to bring your own Bible.

Cleaning Rota

MAY 8TH	MAY 22ND
Fran	Gill & Beverley





DR DAN POULTER MP
Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

I'm sure many of us have very much enjoyed being able to see family, friends and loved ones over the Easter weekend – in some cases, for the first time in many months, as some of the restrictions began to lift on 29th March. From 12th April non-essential retail can open, pubs and hospitality venues can serve food and drink outdoors, outdoor attractions will be open to visitors and overnight stays at self-catering accommodation can also resume.

We have come such a long way in the fight against coronavirus and there is now most definitely light at the end of the tunnel, but for now we must continue to follow the rules as we tentatively start to emerge from lockdown. It only takes three or four weeks, particularly with some of the more virulent strains that have emerged, for things to get out of hand.

Vaccinations are the only way out of this pandemic. Our vaccination effort here in Suffolk is outstanding, with the county consistently being rated top for its role in vaccinating Suffolk residents. However, some people remain hesitant to have their vaccine - if people are not vaccinated, a reservoir of Covid may remain in the wider population and this potentially increases the chances of the virus mutating. In this case, if the virus mutates, there is a chance that vaccines will become less effective. Getting vaccinated is everybody's business and responsibility and I would therefore urge everyone to get vaccinated as soon as is practicably possible.

At this stage, we don't yet know if people will require a booster vaccination every year, a little like the annual 'flu jab, but we do know that the very elderly and those with suppressed immune systems may need boosters in any case as the vaccines may be slightly less effective in this group. For anyone considering potentially not having the vaccine, please remember that we all have a responsibility to protect our friends, family and neighbours who may be more vulnerable than we are.

In encouraging people to have their vaccination, it is vitally Important to dispel some of the dangerous myths and falsehoods which are currently circulating around vaccine safety. All of the current evidence suggests that the Covid vaccines are safe. I understand that some of the information which is currently found on social media can be worrying, but I would advise everyone to check on the NHS website for the real facts, before perhaps inadvertently passing on or relying on information that might not be true. Vaccines are the best way to protect yourself and those around you from COVID-19. The vaccine can save lives.

With warmer weather ahead we know that transmission outdoors is reduced, and I remain cautiously optimistic that if we continue to stick with it and follow the guidance, we can all look forward to much happier times ahead.

MONNEWDEN NOTES

DATE	FLOWERS & BRASSES	CLEANING	SIDESPERSION	<i>COFFEE</i>
May 2nd	W Heath			
May 9th	S Kingston	M Skeet L Grier	L Grier	
May 16th	D Grier			
May 23rd	M Gibson	F Watts C Saxby	W Heath	
May 30th	M Skeet		P Keeble	

READERS: May 9th : Benefice Rogation ; 23rd Family Service

EASTER SERVICES: There were two Easter services at Monewden, and it was a joy to be back in the church, although with no singing, 2m distancing and face coverings, not back to normal yet, but a step in the right direction. Good Friday was a morning service of readings, prayer, and meditations and on Easter Day we had 10 a.m. Communion. which was well attended. Both services were conducted by the Rev. Kathleen Martin with readings on Sunday be Jean and Leslie.



Rogation Service

This year the Benefice Rogation Service will be held at Monewden on 9th May at 10am. This is planned to be an outdoor service (weather permitting) in the churchyard, therefore singing will be allowed. At this time of year the churchyard is covered with wild flowers and hopefully will look at its best. Please remember to wear stout shoes as the ground is somewhat uneven!

100 Club

The winners of 100 Club draw for March were: £25, Trevor Hubbard. £15, Jackie Whitbread and £10, Benedicta Chamberlain. If you didn't win in this month, better luck next time

Advance Notice

ANNUAL MEETING: The APCM will be held on Wednesday, May 5 at 7.30 p.m. in the Church. This is an open meeting to which all villagers and invited.

ASHFIELD NOTES



HRH. PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

Ashfield like most parishes in the country marked the death of His Royal Highness with a service in church on Sunday 11th April. During the period of National Mourning St Mary's was open for private prayer and reflection. On the day of his

funeral with mourning officially over, the bell was tolled 99 times, once for each year of Prince Philip's long and very eventful life. May he Rest in Peace.

ASHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL.

The Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will both take place on Wednesday 5th May in the evening via ZOOM. Please contact the Parish Clerk whose details are listed at the back of this publication for more details and the Zoom link to access the meeting.

Any items for either agenda must be with the Clerk at least a week prior to the meeting.

ELECTIONS 2021.

Don't forget that there are elections for County Councillors and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk on 6th May. Polling Stations are open between the hours of 7am and 10pm or alternatively use your postal vote if you are registered for that.

DONATIONS.

A big thank you to all of you who have already made donations towards this magazine or to help with the running costs of Ashfield Church. If you have not already done so there is still time and your donation however big or small will really be appreciated. Thank you.

VESTRY AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS 2021.

By the time that you read this both of the above meetings will have taken place in Ashfield. Details of any changes of officers etc will be reported in the June magazine.

RG

CRETINGHAM NOTES

Flower and Cleaning Rota

	Altar Flowers	Cleaning
May	Mrs Mayhew	Churchwardens Covid 19
June	Mrs Kemp	Churchwardens Covid 19



Thankyou so much to all those on the Flower Rota, led by Jan Oliver. **The Easter flowers** really look marvellous and lifted the spirit as you walked down the aisle. As the sun shone through the side window the church felt alive, we do hope you were able to get to see them.

Heather & Alister
Churchwardens

Thank you to the Rev. Wendy Gourlay who led a moving service marking the death of **His late Royal Highness THE PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH** on Sunday 11th April, 2021. Our focal point was the altar which was covered in a purple silk cloth with a photograph of the Duke of Edinburgh beside the Easter flowers. We shared these words of prayer together –

Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls: you uphold us in life and sustain us in death: to you be glory and praise for ever! For the darkness of this age is passing away as Christ the bright and morning star brings to his saints the light of life. As you give light to those in darkness, who walk in the shadow of death, so remember in your kingdom your faithful servant, PHILIP, Duke of Edinburgh, that death may be for him the gate to life and to unending fellowship with you; where with your saints you live and reign, one in the perfect union of love, now and for ever. Amen.

At the end we all stood and said THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

Church Services in St. Peters Cretingham in May

Please see the centre pages of the magazine.

Dallinghoo Open Gardens Sunday 13th June

In aid of: The Dallinghoo Historic Church Appeal

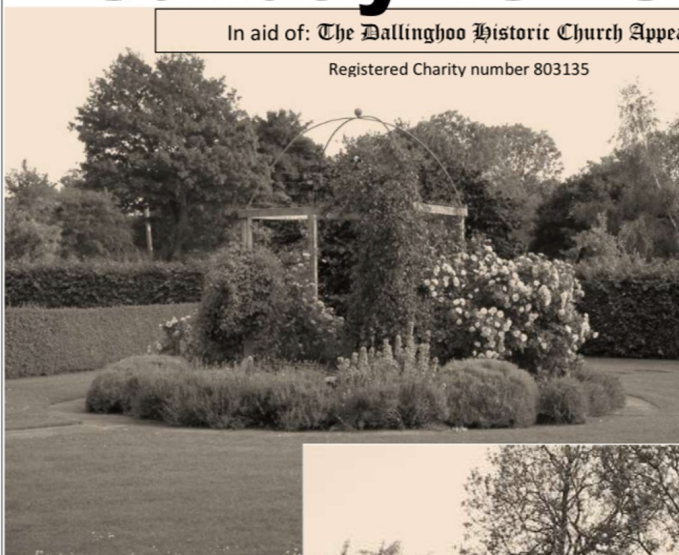
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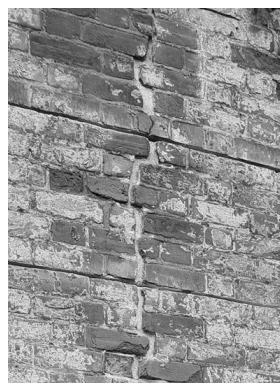


St Mary's Dallinghoo Phase II Repairs Completion

Phase II of our repair programme is now almost complete and so our challenge is to raise enough grants and donations to complete the internal repairs in phase III!

We have a new porch roof, but what do the bees think about it?

The old porch roof had undergone multiple repairs over the years ending up with many of the tiles being held in place by just a blob of mortar - so when one got dislodged a whole cluster fell down. It turned out that the wooden batons were all rotten and needed replacing. Part of the challenge was that the porch roof is also the home of a rather active hive of bees. Luckily our local bee expert was on hand to help make sure that the bees also like their newly refurbished home.



The vestry is split in half

It seemed rather alarming to the layman that the end wall of the vestry had a split running the whole way up it. Was it about to split into two halves? The architect was far less concerned and under his direction the two halves have now been 'stitched' back together.

The spiral staircase up our tower was treacherous

Our turret stairs are a very tight and narrow spiral with very little natural light and over many years the treads had worn or collapsed making the ascent and descent a job for a qualified rock climber or mountain goat. Some treads were still made of stone, some repaired with brick and others with wood which had now also worn away. So, our builders have been repairing them properly step by step and, although still narrow and steep, they will soon be all regular and easier to climb.

Our pew platform was a trampoline

One of the consequences of the damp in the walls is that in one corner of the nave the joists under the floor had rotted away. This meant that the wooden pew platform above was only fully supported on two sides and so, if you were sitting in that area, the gentle swaying could make you feel sea-sick! Thankfully, we are now renewing the joists, and all will soon be stable and sober once more.



We have been awarded several grants, but we are still short of funds

Our local fund raising over the last few years has raised a substantial contribution toward the repairs. In addition, we have been applying to a number of grant-giving foundations who also want to help preserve our church.

Without their substantial help it is unlikely we would ever have been able to undertake the repairs. Our final major grant-givers for this phase are the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and the National Churches Trust and we owe huge thanks to all of them.



For more information about our appeal contact Jeremy Quinlan (JeremyQ@tiscali.co.uk) Chairman of the Dallinghoo Church Repair Fund.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Dallinghoo now has a website:
<https://www.dallinghoo.org.uk/>. The more visits, the merrier!

SERVICES FOR MAY 2021

Church	May 2nd Easter 5 White	May 9th Rogation White	May 16th Easter 7 White	May 23rd Pentecost Red	May 30th Trinity Green
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	6.30pm Holy Communion	↓	10am Family Service		10am Morning Prayer
Earl Soham	10am Family Service	↓	10am Holy Communion	10am Morning Prayer	
Hoo	8.30 Holy Communion	↓		8.30am Morning Prayer	
Monewden	10am Holy Communion	10am Benefice Rogation		10am Family Service	6.30pm Evening Prayer
Letheringham		↑			

READINGS FOR MAY 2021



Date	Holy Communion	Morning and Evening Prayer	Psalms
May 2nd	Acts Ch 8: 26-end John Ch 15: 1-8	Acts Ch 8: 26-end John Ch 15: 1-8	Psalm 22 vs 25-end
May 9th	Acts Ch 10: 44-end John Ch 15: 9-17		
May 16th	Acts Ch 1; 15-17, 21-end John Ch 17: 6-19	Acts Ch 1: 15-17, 21-end John Ch 17: 6-19	Psalm 1
May 23rd	Acts Ch 2: 1-21 John Ch 15: 26-27, Ch16: 4b-	Acts Ch 2: 1-21 John Ch15: 26-27, Ch16: 4b-15	Psalm 104 26-end
May 30th	Romans Ch 8: 12-17 John Ch 3: 1-17	Isaiah Ch 6: 1-8 John Ch 3: 1-17	Psalm 29

The Benefice Holy Communion
On Sunday 6th June
10am
Is at St. Mary's, Dallinghoo
All Welcome

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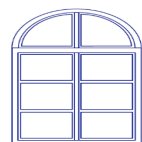
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www.gullcottagecattery.co.uk

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: espcclerk@gmail.com Tel: 01728 685729
Hoo	Caroline Saxby (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

Name:

Date:

CREATION

L S K T Y I W V M U E A S T T B C L G J F U T Q U
 O L O D Q E A B Q N H O P W K V G J J A V C T A E
 Z P B D U P F G E U T A T I W S S T P V Y Q C O D
 M U H Q Q S M C B L L H E A V E N S Z K A N M Y K
 F T T C T I P I N D T P W H I U Q W F U D R P E G
 M N F H H Y R I Y L U T E A R T H N A M O W M A C
 Q D V U G D T Z R U W A A J U B U K D E T A E R C
 S R I J S I O H M I Q M B C M H M M B O F U L E M
 Q A O K T B N K A F T D A D F U S L B Z H K C Q N
 V Z N S T B M K S L N O H N O Q E U K Y N B S U Q
 P E H M L I G H T Y D Y F U E T V G M L E I G T R
 B M I J R P J R V H I E J G P P E C Z P E F E V U
 Q D U T R P S E Y B S S T O O L N V B I M W Y S M
 J W G A W Y R N K O V M Y S K D D U I T J L U N E
 I Q A A P F A B W I U U K L E J A B Z L Q J W U S
 C B F A R O T C E R U B P O J R Y N F U V B I S Z
 T I F U N D S V L G A S G U G B S H Z M E B A E P
 C T T E B J E C W M I E K O F J S B B B V K C T J
 J A Q N B W N N A F D N D I Y H R A D A V J L K H
 W L H Q C O B D W Y D J N I T T E U K M L K P N D
 Y B A B O S A D Z B W M G I W J T V B Z A U A B C
 J Z U M D S G C O D E G P B N Y A A U B I M I Y U
 T Z U N W I H H O O T V S R U G W E Y T L B E Z U
 N F I S H A G R A F G O E W G R J I E P R Y Y A S
 A N T A K G D E K B L V O G H D Q S E Z U R A B Y

ADAM
 BEGINNING
 BIRDS
 CATTLE
 CREATED
 DAY
 EARTH

EVE
 FISH
 GARDEN
 GOD
 GOOD
 HEAVENS

LIGHT
 MAN
 MOON
 MULTIPLY
 NIGHT
 RESTED

SEVEN DAYS
 SPIRIT OF GOD
 STARS
 SUN
 WATERS
 WOMAN

