

MID-LOES BENEFICE MAGAZINE

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

December 2022 - January 2023



Benefice Communion Service
10am
Sunday 4th December
St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham

All Welcome

WHO'S WHO IN THE BENEFICE

Priest-in-Charge	Revd Gary Best, The Rectory, Earl Soham (Day off Friday) Email: revgarybest@gmail.com	01728 685550 07493 072 695
Curate	Revd Kathleen Martin, Firs Farm, Monewden Email: rev.kay@yahoo.com	01473 737285 07928 799 416
Lay Elders	Mrs. Jo Reed, Rose Villa, The Street, Earl Soham Mrs. Mary Vellacott, Stretham House, Earl Soham, Miss Amber Pearce-Wright,	01728 685 794 01728 685 423
Mag. Editor	Revd Gary Best, E-Mail: midloesmagazine@gmail.com	01728 685550

ASHFIELD

Churchwardens	Robert Grimsey,	01728 685 203
—	email: Robert@rwgrimsey.co.uk	
Secretary	Robert Grimsey, as above	
Treasurer	Robert Grimsey, as above	

CHARSFIELD

Churchwardens	Linda Stratton	01473 737771
—	Mike Bamford	
Secretary	Beverley Gugenheim, The Cottage, The Street, Charsfield Email: bevegugheim.net	01473 737667
Treasurer	Ros Wilson, Buttons Farmhouse, Monewden Road, Charsfield. Email: arw@headstart.it	

CRETINGHAM

Churchwardens	Alister Gourlay, Tubric Cottage, Creetingham	01728 685 335
“	Mrs. Heather Runacres, Dove Farm Cott. Creetingham	01728 685736
Secretary		
Treasurer	Alister Gourlay, Tubric Cottage, Creetingham	01728 685 335

DALLINGHOO

Churchwardens	Mrs. Charlotte Sullivan,	07967743006
“	email : charlottesullivan87@yahoo.com	
Secretary	Tina Love, 2 Blacksmiths Cottages, Dallinghoo	01473 737653
Treasurer	Ros Bayley, ros.bayley@googlemail.com	

Who's Who continues on the inside back cover

The Deadline for contributions to the
FEBRUARY 20223 edition is
SUNDAY 15th JANUARY



MID LOES BENEFICE

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

December 2022—January 2023

From The Rectory...

New Year's Resolutions

So, here I am, my first 7 months of serving within the benefice and I now look forward to the start of a New Year, leading into my first full calendar year living in Suffolk, so I have been taking time to think about 2023 and what that might mean for me and for all of us living within the benefice.

I have been reflecting on the recent launch of Growing in God (please refer to pages 16 and 17) and what that might mean for us next year as we hold Listening Events for each of the parishes to spend some time considering what your church means to you; what your faith might mean to you; where do you see God at work where you are; what might your church look like in 5 years time?

Also, I have been reflecting on the idea of a New Year Resolution, something that isn't for everyone, but still providing an opportunity to think about the New Year and what changes you could make. If you do consider a resolution, it is likely that one of the following will appear on many lists... cutting back on fast food; eating healthier options; getting fitter; losing a few pounds off the waistline; taking up a hobby. Whatever it is, will you be able to keep to it?

Studies show that around 80% of New Year resolutions fail and I certainly know that I have fallen into that number on many occasions! But why do our resolutions fail?

Why is it that most of the 80% that fail actually do so by mid-February? Maybe it is because we just feel overwhelmed at the challenge we have set for ourselves? Maybe life just gets in the way of the practicality of following the resolution through? Maybe it is because you just become impatient that change isn't happening as quickly as you would like?

For me, I turn to scripture during these challenging times. If exercise is just a struggle and not working out, I turn to the New Testament (1 Timothy), where the Apostle Paul instructs us to keep exercise in perspective, 'for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come' (1 Timothy 4:8). This has been my answer in not going to the gym!

These words are of course an encouragement with developing our spiritual fitness, and perhaps a new approach to committing to a New Year's resolution. But this mustn't be a resolution out of vanity, or just to be seen doing something different for the sake of it. It should be a real commitment to areas of our lives such as praying; reading the Bible on a regular basis; perhaps getting involved in church life in some way.

Through a resolution that focuses on our spiritual fitness we can develop our faith to allow us to deal with the challenges of life in a more positive way. Our spiritual fitness enables us to give thanks for the life we have and the family and friends that surround us; it enables us to grow in faith as a community, offering support and love to each other when needed.

Whatever your New Year resolution, whether practical or spiritual, I wish you a very happy and peaceful 2023.



Love and Blessings, Revd Gary Best

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



Benefice Choir

Do you love to sing traditional Church Hymns and Choral Music?

Would you like to be part of a newly-forming Benefice Choir?

If yes, to the above, please join us at

St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham

on Saturday 14th January 2023, at 11am-1pm,

followed by refreshments in The Rectory.

**If you can read music, that would be an advantage,
but not a requirement. The time commitment is low:**

**singing once a month at the Benefice Service,
which takes place on the first Sunday of the month.**

**Please do join us on the 14th January and, if possible, please let
Rev'd Gary know so that an idea of interest can be gained.**

Rev'd Gary's contact details:

revgarybest@gmail.com - 01728 685 550

EARL SOHAM NOTES

100Club

"Earl Soham 100 Club. The Annual Draw was held on Saturday 22nd October and cheques for £246 were presented to St Mary's Church and the Village Hall. There were also 17 lucky prize winners sharing £492. Thank you to those of you who joined us and to Rev Gary for drawing the numbers. Thanks, also, to those of you who have already paid for next year's subscriptions, many of whom have paid via BACS or in cash to avoid bank charges. If you would like to sign up to the club please contact me on chris.anne1@btinternet.com or on 685745.

The Townlands Trust

The Townlands Trust is a charity offering small grants to those living in Earl Soham who may have a particular need in these difficult financial times. Any request for assistance will of course be treated confidentially. If you wish to know more, please contact Revd Gary Best. revgarybest@gmail.com 01728 685 550



Christmas Greetings from Vernon & Nella



We wish all our friends in the Benefice
a Very Happy Christmas and New Year

A donation will be given to 'Friends of St. Mary's'

ST MARY'S EARL SOHAM

BURNS NIGHT SUPPER

Saturday

11th February 2023

7pm for 7.30 pm

Earl Soham Village Hall

Traditional 3-course haggis supper

Piped in by our own 'Highlander'

KEEP THE DATE FREE

Book your tickets by February 5th

RING Mavis 01728 685700 or Irene 01728 685814

IN AID OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

CRETINGHAM NOTES

Flower and Cleaning Rota		
	Altar Flowers	Cleaning
December	Mrs Chenery	Mrs Runacres
January 2023	As per rota	Mr & Mrs Gourlay



Saturday 10th December

CHRISTMAS STALL in Church 10am – 12 noon.

See all the fabulous Christmas flowers (themed) filling every window, refreshments and coffee/tea to warm you up, homemade cake stall plus Christmas raffle. Great opportunity to catch up with friends and acquaintances.

Not to be missed and don't be late as only open for 2 hours!

[This will be our coffee & chat session for December]

We would welcome donations of books, cakes, savouries, perhaps you have a surplus of jams/chutneys you have made – can be left inside church or bring on the morning, many thanks.

Sunday 18th December:

Traditional CAROL SERVICE in Church at 11am. Please join us to hear the lessons and sing our hearts out.

Wednesday 21st December:

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

CRETINGHAM NOTES

Sunday 25th December: CHRISTMAS DAY Family Service in St. Peters Church at 10am.

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



Huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who has helped out during 2022 it is so appreciated. It has been great meeting up and talking at our Coffee & Chat mornings (watch out on noticeboard for next dates) it has been wonderful and we will continue this in 2023.



Wishing everyone a thoughtful Christmas and hope you are able to spend time with family and friends. *The season of Christmas is upon us when the light of Jesus' birth will shine for each and every one of us.*

Heather & Alister (Churchwardens)

JANUARY 2023

Please see page 24 of magazine for January services.

PAMELA and MICHAEL

**Send grateful thanks to all their good neighbours
and**

**Wish them a Happy and Joyous Christmas
with**

Good Health and Happiness for 2023

CRETINGHAM NOTES

Update from Cretingham, Monewden & Hoo Parish Council.

Recent housing development in Cretingham resulted in the Parish Council receiving a Community Infrastructure Grant of around £6,000. Half of that sum was used to purchase and install the speed indicator in Cretingham - with positive results. Your Councillors have been investigating how they might best spend the remaining money (there is an expiry date as with most public grants and we are restricted as to the areas on which we can incur expenditure - i.e. capital not revenue budgets).

The sorry state of our many finger signposts throughout the three parishes appeared, to us, a sensible option and we have spent some time investigating. Asking Suffolk Highways to undertake the job seemed the least best option as they quoted £2,000+ per post - we have 13 scattered across our three parishes. Two of our Councillors have undertaken training in Traffic Management and this could well mean that we can undertake the installation of signs on a DIY basis.

The design of the signs is another consideration. Replacing all 13 signs as “like for like”, ie. the steel post with aluminium fingers, would cost an estimated £3,300 (DIY installation). Purchasing “heritage” sign such as those now seen in Brandeston and Easton, would cost approximately £2,000 **per sign**.

Some financial support may be available from our County and District Councillors. However, the Parish Council are unsure that spending £25,000+ on road signs is prudent at this time.

We would welcome your thoughts.

Alister Gourlay-Chair of CMH Parish Council

SUFFOLK PLANT MACHINERY

Your local friendly plant machinery hire company based in Brundish Nr Framlingham with 20 years experience in machinery hire and Bobcat sales.



We offer a full range of diggers from micro 1-ton machines to gain access through doorways to 6-8 ton machines for larger jobs, dumpers, skid steer loaders, mini telehandlers and specialised attachments for the machines.

- Prompt friendly service at a sensible price
- We can offer self-drive or with experienced operators.
- We can offer full delivery and collection service for machines if required.
- No job too small or too big and advice given if needed.

We also have full workshop facilities for repairs and servicing of any machines.

Please call to discuss your requirements on 01379 384977.

Email office@suffolkplantmachinery.co.uk



BENEFICE MAGAZINE EDITOR

The Benefice Magazine is seeking a new Editor to manage the editorial content and layout of this magazine. The role of the Editor will involve proof-reading the copy and laying out the pages, as well as having 'artistic licence' to keep the magazine exciting and relevant. A good understanding of Microsoft Word, Excel and Publisher would be an advantage.

If you wish to have a further conversation, please contact Revd Gary Best: **01728 685 550**

revgarybest@gmail.com

7.00PM Saturday, 17 December 2022, at Framlingham College

Phoenix Singers



Schubert

MASS IN G

Puccini

MESSA DI GLORIA

Tickets: £15, £10 for under 18s, available from Hall Farm Butchers, 25, Market Hill, Framlingham, William Glasse
william@glasse.org.uk,
choir members, and at the door.

reg. charity no. 1076549

MONNEWDEN NOTES

DATE	FLOWERS & BRASSES	CLEANING	SIDESPERSION	COFFEE
Dec 4th				
11th	A. Hamilton	J. Vonberg	P. Keeble	W. Heath
18th				
25th	L. Grier	W. Heath	B. Martin	C. Saxby

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE. Our service this year was conducted by Rev. Wendy Gourlay. There was once again a very good attendance. The collection will be donated to the RBL.

Our next **COFFEE MORNING** will be on Saturday, December 17th, from 10am onwards in the village hall. Coffee, tea and bacon rolls will be served. Come and join us, this monthly event is now very popular. The bumper 100 Club draw for December will be held at this event.

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

COMBINED TOY SERVICE: The joint Toy Service, where we join with our friends from Dallinghoo, will take place on Sunday, December 11th at 10am, at Monewden Church. Please bring gift wrapped presents for children, including teenagers, labelled suitably for gender and age ranges.

CAROL SERVICE: Our Carol Service this year will be held in the church on Friday, December 16th at 7pm. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served in the church after the service.

CHRISTMAS DAY Holy Communion this year will be held at 10am.

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



M O N E W D E N
**CHRISTMAS
CAROLS
& CHEERS**

FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER

6.30PM CAROLS
IN THE CHURCH

7PM CHEERS
AT THE POP UP PUB

THE OLD MILL

MULLED WINE • REAL ALE • WINE • LAGER
SOFT DRINKS • BAR SNACKS • MINCE PIES

MONEWDEN NOTES

DATE	FLOWERS & BRASSES	CLEANING	SIDESPERSION	COFFEE
Jan 1st				
8th	C. Saxby	L. Grier	D. Grier	L. Grier
15th				
22nd	F. Watts	F. Watts & C. Saxby	L. Grier	W. Heath
29th	W. Heath			

**MONEWDEN PCC wishes everyone a
Happy Christmas
and Blessed and Peaceful New Year**

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

BENEFICE MAGAZINE EDITOR

The Benefice Magazine is seeking a new Editor to manage the editorial content and layout of this magazine. The role of the Editor will involve proof-reading the copy and laying out the pages, as well as having 'artistic licence' to keep the magazine exciting and relevant. A good understanding of Microsoft Word, Excel and Publisher would be an advantage. If you wish to have a further conversation, please contact
Revd Gary Best: **01728 685 550** revgarybest@gmail.com

HOO NOTES

Akenfield Screening

On the evening of 18th November, Hoo and Monewden churches held a very successful joint event with the screening of "Akenfield" at Monewden Village Hall. Thanks to all those from both parishes who worked very hard to make the evening such a success; it was clear from feedback we received on the night and subsequently that those who attended enjoyed the event. Donations received totalled over £600, to be split equally between the two churches, for which we are extremely grateful. A special thank you to our projectionist, who also arranged the loan of the equipment via Suffolk Libraries.

For Hoo church, this was the latest in the series of events we have held to show the church is alive and active in the local community, after the restrictions of the lockdown period.

We are already planning a programme of similar events for 2023, including more joint ventures with our friends at Monewden church.

Before that we look forward to seeing you at our Carol Service at 3pm on 24th December 2022.

Re-Commissioning of Elders
Sunday 4th December, 10am
St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham

**Please join us at St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham, where we will
give thanks for the service of our Benefice Lay Elders.**



Please join us for

Coffee & Chat

**Held in the Church Vestry
Saturday 3rd December
10am—12noon**



**Including
Christmas
Crafts**



Church Services for December

December 11th - 6.30pm - Holy Communion



December 23rd - 6.30pm
All-Age Carol Service - Followed
with mulled wine and mince pies

December 25th - 10am
Christmas Day All-Age Service

Come and join us.
All are very welcome!

DALLINGHOO NOTES

Dallinghoo Churchyard Work Party – Saturday 22nd October

The weather was perfect. This was an event greatly enjoyed by all who took part, some fifteen people including three children, and we achieved much.

Rainwater drains and gullies and the lower-level gutters were checked for blockages and cleared. Weeds can be seen in at least one high-level gutter - showing that someone with a long ladder is needed before the winter. The new hedge-plants along the south-west corner of the churchyard were checked; some 23 were dead; this is pretty good considering our hot rainless summer.

Ivy and weeds around some graves and the slope at the east end of the church were cleared. The major work was clearing the brambles and elder saplings along the north side of the churchyard, a major task and, although not wholly completed, much was done. The Barrys' chain-saw and hedge trimmers were essential here. We also made a start on spreading the spoil from the digging of the toilet soakaway some years ago; this had consolidated and was full of flints making it a thankless job which will need further effort in the future. Clearing is one thing, clearing a huge heap of brushwood and brambles is another and here, as so often, Derek Spall came to the rescue with his tractor and trailer. Our Guy Fawkes bonfire is now higher than ever. Well done all!

January 2023 Services

January 8th - 6.30pm - Holy Communion

January 15th - 10am - All-Age Service

January 29th - 10am - Morning Prayer

CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES

Date	Readers	Sides person
Dec 4th 10am Benefice Holy Communion Earl Soham With Bishop Mike	10am Benefice Holy Communion Earl Soham All Welcome We will be joined by Bishop Mike for the Re-Commissioning of our Elders	
Dec 11th	No Service at Charsfield Please check the Magazine for details of Services elsewhere in the Benefice	
Dec 18th 6.30pm Joint Carol Service with the Chapel All welcome	6.30pm Christmas Carol Service	
Dec 24th 9pm Holy Communion	Mike Linda	Linda
Dec 25th	No Service at Charsfield Please check the Magazine for details of Services elsewhere in the Benefice	
Jan 1st 10am Benefice Holy Communion Venue tbc	10am Benefice Holy Communion Venue to be confirmed All welcome	
Jan 8th	No Service at Charsfield Please check the Magazine for details of Services elsewhere in the Benefice	
Jan 15th 6.30pm Evening Prayer	Pauline Becky	Becky
Jan 22nd 10am Holy Communion	Ros Linda	Linda
Jan 29th 10am Morning Prayer	Mike Margaret	Margaret

CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES

Race Night at Charsfield

A very enjoyable evening was had at the Race Night in Charsfield Village Hall in October and an amazing £575 was raised for St. Peter's Church. We are very grateful to Alister Gourlay for all his help with this event and to everyone who helped on the night with the raffle, preparing and serving the food, washing up and clearing up. And thank you to all who attended helping to make it a great night!

Flower Rota				
December 3rd	December 10th	December 17th	December 24th	December 31st
Bev Gugenheim	Margaret Salter	CHRISTMAS Everyone	CHRISTMAS Everyone	Margaret Salter

Cleaning Rota	
11th December	18th December
Ros & Lucy	Angela & Joyce
Many thanks to all who clean the Church. Any problems please let Lucy know on 737231.	

The Deadline for contributions to the

FEBRUARY 20223 edition is

Contributions to the Magazine

Please note that any contributions to the magazine need to be sent to the following e-mail address: **midloesmagazine@gmail.com**

Growing in God

On 6th November, a launch was held of a new initiative, Growing in God, which was held at St. Mary's Church, Dallinghoo, attended by more than 40 people, for which I am very grateful.

Growing in God is an initiative that will help form a 5-year plan for the benefice, along with a focus on individual parishes.

As a starting point, we have four areas from which to consider your church today and what it might look like in 5 years time, with a view to choosing 3-5 main priorities for ministry and mission within the benefice:

- Growing in Depth - to deepen our awareness of God with us through prayer and worship.
- Growing in Influence - to participate in God's loving movement towards the world in partnership with other denominations and people of good will.
- Growing in Number - to witness to the person and way of Jesus Christ, in word and worship, in service and in daily life.
- Growing Younger - to engage all generations, allowing them to shape church and investing in them in the present and for the future.

In order to choose 3-5 main priorities, there are three simple steps to creating a Plan for Growth.

Your church will listen, will choose, will plan.

You will have an opportunity to share your thoughts on your church and how you see its role today and for the future. You will have a chance to consider your own faith and how the church might be able to journey alongside you, whatever stage you might be, whether someone searching and exploring, or someone who already has a deep faith, but looking at exploring your faith in a deeper way. Wherever you are in

your faith journey, you will have a chance to share your thoughts at a Listening Event, detailed below. Each event is designed for you to come along and share your thoughts on your church today and what it will look like in 5 years time:

Saturday 4th February - Monewden Village Hall, 10am - 12noon

St. Mary's, Dallinghoo; St. Andrew & St. Eustachius, Hoo;
St. Mary's, Monewden.

Saturday 11th February - Ashfield Village Hall, 10am - 12noon

St. Peter's, Ashfield.

Saturday 18th February - St. Peter's Church, Cretingham - 10am - 12noon

St. Peter's Cretingham.

Saturday 4th March - Earl Soham Village Hall - 10am - 12noon

St. Mary's, Earl Soham.

Saturday 11th March - Charsfield Village Hall - 10am - 12noon

St. Peter's, Charsfield; St. Mary's, Letheringham.

The Benefice Ministry Team look forward to welcoming you to your church Listening Event.

**Re-Commissioning of Elders
Sunday 4th December, 10am
St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham**

**Please join us at St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham,
where we will give thanks for the service of our
Benefice Lay Elders.**

**At the service, we will be joined by Bishop Mike who will
preach and lead the Re-Commissioning of our Elders.**



**An Evening of
FESTIVE MUSIC
& CAROLS**



by the IPSWICH HOSPITAL BAND

St Peter's Church, Charsfield

Friday 16th December 2022

7pm for 7.30pm

Raffle, spiced drinks & light refreshments

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

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

Donations to St. Peter's Church Fabric Fund



"Does anyone have a light, please?"

LEATHERINGHAM NOTES

Monday Mardle

The very last Monday Mardle of the year was presented by a Trustee of Bawdsey Radar Museum, who told the fascinating global story of radar, with Bawdsey being the first operational radar station in the world, right here in Suffolk. The mardle drew the greatest attendance of the year and raised £425 on the night, with £100 being donated to the Bawdsey Radar Trust.

Remembrance Sunday

A joint service of Remembrance with Hoo was held on Sunday 13th November, where Maurice Finch read the Roll of Honour for the twenty



men from Letheringham who fell in the Great War. Twenty ceramic poppies were placed on Letheringham green, by the village sign.

Carol Service A Carol Service will be held at St. Marys Letheringham on Friday 23rd December at 6-30, with Revd Gary Best officiating. Everyone is most welcome.

DECEMBER 2022 SERVICES

Church	December 4th	Dec 11th	Dec 16th	Dec 18th
	Advent 2	Advent 3		Advent 4
	Purple	Purple		Purple
Ashfield		4pm Evening Prayer GB		
Charsfield				6.30pm Carol Service CW
Cretingham		10.00am Morning Prayer GB		11am Carol Service GB
Dallinghoo		6.30pm Holy Communion WG		
Earl Soham	10am Benefice Service with Bishop Mike	10.00am Morning Prayer MV		6.30pm Carol Service GB
Hoo		8.30am Holy Communion GB		
Letheringham				
Monewden		10.00am Toy Service APW	6.30pm Carol Service GB	

DECEMBER 2022 SERVICES

Church	Dec 20th	Dec 23rd	Dec 24th	Dec 25th
			Christmas Eve White	Christmas Day White
Ashfield	7pm Carol Service GB			9.00am Holy Communion GB
Charsfield			9.00pm Holy Communion GB	
Cretingham				10.00am Holy Communion GB
Dallinghoo		6.30pm Carol Service WG		10.00am All-Age Service MB
Earl Soham			6.30pm Crib Service JR 11.30pm Midnight Mass GB	10.00am All-Age Service JR
Hoo			3.00pm Carol Service APW	
Letheringham		6.30pm Carol Service GB		
Monewden				10.00am Holy Communion WG

Services for January 2023

Church	January 1st	January 8th	January 15th	January 22nd	January 29th
	Christmas 2	Epiphany Baptism of Christ	Epiphany 2	Epiphany 3	Epiphany 4
	White	White	White	White	White
Ashfield		4pm Evening Prayer GB	8.30am Holy Communion GB		
Charsfield			6.30pm Evening Prayer KM	10am Holy Communion WG	10am Morning Prayer KM
Cretingham		10am Baptism with Holy Communion WG	10am Morning Prayer WG		10am Holy Communion GB
Dallinghoo		6.30pm Holy Communion GB	10am All-Age Service JR		10am Morning Prayer WG
Earl Soham		10.00am All-Age Service JR	10am Holy Communion GB	10am Morning Prayer JR	
Hoo		8.30am Holy Communion GB		8.30am Morning Prayer KM	
Letheringham	10am Benefice Service Holy Communion GB				
Monewden		10.00am Holy Communion GB		10am All-Age Service APW	6.30pm Evening Prayer KM

Key to Service Leader: GB = Revd Gary Best; KM = Revd Kathleen Martin;
WG = Revd Wendy Gourlay; JR = Jo Reed, Lay Elder;
APW = Amber Pearce Williams, Lay Elder; CW = Churchwarden.

Bible Readings for December 2022

Date	Readings	Psalm
Dec 4th	Romans 15: 4-13 Matthew 3: 1-12	72: 1-7, 18-19
Dec 11th	James 5: 7-10 Matthew 11: 2-11	146: 4-10
Dec 18th	Romans 1: 1-7 Matthew 1: 18-end	80: 1-8, 18-20
Dec 25th	Isaiah 9: 2-7 Luke 2: 1-14	96

Bible Readings for January 2023

Date	Readings	Psalm
Jan 1st	Galatians 4: 4-7 Luke 2: 15-21	8
Jan 8th	Acts 10: 34-43 Matthew 3: 13-end	29
Jan 15th	1 Corinthians 1: 1-9 John 1: 29-42	40: 1-12
Jan 22nd	1 Corinthians 1: 10-18 Matthew 4: 12-23	27: 1-11
Jan 29th	1 Corinthians 1: 18-end John 2: 1-11	36: 5-10

ASHFIELD NOTES

BEETLE DRIVE.

Thank you to everyone who came along to our recent Beetle Drive. A great time was had by all and a profit of £314.41 was raised for church funds. Special thanks are due to Alister Gourlay from Cretingham who kindly MC'd the evening. An event that will definitely be repeated in the spring!

RG

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

The next meeting of Ashfield Parish Council takes place at the Village Hall on Monday 12th December at 7.30pm. Please let the Clerk [email at back of this mag] have items for the agenda no later than Monday 5th. Whilst it is possible to raise matters in the Public Forum at the beginning of the meeting it is not normally possible to make decisions on these until the next formal meeting. All welcome to attend, we look forward to seeing you.

Robert Grimsey. Chairman.



CHRISTMAS AT ST MARY'S

CAROL SERVICE.

Tuesday 20th December at 7pm in the church. A traditional service open to all which will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies at the back of the church.

CHRISTMAS MORNING.

On Christmas Morning there will be a service of Holy Communion at 9am to which communicants of all denominations are most welcome.

Both of these services will be led by our Priest-in-Charge, Revd Gary, who along with us looks forward to welcoming you.

ASHFIELD NOTES

As this will be the last magazine of 2022. On behalf of St Mary's, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support during the last twelve months. Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Robert

Benefice Choir

Do you love to sing traditional Church Hymns and Choral Music?

Would you like to be part of a newly-forming Benefice Choir?

If yes, to the above, please join us at

St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham

on Saturday 14th January 2023, at 11am-1pm,

followed by refreshments in The Rectory.

If you can read music, that would be an advantage,
but not a requirement. The time commitment is low:

singing once a month at the Benefice Service,

which takes place on the first Sunday of the month.

Please do join us on the 14th January and, if possible, please let

Revd Gary know so that an idea of interest can be gained.

Revd Gary's contact details:

revgarybest@gmail.com - 01728 685 550



OUR READERS ARE PLEASED TO HAVE LOCAL BUSINESSES TO CONTACT WHEN THEY NEED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

If you would like to advertise in this magazine's **Directory of Local Businesses** please contact Mrs. Caroline Saxby, our advertising Manager who will be pleased to give you full details.

Get in touch with her by phoning 01473 277146 or
e-mailing: saxbies@hotmail.com



Home & Deli Store in Cretingham Country Park

Tucked away in Cretingham Country Park, Lark Interiors Home & Deli offers a wide range of fabulous cheeses, fine wines, Fisher's Gin and beautiful, bespoke homewares.

Visit with this voucher and receive
a 10% discount on all products!

PARISH MAGAZINE 10% DISCOUNT
FOR LARK INTERIORS HOME & DELI



Ruth May
Physiotherapist
& Pilates Instructor
Charsfield Village Hall
and Virtual Classes

ruth.may.pilates@gmail.com
07985600176

S.G.Parker Painting & Decorating

Interior & Exterior
City & Guilds
Over 30 years experience
Reliable & friendly service
For a free estimate

Please call:
01728685980 or 07572966167

Hall Farm Railway Carriage

Fresh Charsfield fruit and apple juice available as it is picked from the Victorian Railway Carriage in the entrance to
Hall Farm, Hall Road, Charsfield, IP13 7PW.

Plums, Apples, Pears, Blackcurrants, apple juice and bird seed available when in season.

For more info please visit [@red_house_farm](https://www.instagram.com/red_house_farm) on Instagram or contact Ed on 07798664104.



**Repair, Full Restoration or Simple
Mechanical Resuscitation for all makes
of bicycle**
**Specialising in British Made Bicycles
from 1950-1990**
For Information & Advice Call:
07954 341972



Looking for a garden refresh or
makeover, or just a winter
garden clearance? Contact us
to help bring your ideas to life,
from designing and planning
through to delivering the best
outdoor space to compliment
your home!

contact Lee - 07847280267 Ian - 07921977296
or email - info@cretinghamlandscapes.com

or check out our website or facebook page

www.cretinghamlandscapes.com
f Cretingham Landscapes

Brook Farm Beef

From free-range, grass-fed cattle, home-bred
in Dallinghoo.

Each box to contain roasting joints, a selection
of steaks, diced stewing steak and mince.

Price £120 per 10kg box Free local delivery
within Mid-Loes benefice.

Please ring Chris on 07979 667247 or email
fcgreen@btconnect.com



J.B GARDEN SERVICES

PATIOS	FULL LANDSCAPING	FENCING
DECKING	AND ALL TYPES OF	TURFING
	GARDEN WORK	
	PERGOLAS & PONDS	

TEL: 01728746649
MOB: 07879810483



Charsfield Village Hall

EXCELLENT VENUE FOR HIRE

Birthday parties, Fundraising events or Business
Meetings.

Main Hall: from £11/hour (off peak, inclusive rate)
Committee Room: £7/hour (off peak, inclusive rate)
Whatever the event, check out facilities, equipment,
availability, prices and book on line at:

www.charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk

Or Telephone 07935445193

Discounts for Local bookings.

Discounts given to registered charities



CHARSFIELD C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning together, helping each other.

Why choose Charsfield School?

We offer small class sizes with high adult to pupil
ratios.

We have an exciting and diverse curriculum including
Forest Schools; our children ENJOY learning and
WANT to learn!

We have a family feeling with a caring ethos - our
children are happy at school!

We offer breakfast and themed afterschool clubs
every day.

Our experienced staff help every child to thrive and
succeed.

Charsfield Primary School is situated just off the
B1078 - Just 5 miles from Framlingham and 6 miles
from Earl Soham.



Why not come and look around to see what a small rural school can do for you.

Booking and wearing of masks is essential due to Covid guidelines.

Please visit our website: www.charsfieldprimaryschool.org.uk Tel No: 01473 737347

Oak Corner Garden Care

Alan Sutcliffe

Garden Care

**Qualified lawn specialist with 30yrs as a
head greenkeeper**

**All types of garden work undertaken,
fully insured, reliable and friendly service.**

3 Oak Corner, Cretingham, Woodbridge

Alan.sutcliffe33@gmail.com

07795368768



Tree Care Professionals

Glynn Davies FdSc (Arb)

Tree Surgery

Reports and Surveys

TPO & Conservation

Applications

Planting and Aftercare

Hedge Cutting

NPTC Certified, Fully Insured

All Arboricultural Services Provided

Mob: 07722588713

Tel: 01728 561529

www.terrestrialarboriculture.co.uk



**ALL ASPECTS OF INTERIOR &
EXTERIOR PAINTING,
DECORATING &
REPAIR WORK UNDERTAKEN.**

Call **Ben** for a free

NO OBLIGATION quote on

01728 684383 or 07469 146888

or **07879 226777**

or email me on bpsdecorators@gmail.com



GARDEN MACHINERY

SALES, SERVICE & REPAIRS

COLLECTION/DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE

6A MEADOW WORKS BUSINESS PARK,

DEBENHAM. Tel 01728 860330

J. FELTON
CHIMNEY SWEEP

- CLEAN & FRIENDLY SERVICE
- FULLY INSURED
- SMOKE TESTS
- INSURANCE CERTIFICATES
- CCTV INSPECTIONS
- COMPETITIVE RATES

PLEASE CALL 01986 799175

ICS

REGISTERED MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHIMNEY SWEEPS

Paddock Maintenance

Harrowing

Rolling

Fertilizing



General Maintenance

Hedge-Cutting

Spraying

Topping

01728 628054
07889 311734

juliansayer@btinternet.com



LOCAL WINDOW CLEANER

I am a registered sole trader and have been cleaning windows over 15 years I offer a conscientious service and do insides as well if required. Conservatories and windows above them can be done too.

Feel free to give me a call and arrange a free quote.
call Kevin Saunders on 07549147871

TREES WANTED FOR FIREWOOD

REMOVED PROFESSIONALLY
FREE OF CHARGE



ROBERT GRAY
01473 737462
07788267311

Ooh! Sore Feet?

Mr Cleeve Offord MAFHP MCFHP, Dawn Kaylor MAFHP MCFHP
Hollie Offord MAFHP MCFHP

Fully Qualified VISITING Foot Health Practitioners

Due to continued success and expansion of the practice we are now able to offer our professional and reliable service in your area

Treating: calluses, ingrown nails, corns, hard skin, the Diabetic foot and most common foot problems.

All in the comfort of your own home

we are fully insured, DBS checked,
dementia and alzheimer trained

Office: 01473 720655

Cleeve Mob: 0794 7971270, Dawn Mob: 0776 455073

Hollie Mob: 07850 170725



Yew Tree Court

Framlingham Road, Earl Soham

For Sale

Serviced Plots to Build Own
Business Premises

For details contact Bruce Hinton

Tel: 01728 685060

Mobile: 07711 016664

brucehinton@suffolkonline.net

Graham Fowler Painter & Decorator

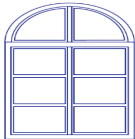
For reliable, professional work at very reasonable prices.

Also available for all those small jobs around the house that no one else wants to come out and do.

For a free quote call now on

01728 685 448

07798832636



MILES ROLFE JOINERY

Production, Design & Fitting of All
Aspects of Joinery & Furniture

Gt. Finborough • Suffolk

07880 776845 mobile
mrjoinery@live.com

01449 771338 evening
milesrolfejoinery.co.uk

Suffolk Dog Training

- .Dog Agility
- .Dog & Puppy Training at Crowfield
- .Affordable Private Lesson's



Kennel Club accredited instructor

Contact: Sue 07971 030960 or 01394

410051www.suffolkdogtraining.co.uk

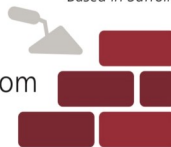
WF BRICKWORK

Based in Suffolk

M 07899 696507

E willfrohn@icloud.com

@ wfbrickwork



BRICKWORK • BLOCKWORK • REPOINTING • PATHS
LANDSCAPING • PAVING • PATIOS • RENDERING

DAVID HANNATT

Home: 01473 333268

Mob: 07899 288546

Email: davidhannatt@gmail.com

PAINTING AND DECORATING

CERAMIC TILES

GENERAL GARDENING

& GRASS CUTTING

FREE ESTIMATES

SARAH SUTCLIFFE PET CARE & HOUSE SITTING



Your horses turned out, mucked out.

Your ponies exercised, your dogs walked and
cats fed & all other animals cared for while at
work or on holiday.

Tel: Sarah Sutcliffe

Mobile: 07990 875 833

daveysarah23@gmail.com

Highlands, Church Rd, Otley,
IP6 9NP



LESTER MAYES

Peasenhall

Carpet & Upholstery
Cleaning

FRIENDLY, LOCAL SERVICE

Carpet & Fabric Protectors
applied

Moth Treatments available

01728 660186

Mobile: 07867 681571



Bridge House

Accommodation

Bridge House, Earl Soham, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 7RT

Mob: 07799805171

Tel 01728 685473

bridgehouse@suffolkonline.net www.bridgehouseuk.com

Kindlewood

Tree surgeons.

we also carry out Hedge cutting,
Grass cutting, Tractor flail mowing,
Log splitting, Timber extraction.

Please contact for a free quote.

NPTC qualified - Fully insured

Please call phil : 077867 34706

lee: 07891 845966

Email : info@kindlewood.biz
www.kindlewood.biz



8CW WINDOW CLEANING

For all your window cleaning needs,
regular or one-off.

Well established window cleaner
who also cleans and clears gutters,
fascia's & conservatories.

Simon Burton

www.8CW.co.uk simon@8CW.co.uk

07515 733 600

Marks Maintenance

All types of
house & garden
property maintenance
under taken

Phone Home: (01728) 621341
Mobile: 07887 925507

Website: www.marks-maintenance.weebly.com
e-mail: MarksMaintenance@hotmail.co.uk



Brian Davey - Property Maintenance

Painting & Decorating, Drives, Patios,
Garden Walls and all repair work

Local Business - covering Hoo,
Framlingham & Woodbridge Areas

Telephone (Hoo) 01473 737748

Need help with your PC?

...or your Laptop, iPad, TV...

Friendly help, advice and training

Hardware & Software

Repairs & Upgrades

Phone Chris on 0757 069 5279

Or Email: info@ubestree.co.uk

Web: www.ubestree.co.uk

Debenham and District



ROOFLINE - PLUS

Look Up!

BUILDING & ROOFING CONTRACTOR

CHIMNEYS REPOINTED / REBUILT / REMOVED

HOUSE / WALL REPOINTING

GUTTERING / FASCIA REPAIRS / ROOF REPAIRS

30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE - ALL WORKS GUARANTEED

FOR FRIENDLY ADVICE AND A FREE CONSULTATION CALL

01449 763218 - 07500 823292

CARAVAN/BOAT STORAGE PRIVATE CONTAINER STORAGE

CONTAINER OFFICE/
WORKROOM TO LET
CL CARAVAN SITE

Telephone Mike Lloyds
07764515100



Gull Cottage Cattery

A safe, peaceful and attractive
rural retreat, exclusively for cats,
where cuddles are guaranteed

Dallinghoo, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 0LT

Contact Lawrence & Juliet Frohn

Tel: 01473 737450

E-mail: cats@gullcottagecattery.co.uk

www.gullcottagecattery.co.uk

Earl Soham Business Centre TO LET

Offices, Workshops and Storage for
Individuals and Small Businesses

For details contact Bruce Hinton

Tel: 01728 685 060

Mobile: 07711 016664

brucehinton@suffolkonline.net

www.earlsohambusinesscentre.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	Mr Mark Taylor	01473 737 347
"	WI Secretary	Mrs Rosalin Baley	01473 737171
"	Rec. Ground Com	Mrs Jan Pedgrift	01473 737 701
"	Tennis Club	charsfieldrgtennis@yahoo.com	
"	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	Mrs Jen Carlyle	01728 685 359
"			
"	WI Secretary	Mrs Daphne Dale	01728 621 292
"	Village Hall Com.	Lorna McCurrach	01394 388807
"	100 Club	Christopher Pratt	01728 685 745
"	Tennis Club	Mrs Mary Patterson	01728 685 362
"	Bowls Club	Martin Dorey	01728 684880
"	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



Read the Christmas story
in **Luke 2:1-21**.

Answer the questions, colour the picture and colour one star each day until Christmas.

Where was
Mary's baby born?
Why were Joseph
and Mary there?

What did Mary dress her baby in?

Where did Mary lay her baby and why?

Why were the
shepherds
afraid?

What good news did the angel tell?

What did the shepherds do after they had seen the baby?

Who appeared praising God, what did they say?

G

O Y

M R C

SAYGP

O N V O J

GBABYN GOOODABLE

V O S H E P H E R D S A V I O U R

DAY T M A R Y N E N F R R O

SCHRISTEPGLTD

ALA IDRWHEOH

E P R A I S E L C

HELVALLSK

FEAR NIGHT OLD

S M C N D E C R F F B

F A F I  S I G N

F T D E

ALL • DECREE • JOSEPH • DAVID • BETHLEHEM • MARY • BIRTH • SON • LAID • MANGER
INN • SHEPHERDS • FLOCK • NIGHT • LORD • GLORY • GOOD NEWS • JOY • DAY
SAVIOUR • CHRIST • SIGN • BABY • GOD • PEACE • ANGELS • GO • SEE • TOLD • PRAISE

WHO'S WHO IN THE BENEFICE *(Continued from inside front cover)*

EARL SOHAM

Churchwardens	Dr. John Elmore, Hill Farm, Earl Soham	01728 685 814
Secretary	Mrs. Mavis Kerridge, The Malt House, Earl Soham	01728 685 700
Treasurer	Christopher Pratt, Waters Edge, Low Road, E. Soham	01728 685 745

HOO

Churchwardens	Vacancy	
Secretary	Mr. Trevor Branton, The Poplars, Pound Hill, Dallinghoo	01473 737 246
Treasurer	Mr Francis Whitbread Archers Keep Butts Ln Debenham fwhitbread57@gmail.com	07788 563827

LEATHERINGHAM

Churchwardens	Maggie Aggiss	01728 638640
Secretary		
Treasurer	Terence Carlin. Email terence.carlin@btinternet.com	01728 746480

MONEWDEN

Churchwardens	David Grier, Northgates, Monewden	01473 737 298
"	Mr Brian Martin, Firs Farm, Monewden	01473 737 285
Secretary	Mrs. Caroline Saxby, Maple Ho, Rookery Rd. Mon'den	01473 277 146
Treasurer	David & Lesley Grier, Northgates, Monewden	01473 737 298

CHARSFIELD BAPTIST CHAPEL

Leader/ Evangelist	John Green, The Manse, The Street, Charsfield	01473 737861
Secretary/ Treasurer	Mary Rowe, 15 Broad Road, Wickham Market	01728 582243
Deacon	Philip Read, 2, Owners Cottages, Hall Road, Charsfield	01473 737372

**In order to keep this information up to date
please inform the Editor of changes as they occur.
midloesmagazine@gmail.com**

The Benefice of Mid-Loes Christmas Services

Earl Soham, St. Mary's

Carol Service	December 18th, 6.30pm
Crib Service	December 24th, 6.30pm
Midnight Mass	December 24th, 11.30pm
Christmas Day	December 25th, 10am

Ashfield, St. Mary's

Carol Service	December 20th, 7pm
Christmas Day	December 25th, 9am

Cretingham, St. Peter's

Carol Service	December 18th, 11am
Christmas Day	December 25th, 10am

Dallinghoo, St. Mary's

Carol Service	December 23rd, 6.30pm
Christmas Day	December 25th, 10am

Hoo, St. Andrew and St. Eustachius

Carol Service	December 24th, 3pm
---------------	--------------------

Letheringham, St. Mary's

Carol Service	December 23rd, 6.30pm
---------------	-----------------------

Charsfield, St. Peter's

Carol Service	December 18th, 6.30pm
Christmas Service	December 24th, 9pm