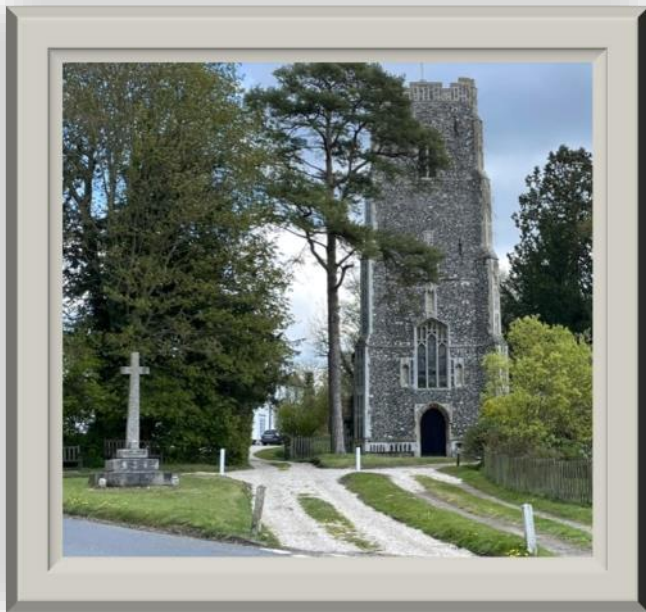


# MID-LOES BENEFICE MAGAZINE

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

**August - September 2023**



**August Benefice Communion Service**

**10am**

**Sunday 6th August**

**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. Mary Vellacott, Stretham House, Earl Soham, Miss Amber Pearce-Wright,	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: bev@gugenheim.net	01473 737667
Treasurer	Vacancy	

### CRETINGHAM

Churchwardens	Alister Gourlay, Tubric Cottage, Cretingham	01728 685 335
“	Mrs. Heather Runacres, Dove Farm Cotts. Cretingham	01728 685736
Secretary		
Treasurer	Alister Gourlay, Tubric Cottage, Cretingham	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  
**OCTOBER** edition is  
**SUNDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER**

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

**August-September 2023**

## **From The Rectory...**

With a double issue of the magazine being produced, there is so much that I could talk about as we continue into summer and by the time the next issue of the magazine is produced, we will be well into autumn, but again I turn to the local schools where this week we have been considering our journeys going forward into the next couple of months, whether moving to a new school in September, moving up a year group or thinking about our summer journeys to holiday destinations.

For the children, there was a great amount of joy as they were looking forward to the summer holidays which was tinged with sadness as they considered leaving their school or moving up a year group leaving their teacher with whom they had built a strong relationship. I was also drawn to the parental journey that is taken whilst our children are at school. The friendships that are made, the groups of which you become a part. This is all part of the life journey that most of us are fortunate enough to take, but again, one I had not considered before.

Our journeys in life are a mixture of joy and sadness, something that I knew but hadn't really considered in the way only children can teach you.

It is not just the act of journeying from one destination to another, it is about the people we meet along the way, the experiences we have, the new places we visit and the confidence we build as individuals through these experiences.

As adults, we use the term 'journey' so easily when it comes to our 'life's journey' or our 'journey of faith', but I believe it is important that we remember our journeys, because they help define who we are today and perhaps for the future. Our journeys enable us to share the joys and sorrows we have experienced, the mistakes we have made (and who hasn't made some?), but through our journeys, I don't believe we are alone.

On a personal level, my life journey has taken me from someone quite simply having no opinion of God or considering whether God really exists, to someone who now understands that I could not journey anywhere without knowing that God is by my side.

Through the start of my journey as being someone with no opinion, to the point where I am today, I have had so many wonderful life experiences, I feel truly blessed to be where I am today. Yes, there has been sadness along the way, but I know that God has called me to ministry here in Suffolk and my journey simply continues into a new chapter.

Why don't you take a moment to stop and reflect upon your own life journey that has brought you to where you are today? The chances are your journey will also be full of joy and some sorrow, but has your journey shaped you in a positive way to where you are today?

Within the Old Testament, we have the Book of Psalms, Psalm 139, the author writes, *'If I ascend to heaven, you are there'; 'if I flew away beyond the east or lived in the farthest place in the west, you would be there to lead me, you would be there to help me'.*

What your or my journey looks like, we can do worse than look to these words for comfort that God is with us each step of our journey through life, and from Psalm 119, *'your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path'.*

Have a wonderful summer and wherever your journey takes you, journey with a smile.

***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**

The next service where the choir will be present, is being held at:

**St. Mary's Ashfield**

**Sunday 3rd September — Choir present from 9am**

If you would like more information, please contact

Revd Gary Best or David Irlande.

**Revd Gary Best** - revgarybest@gmail.com; 01728 685 550

**David Irlande** - davidirlande@gmail.com; 07931 594 325

### **BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION AND LIGHT LUNCH**

**Thursday September 14th from 12noon  
At Firs Farm, Monewden**

A reflective Holy Communion service  
followed by a light lunch to which all are welcome

Please let Revd Kathleen know if you are coming  
in order to help with planning

**b.a.martin@btconnect.com or 01473 737285**

## EARL SOHAM NOTES

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<b>Rota for the Altar and Roll of Honour Flowers and Brasses — St. Mary's</b>	
<b>August</b>	<b>Mrs Patterson / Mrs Denton</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>Mrs Pratt / Mrs Lancaster</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>Mrs Kerridge / Mrs Roberts</b>
<b>Any Problems Ring Denise —685234</b>	

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### EARL SOHAM WI

Is a friendly group with around 50 members, holding interesting, informative, and entertaining meetings normally on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7pm.



Our next meetings are on:

**August** - No formal meeting

**WI Day - Saturday 16th September 10.30am - 3pm**

Castle Community Rooms, Framlingham.

Join us to celebrate this national event, promoting and celebrating all that the Women's Institute stands for and achieves.

**Thursday 28th September - in Brandeston village hall at 7pm**

Unfortunately, the planned talk on forensics has been postponed but an interesting and entertaining alternative for the meeting is in the pipeline.

**Thursday 26th October - Brandeston village hall at 7pm**

Speaker Jacqui Newton tells us all about

The costumes of Elizabeth 1st.

**Visitors and new members are always welcome at our meetings.**

**So why not come along and give us a try.**

For more information and to contact Earl Soham WI please find us at [www.sefwi.org.uk](http://www.sefwi.org.uk) or contact Eleri Whitham - 01728 628614.

EARL SOHAM  
**FETE**

SATURDAY  
5<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

2.30pm – 4.30pm

ON THE  
**VILLAGE GREEN**

**Free Entrance and Free Parking**

***Traditional Village Fete***

***Stalls & Games including:  
Steam Train Rides, Cakes,  
Plants, Toys, Grand Draw,  
Tombola, White Elephant,  
Books and many more!***

in aid of  
St. Mary's Church Fabric Fund

## EARL SOHAM NOTES

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### EARL SOHAM 100 CLUB

Once again we approach the time for the Annual Draw and Prize Presentation. This year's Draw will be on Saturday 21st October 2023 at 1000 for 1030 in the village hall. Please remember to have your £12 subscription renewed by the 30th September deadline. Cash or BACS would be preferred as this incurs no bank charges. If you would like to start a subscription please let me know either by email or on 685745. Half of the subscriptions is divided between St Mary's Church and the Village Hall and the other half distributed in prizes from £75 to £12. Depending on the total of subscriptions there are usually around 20 prizes. This is an excellent way of raising funds so do consider joining if you have not done so in the past.



## Annual Tournament 2023

**Saturday, 2nd September  
at 1.00 pm onwards**

### **Spectators most welcome**

Play will be continuous throughout the afternoon and tea, biscuits and other refreshments will be available

**Sponsored by Longstaff Transport, Walnes Seeds  
and Bruce Hinton (Earl Soham Business Centre)**

### **SAVE THE DATE**

**St Mary's Earl Soham, HARVEST SUPPER  
SATURDAY 14th OCTOBER**

In the Village Hall  
More details to follow

## The Falconer – Earl Soham Village Sign



The first “*Falconer*” was erected by Earl Soham Women’s Institute to commemorate the H. M. The Queen’s Coronation in 1953. It was carved by Ray Exworth, a student at the Ipswich Art School for a fee of £15. The Art Master, Bernard Reynolds was paid 2 guineas for arranging to have the work done. The cost of erecting the statue, including the cement pedestal was a further £15. (Earl Soham WI Archives).

The ‘first’ *Falconer* carved from whole oak in 1953, succumbed to rot at the base in the 1980s. A very arresting figure, placed on a pedestal on the Village Green, he could be seen from all directions and all angles. Solidly carved, he represented Earl Soham as a centre of falconry in past centuries and was much commented upon by visitors to the area. The overall sculpture was rather rough in appearance even though treated at regular intervals with preservative. This carving is now to be found in Earl Soham Village Hall.

The second “*Falconer*” was unveiled in 1990. On the advice of Bernard Reynolds who had been unable to contact the original carver, the Women’s Institute in January 1990 commissioned Nick Deans of Aldborough, Norfolk to carve a replica. In Bernard Reynolds’ opinion (1988) “he is the only other sculptor I know who regularly carves figures and animals in whole logs”.



Nick Deans’ interpretation of the original *Falconer* has produced a very much slimmer, smoother and more finely carved sign, whilst still adhering to the original concept of the *Falconer*. The original sign was especially sited away from the main road to avoid possible

traffic damage. The site is in a slight dip, so the plinth is essential for the sign to be seen from all angles. The oak tree, planted in 1977 to mark the Queen's Silver Jubilee, enhances the original site.

Earl Soham WI have a fund known as the Falconer Fund, set aside for keeping our rather special village sign in good condition. It's been a while, and he must be overdue for a bit of a rub down and oiling with preservative. The WI are seeking someone with the expertise and time to do this. We have some funds available for expenses and payment for this.

If you are interested to do this please get in contact with Gail Beckwith. [gail.beckwith@sky.com](mailto:gail.beckwith@sky.com)

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## **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](mailto:office@suffolkplantmachinery.co.uk)

# POP UP PUB

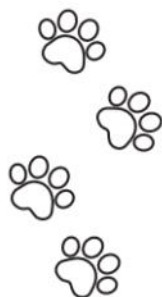
FRIDAY 4 AUGUST

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# THE OLD MILL

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*dogs  
welcome*



**6.30PM**

**MONNEWDEN VILLAGE HALL**

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**REAL ALE • WINE • LAGER  
SOFT DRINKS • BAR SNACKS**

## CRETINGHAM NOTES

Flower and Cleaning Rota 2023		
	Altar Flowers	Cleaning
August	Mrs Mayhew	Vacant *
September	Miss Whiting	Vacant *

*\* No cleaner for August/September – if anyone feels able to pop in and put a duster around it would be much appreciated. Thankyou.*

### COFFEE & CHAT

St. Peters Church, Cretingham

10.30am – 12noon

Monday 14th August

Monday 18th September



OPEN TO EVERYONE from any village ... just bring yourself for a cup of coffee/tea and biscuit.

### SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November for a RACE NIGHT in Kettleburgh Village Hall with hot supper and bar.

### August - September Services at St. Peters, Cretingham

13th August - 10am Morning Prayer with Revd Wendy Gourlay


20th August - 10am Holy Communion with Revd Kathleen Martin

10th September - Harvest Service with Revd Kathleen Martin

17th September - Holy Communion with Revd Gary Best

Traditional **HARVEST FESTIVAL**

Service 10 am Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Variety of produce / flowers taken up to the Altar and  
singing of '***We plough the fields and scatter  
the good seed on the land.***' 

Come and help us raise the roof with our singing!!

*The Church will be filled with beautiful flowers and wonderful produce which  
will be donated this year to the collection of all churches in the Benefice.*



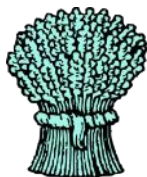
**Involved in our FETE ?**

Perhaps it was manning a stall,  
putting up a tent,  
coming along and taking part

then **THANK YOU... THANK YOU... THANK YOU...**

**You helped us raise £854.10 on the afternoon.**

We might have been blown around Oak Corner  
but everyone rallied and held things down  
as the gusts came and lifted everything!!



**Cretingham HARVEST SUPPER**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

in Brandeston Village Hall starting at 7 pm.

**£10 Adults / £5 Children**

Please inform us of any dietary requirements. Contact either  
Pauline 01473 737317 or Heather email:  
[heather.runacres@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:heather.runacres@hotmail.co.uk) to let us know you are coming.

## MONEDDEN NOTES

DATE	FLOWERS AND BRASSES	CLEANING	SIDESPERSION	COFFEE
August 6th	<b>Benefice Service</b> <b>St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham - 10am</b> <b>All Are Welcome</b>			
August 13th	J. Vonberg		B. Martin	C. Saxby
August 20th	-	F. Watts & C. Saxby	-	-
August 27th	C. Saxby	-	D. Grier	L. Grier

### CHURCH READERS:

August 13 - Wendy, Jean; September 10 - Jill, Paul.

### 100 CLUB WINNERS:

**July** - 1: £25 L. Grier; 2 - £15 John Green;  
 3 - £10 Benedicta Chamberlain.

Our next two **COFFEE MORNINGS** will be on **Saturday, August 19th** and **Saturday, September 16th**, from 10am onwards. Coffee, tea, breakfast rolls and bacon rolls will be served. Come and join us, this monthly event is now very popular. The 100 Club draw prizes for August and September will be drawn at this event.

**RIDE & STRIDE** in aid of the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust.

This year it will be held on Saturday, September 9th, from 9am to 5pm. Wendy Heath will be organising church sitting and if anyone wishes sponsorship forms they are available from Brian Martin (01473 737285).

## **MONNEWDEN NOTES**

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**HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE:** The date for this year's service will be Sunday, September 24th, at 10 am. This will be a service for all ages. Every year the church is decorated by willing helpers with flowers, fruit and vegetables, a display which is much appreciated by the congregation. Contributions of tins of food and packet goods, biscuits, cereals, etc., may be left in the church the day before the service to be displayed.

All goods and the collection will be donated this year to FIND.

DATE	FLOWERS AND BRASSES	CLEANING	SIDESPERSION	COFFEE
Sept 3rd	<b>Benefice Service</b> <b>St. Mary's Church, Ashfield - 10am</b> <b>All Are Welcome</b>			
Sept 10th	F. Watts	-	L. Grier	W. Heath
Sept 17th	-	W. Heath	-	-
Sept 24th	W. Heath	-	J. Dinwiddy	C. Saxby

### **LAMB FOR THE FREEZER**

Whole or half lamb or smaller packs  
all packed ready for the freezer

For more information please contact

**Brian Martin on 01473 737285**

## CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES

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### **Cream Teas**

Cream Teas at Charsfield Church continues on August 13<sup>th</sup> and September 10<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm. Don't miss out on an opportunity to meet your friends and have a delicious cream tea with homemade scones or homemade cake in aid of church funds.

Thank you to all the people who have supported us at the Cream Teas during June and July.



### **Food Donations**

Donations placed in the collection box in the porch at Charsfield Church are now going to FIND (Families in need) in Ipswich.

FIND has suggested donations that would be helpful such as:

long grain rice, longlife whole milk, tinned veg, tinned meat, tinned fruit, desserts, coffee, sugar, jam, soup, toiletries for men, women and children, and pet food.

Many thanks for your continued support and donations which are especially important in this time of rising costs of food, fuel and utilities.

**Everyone is Invited to:**

**A Cheer-Up October Event In  
Charsfield Village Hall on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October.**

Enjoy Fun, Food & Company at a Competitive

**Beetle Drive with Prizes**

**Commences at 7pm with Intro & Rules**

Price £8/person, Teams of 2 (if you're on your own its OK, we'll sort it out) including a 2-Course Meal. Licensed Bar (Contactless Payment).

We are limited by numbers so places are on a first come first served basis.

To express an interest or have a query please email: [seniors@potsford.com](mailto:seniors@potsford.com)

Stating how many places. We will reply with Confirmation & Payment Details.

**Charsfield Baptist Coffee Pot,**  
held every Tuesday morning  
**10.30am - 12noon**  
in the Chapel Hall.  
Everyone welcome



**Sunday Services** at 11am every Sunday.

**Morning prayer** times continue in the Chapel **Tuesday -Friday**,  
but only from **10am-10.30am**.

**Sing-along Suppers** will be held on every second Friday in the  
month until November, at 6.30pm. Buffet supper included.

Come and enjoy singing a mix of your favourite traditional hymns  
and modern songs. No tickets required.

**Everyone is welcome to the**  
**Charsfield Village Hall Bar**  
**Plus Table Tennis!**

CONTACTLESS PAYMENT

**BAR WILL BE OPEN**

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> August**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

**7pm to 10pm**



**Cream Teas  
Charsfield Church  
3-5pm**

**Second Sunday of**

**August (13<sup>th</sup>); September (10<sup>th</sup>)**

**All proceeds to church funds**

**Flower Rota August and September 2023**

<b>August 5th</b>	<b>August 12th</b>	<b>August 19th</b>	<b>August 26th</b>
Joyce Whitley	Joyce Whitley	Maureen Arbon	Maureen Arbon
<b>September 2nd</b>	<b>September 9th</b>	<b>September 16th</b>	<b>September 23rd</b>
Angela Farmer	Angela Farmer	Sheila Green	<b>Harvest Everyone</b>

**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. Please contact:

**Revd Gary Best: 01728 685 550**

**revgarybest@gmail.com**

## CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES

<b>Church Rotas—August 2023</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Sides person</b>
<b>6th August—10am</b> <b>Benefice Holy Communion</b>	<b>Benefice Holy Communion, Earl Soham.</b> <b>All Welcome!</b>	
<b>13th August</b>	No Service at Charsfield. Please check the Magazine for details of services elsewhere in the Benefice	
<b>20th August — 6.30pm</b> <b>Evening Prayer</b>	Ros Linda	Linda
<b>27th August — 10am</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>	Stephanie Margaret	Margaret

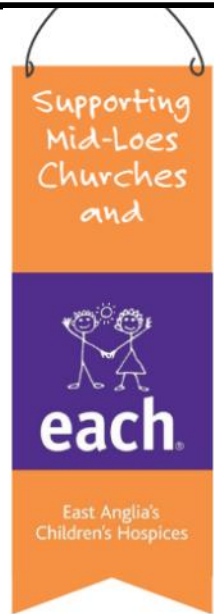
<b>Church Rotas—September 2023</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Sides person</b>
<b>3rd September — 10am</b> <b>Benefice Holy Communion</b>	<b>Benefice Holy Communion, Ashfield.</b> <b>All Welcome!</b>	
<b>10th September</b>	No Service at Charsfield. Please check the Magazine for details of services elsewhere in the Benefice	
<b>17th September — 6.30pm</b> <b>Evening Prayer</b>	Gill Pauline	Pauline
<b>24th September — 10am</b> <b>Harvest Holy Communion</b>	Sheila Mike/Linda	Mike/Linda

**The deadline for contributions to the**  
**OCTOBER 2023** edition is  
**SUNDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER**

# VICAR'S tea party

A very **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who was able to join me for the Vicar's Tea Party which took place on 1st July.

It was a truly wonderful afternoon at which we raised the incredible total of **£1200** which will be divided equally between East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) and your local benefice churches.



The afternoon was full of fun and laughter, with people of all ages visiting from across the 8 parishes within the benefice and with new friendships being made which made the afternoon very special. Local musicians and singers added to the afternoon and to each of them, I am very grateful for their time and commitment.

There are so many people to thank in helping to organise the event both in the planning and on the day, so please accept a global THANK YOU to you all who contributed so much to the afternoon.... you know who you are.

Now the planning begins for next year's event.... *Rev'd Gary*

# TEDDY BEARS ARE GO!

Sunday 27th August  
1pm - 3:30pm

ST MARY'S CHURCH  
LEATHERINGHAM

Prize for  
Winner!

SEE YOUR TEDDY PARACHUTE  
FROM THE CHURCH TOWER!

BBQ

Tea/Coffee and  
Cake

Pimms Tent and  
Bar



IP13 7QY    What3Words: ground.loafer.pacifist



### **Musica Antica Rotherhithe Concert at the Priory Church of St Mary's, Letheringham 16th July 2023**

Musica Antica Rotherhithe brought to the Priory Church of St Mary, their beautiful programme of early music "Rittrati" in which they performed songs and cantatas by three of the most prolific female composers of the 17th Century: Barbara Strozzi, Antonia Bembo and Isabella Leonarda.

Oliver Doyle, in his introduction, asked a full house, how many in the audience had heard of any of the three female composers and only a handful of people put up their hands, by the interval however, people were raving about the quality of the musicians and the beauty of the works being performed.

Many were intrigued by the baroque instruments being played, in particular the Theorbo and the Viola di Gamba and during the interval both Sarah Small and Peter Martin were able to answer the many questions they were being asked about their instruments. Alan Gotto the harpsichord maker was also on hand to answer questions about the harpsichord that was played by Oliver Doyle. Tristram Cooke was also able to explain his role as a professional singer and the part he played in both the late Queen Elizabeth's funeral and Coronation of King Charles III, as one of only four full time (counter tenor) choristers in Westminster Abbey.

At the end of the concert we were inundated by people enthused by the music they had just heard with comments such as "this was a real jewel" and "I came but was not expecting something so utterly beautiful."

The quality and professionalism of the musicians from the strings to the singers combined to make this a unique and magical evening from which the LPCC raised £1150 for the church restoration fund.

**Dates of our next Mardles at  
Easton and Letheringham Village Hall**

**Monday 4th September 2023**

‘Langard Fort - Felixstowe through the ages’

Presented by Gerry Dunleavey

**Monday 13th November 2023**

‘My life in UK Customs’

Presented by Jim Jarvae

**Friday 1st December 2023**

Wine Tasting Event with a selection of wines to taste and order  
(in time for the Christmas festivities), from Luke Flunder of  
Flunder Wines based in our neighbouring village of Clopton.

Further details to follow.

**Charsfield and Dallinghoo Women's Institute**



We invite you to join us or visit us and enjoy  
interesting speakers, friendly company  
and excellent catering! Our meetings are held  
at either Dallinghoo village hall (in the  
summer) or Charsfield village hall (in the  
winter) on the second Monday of the month at 7.45pm.

Guests and new members are always welcome - for more  
information contact the President, Maureen Arbon  
at [thearbons@btinternet.com](mailto:thearbons@btinternet.com) or 01473 737346

We would love to have some new members join us.

Give us a try, come along as a guest and see what we're like!

Planned events for the next two months are:

14th August      Outing: Garden Party

11th September    Circumnavigating the World on Container Ships,  
Peter Hesketh

## Services for August 2023

Church	August 6th 9th after Trinity	August 13th 10th after Trinity	August 15th St. Mary Patronal Festival	August 20th 11th after Trinity	August 27th 12th after Trinity
	Green	Green		Green	Green
Ashfield		6.30pm Evening Prayer VB		8.30am Holy Communion KM	X
Charsfield		X		6.30pm Evening Prayer KM	10am Holy Communion WG
Cretingham		10am Morning Prayer WG		10am Holy Communion KM	X
Dallinghoo		6.30pm Holy Communion WG		10am All-Age Worship WG	X
Earl Soham	10am Benefice Service GB	10am Holy Communion GB		10am All Age Worship MV	10am Morning Prayer CW
Hoo		8.30am Holy Communion KM		X	8.30am Morning Prayer KM
Letheringham		X	6.30pm Patronal Festival WG	X	X
Monewden		10am Holy Communion KM		X	10am All-Age Worship KM

**Key to Service Leader:** GB = Revd Gary Best; KM = Revd Kathleen Martin;  
WG = Revd Wendy Gourlay; APW = Amber Pearce Williams, Lay Elder;  
CW = Churchwarden; VB = Veda Berriman, Reader.

### BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION AND LIGHT LUNCH

**Thursday September 14th from 12noon  
At Firs Farm, Monewden**

A reflective Holy Communion service  
followed by a light lunch to which all are welcome  
Please let Revd Kathleen know if you are coming  
in order to help with planning

**b.a.martin@btconnect.com or 01473 737285**

## Bible Readings for August 2023

Date	Readings	Psalm
<b>August 6th</b>	Romans 9: 1-5 Matthew 14: 13-21	17: 1-7
<b>August 13th</b>	Romans 10: 5-15 Matthew 14: 22-33	105: 1-10
<b>August 20th</b>	Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15: 21-28	133
<b>August 27th</b>	Romans 12: 1-8 Matthew 16: 13-20	124

# **Growing in God**

After several Listening Events and through the various conversations that have been had and the questionnaires that you have completed, the Ministry Team will be presenting the results of your thoughts and ideas as to how ministry could look here in Mid-Loes over the next 5 years.

### **The Benefice of Mid-Loes Plan for Growth**

will be revealed at the Benefice Service on  
**Sunday 3rd September, 10am,**  
**at St. Mary's Church, Ashfield.**

For further information, please contact Revd Gary Best  
 revgarybest@gmail.com - 01728 685 550

## Services for September 2023

Church	September 3rd 13th after Trinity	September 10th 14th after Trinity	September 17th 15th after Trinity	September 24th 16th after Trinity
	Green	Green	Green	Green
Ashfield	10am Benefice Service GB and Archdeacon	6.30pm Evening Prayer VB	8.30am Holy Communion KM	X
Charsfield		X	6.30pm Evening Prayer GB	10am Harvest Holy Communion WG
Cretingham		10am Harvest Service KM	10am Holy Communion GB	X
Dallinghoo		6.30pm Holy Communion KM	10am All-Age Worship APW	X
Earl Soham		10am Morning Prayer GB	10am Holy Communion KM	10am Harvest Service GB
Hoo		8.30am Holy Communion GB	X	8.30am Morning Prayer KM
Letheringham		X	X	X
Monewden		10am Holy Communion WG	X	10am Harvest Service KM

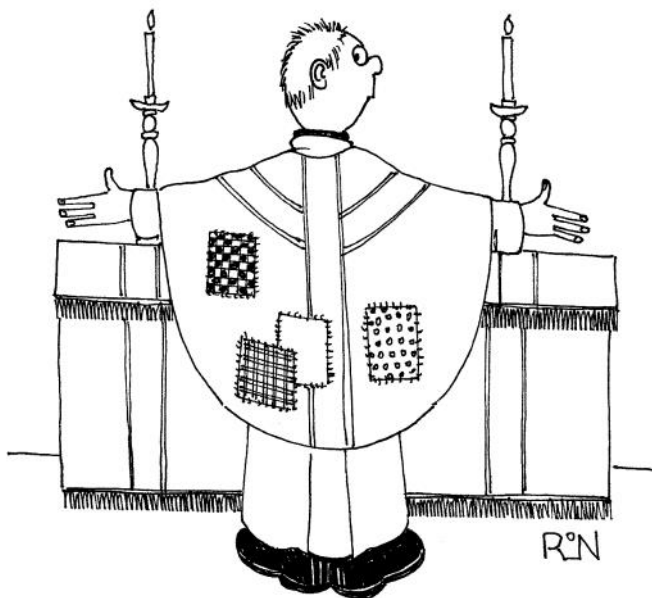
**Key to Service Leader:** GB = Revd Gary Best; KM = Revd Kathleen Martin;  
WG = Revd Wendy Gourlay; APW = Amber Pearce Williams, Lay Elder;  
CW = Churchwarden; VB = Veda Berriman, Reader.

**Please join us at St. Mary's Church, Ashfield, for the Benefice Service taking place on Sunday 3rd September, at 10am, where we will welcome the recently installed Archdeacon of Suffolk, Revd Rich Henderson.**

**The service will also acknowledge 170 years since the foundation stone was laid for the church building as it stands today.**

## Bible Readings for September 2023

Date	Readings	Psalm
<b>September 3rd</b>	Romans 12: 9-end Matthew 16: 21-end	115
<b>September 10th</b>	Romans 13: 8-end Matthew 18: 15-20	149
<b>September 17th</b>	Romans 14: 1-12 Matthew 18: 21-35	114
<b>September 24th</b>	Philippians 1: 21-end Matthew 20: 1-16	105: 1-6, 37-end



*Reverend Gary hates asking for money,  
but he sometimes made subtle hints.*



## Charsfield C of E Primary School

This term Class One have been learning about castles. They were very excited to visit Framingham Castle and put all

their knowledge to great use! The children could identify the features of castles they have been learning about in History, explain why we have castles and where they originally came from in our country and explain how they were used to defend against attackers. On the trip



Class One walked through the moat and imagined what it would be like trying to invade the castle. They enjoyed pointing out the arrow slits, battlements and drawbridge and we even had some visitors comment on their excellent knowledge saying how they thought it was fantastic how the children could identify these and talk about them! Of course the children were also very excited for lunch and we were very thankful to a class parent who bought all the children ice lollies – it definitely made their day!

KS 2 had a fabulous time travelling back to Tudor England at Kentwell Hall. The children interacted well with the characters and learned a Tudor dance, experienced life in the Tudor kitchen, helped in the bake house and explored the dairy. The children learned about Tudor medicine and enjoyed using the pestle and mortar to crush the ingredients. We also spent some time finding out about the hard work of the people who provided the fire wood and crockery to eat from. The children looked brilliant in their costumes and had a wonderful day, but realise that life is so much easier now! We hope that they treasure this experience for years to come.

Children across the school harvested their potatoes and made some delicious potato recipes. Class One made different flavoured potato wedges and Class Two and Three made a potato salad and a potato soup.

We were even able to use herbs from the school garden to add extra flavours. The food that the children produced was tasty and it is so rewarding to see food made from produce that the children have grown and tended themselves.

KS 2 pupils put on excellent performances of Cinderella and Rockerfella. They all worked so hard learning their lines and singing the songs. It is very hard work, but the children really enjoy it and we have many pupils who volunteered to sing solo parts and embraced the idea of trying something new!

We had a brilliant sports day where the children took part in various different sporting activities in their house teams. In the afternoon parents and family members cheered on the pupils as they took part in traditional running races and activities. Great fun was had by everyone and we were incredibly lucky with the weather too!

This term our pupils have taken part in several sporting activities against other local schools. These include: rounders, Just Dance, Foot Golf and Quad Kids for KS1 pupils. Our pupils worked really hard as a team and we even brought back some medals: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place for Quad Kids, medals for determination and teamwork for the Just Dance. Well done!

At the beginning of July we were able to take our Year 6 pupils to St. Catherine's College in Cambridge to find out what it is like to go to university and they really enjoyed themselves and were amazed at the number of subjects taught and what they could potentially study when they are older. It was an amazing experience and we look forward to taking more groups in the future.

These are just a few of the things that we got up to in the summer term! If you would like to find out more about our school, please look at our social media (Instagram and Facebook) and our school website. If you are looking for schooling and think we might be the school for you, please contact our school office on 01473 737347 to arrange an appointment to look around. Alternatively, you might like to come along to our Stay and Play (Open Afternoons) on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November between 1 – 3pm.

**Mrs Reeve, Head of School.**



## DR DAN POULTER MP

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

I write these words as the month of July opens and I am able to look forward to Parliament's Summer Recess period. Once Summer gets underway, I very much enjoy spending much more time back home in Suffolk and discover afresh all that's great about Central Suffolk and North Ipswich. From the swathes of farmland and open skies to the local produce markets and the vibrant businesses in North Ipswich. Summer recess gives me the opportunity to spend all my time at home here in the constituency, something which I particularly value and relish.

The school holidays are also approaching for parents everywhere, this brings to mind the planning of holidays and activities. I am sure that with the arrival of the school summer holiday period comes a frantic last-minute attempt to draw up plans for childcare and days out, no mean feat when many households may have both parents working and therefore have to share the responsibility of covering childcare. Thank goodness for the goodwill of grandparents or other family members and friends.

We are fortunate here in Suffolk as we benefit from a wide array of free and low-cost activities. Suffolk has a splendid blend of coastline, encompassing the natural beauty of Thorpeness and Dunwich as well as busy piers at Southwold and Felixstowe. Suffolk also boasts some beautiful river walks, something I was recently reminded of when I opened a brand-new footbridge for the River Gipping Trust. There are lots of village fetes, special practical activities at our libraries, nature reserves and museums and park activities for all.

I have already received a warm welcome from the local community at a splendid Vicar's Tea Party, organised by Reverend Gary Best,

in Earl Soham and I look forward to many more such events this year.

The People and Nature survey carried out by Natural England demonstrated the positive role of nature in supporting children's well-being, with eight in ten of children interviewed agreeing that being in nature made them very happy. Children who reported spending more time outside (and more time noticing nature and wildlife) were more likely to report that, 'being in nature makes me very happy' compared to those who had spent less time. We are incredibly spoilt here in Suffolk with a beautiful natural environment, all of it right here on our doorstep and just waiting to be discovered.

Local parks and private gardens are important ways of accessing green and natural spaces and there are always ways to find something to appeal to all. There are things which bring to mind the simple pleasures of growing up and letting your imagination run wild, building dens, getting the paddling pool out, having picnics outdoors or creating homes for nature, all of which can be done from the back garden.

Activities such as these not only encourage great team-building and social skills which are vital things to develop as children grow, but they have the added benefit of creating wonderful new childhood memories.

It's great to see families and friends spending some quality time together outdoors enjoying the very best of Suffolk life and while we are all aware of the importance of physical exercise, it's fully recognised now, that enjoying time outdoors brings that 'feel-good factor' and boosts mental wellbeing. Natural spaces are important places for connection – with the natural world and each other.

I know that I am looking forward very much to rediscovering some of my own favourite spots this summer.

### **Memorial service**

We had a wonderful service in memory of Percy Mapperley on Sunday June 11<sup>th</sup>. Percy died in 2020, and his daughters, Cynthia and Trudy, wanted a service in church, with lots of hymns being sung.

Percy's goddaughter Madeleine gave a eulogy on behalf of the family. Many other people shared their memories of Percy, and the common theme was his kindness and generosity, and his infectious laugh. His deep love of God came through as well, and the way he praised God through his singing. Many people will remember Percy sometimes shouting words, and mention was made of Psalm 100, where we are exhorted to "Shout praises to our God". So Percy was very biblical with his shouting!

The church was full, the singing hearty, Annabel pulled all the stops out on the organ, and Peter Holloway filled the church with the sound of his trumpet. Kathleen Martin, who had known Percy for most of her life, took the service, and shared as part of her memories, how Percy had arrived at church straight after his terrible house fire, and sung "Now thank we all our God" with all his heart.

Many thanks to Cynthia and Trudy for letting us share in celebrating the life of their wonderful and much loved father and for the wonderful tea they provided in the hall afterwards.

A truly memorable occasion.

### **Services at Dallinghoo for August and September**

**13 August 6.30pm - Holy Communion**

**20 August 10am - All Age Worship**

**10 September 6.30pm - Holy Communion**

**17 September 10am - All Age Worship**

### **Thank you for the music!**

After many years of musical accompaniment to our services, Annabel Brown has decided to step back from regularly playing the organ at Dallinghoo. We would all like to thank her for the wonderful music over the years and for her enthusiasm and willingness to always join in with worship on a small or large scale in the church. It is a real pleasure to create live music praising God and Annabel has provided a real focus for this. We will particularly miss the guest instruments such as harp, guitar and even the viola! We wish Annabel all the best as she continues to play music for pure pleasure.

### **Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride**

On Saturday 9th September, it's the annual open event where participants and cycle, walk or even run from church to church, all to benefit the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and your own local church. Many of our local churches have benefited from the support provided by the trust so please do give the event a go as well as refreshments on offer along the way, you may discover some of the hidden gems that our churches have to offer. Sponsorship forms are available in the church porch.

### **Carpet Bowls will resume in Dallinghoo Village Hall**

7.30 pm on the following Wednesdays  
September 20th  
October 4th  
October 18th

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## **ASHFIELD NOTES**

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### **ROADSIDE HEDGES**

Now that the bird nesting season is past please can I remind residents of the need to maintain roadside hedges. There is a requirement that all roadside hedges should be maintained so as to be 50cm back from the edge of the highway and where this cannot be achieved or visibility for vehicles accessing/egressing premises the height of the hedge should be reduced to and kept no more than 105cm [42"] tall. Whilst where there is a concrete kerb this distance is obvious elsewhere it is necessary to find the edge of the tarmac surface and measure back from there bearing in mind that soil/grass may have grown out too.

The purpose of this is to provide 'pedestrian refuge' so that people can get off the road if required for passing traffic as well ensuring the visibility when using private driveways so you can see approaching traffic.

After I raised this in the magazine last year I am pleased to report that most residents reacted very positively, thank you for that! I am already working with one resident who has a very overgrown hedge and expect that to be cleared quite soon. I would ask any resident with a hedge that is currently overgrown to put in place remedial action as soon as possible please. If any of this is unclear or assistance is required please do not hesitate to contact me. I will review the situation at the beginning of September when personal visits may take place, exceptionally Suffolk County Council can issue 'hedge cutting notices' I hope that will not be necessary in Ashfield. Thank you.

***Robert Grimsey***

### **ASHFIELD CHURCH—170 YEARS OLD**

On the 30th of August 1853 the foundation stone of the present church building in Ashfield was laid by Lord Henniker [4th Baron Henniker of Stratford-upon-Avon] whose family at that time

## ASHFIELD NOTES

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owned something 30,000 acres [roughly speaking 15 parishes] of land locally and whose seat was and is to this day at Thornham near Eye. Lord Henniker also built the village school now appropriately named 'Henniker House' where a stone showing the family crest

can be seen.. The total cost of the building is recorded as being circa £2000. A previous [12th century?] church building on the site had fallen into ruins in the late 1700s and records show that previous to that a church was recorded on the site in the Domesday Book [1086].

There is little doubt that the site where St Mary's now stands is by far the longest occupied land in Ashfield!

We will be celebrating this with a special service on Sunday 3rd September of which more details can be found elsewhere in the mag. We hope very much that you will be able to join us for this and/or refreshments in the village hall after the service. Full details will be circulated on the village email nearer the time.



### **SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST, CYCLE RIDE, 9TH SEPTEMBER**

As always Ashfield Church will be open to receive visiting cyclists between the hours of 9am and 5pm on Saturday 9th September. If anyone would be able to man the church to welcome visitors for an hour or two please can they let Jane Davidson or myself know? For the keen cyclists in the village would you consider riding to raise funds split jointly between SHCT and Ashfield Church? Sponsorship forms are available in the back of the church or from Robert Grimsey. Thank you.

**RG**

## **HOO NOTES**

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### **HOO HALL OPEN GARDEN 18 JUNE 2023**

The annual opening of the garden at Hoo Hall to raise funds for Hoo church took place on the afternoon of Sunday 18 June, and as always was a great success. Despite some concerns about the weather, based on the forecast for East Anglia, it remained dry and sunny during the event, and we had over ninety visitors.

The PCC would like to record their sincere thanks to Graham Nicholson for again supporting the church by opening his garden, and we raised over £780.

Thanks also to all my fellow members of the PCC and everyone else who helped to make the afternoon such a success. I must make special mention of Mark, who is of course also the Hall gardener, for maintaining such a lovely garden, which so many of our visitors commented on, and Mark's wife Sonia, for expertly managing the refreshments served throughout the afternoon.

As well as the open garden, there was a concert in the church which raised over £200 for the Hoo Church Building Trust.

Again, our grateful thanks to Graham for organising this.

Finally, we were very pleased that our visitors included Perry Branton, who served as a churchwarden at Hoo for so many years, it was lovely to see you, Perry.

### **ANNUAL TEA PARTY 12 AUGUST 2023**

Just a quick reminder that our next event is our Annual Tea Party at the church, hopefully in the churchyard if the weather is fine, on Saturday 12 August 2023, between 2 and 5pm. The theme for the event is "Find out about your church" and the afternoon will include presentations on life in Hoo past and present and how those who admire our little church can help it to prosper in the future.

There is no admission charge, but donations are welcomed; the church will be donating the proceeds of the event to the Disaster Emergencies Committee.

*Francis Whitbread*

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Web: [www.ubestree.co.uk](http://www.ubestree.co.uk)

**Debenham and District**

## CARAVAN/BOAT STORAGE PRIVATE CONTAINER STORAGE

**CONTAINER OFFICE/  
WORKROOM TO LET  
CL CARAVAN SITE**

Telephone Mike Lloyds  
**07764515100**

## 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](mailto:brucehinton@suffolkonline.net)

[www.earlsohambusinesscentre.co.uk](http://www.earlsohambusinesscentre.co.uk)



## ACRE BAKERY

Country Sourdough | Malted Tin Loaf

Baguettes | Batards | Focaccia

Seasonal Sweet Treats + Bakes

Bake Days: Tuesdays + Fridays

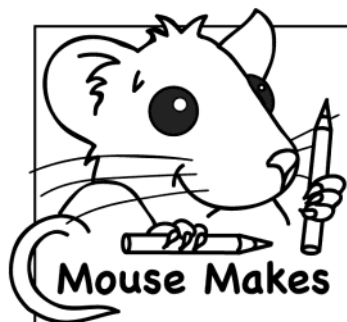
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USEFUL CONTACTS	
Clerks to Parish Councils	
<b>Ashfield</b>	Mrs Sarah Clare E-mail: actpc.clerk@gmail.com Tel: 01449 781671
<b>Charsfield</b>	Pamela Hembra E-mail: charsfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com Tel: 01473 737655
<b>Cretingham</b>	Acting Clerk : Caroline Saxby E-mail: cmhparishcouncil@gmail.com Tel:
<b>Dallinghoo</b>	Chris Ling E-mail: Dallinghoo.parish@outlook.com Tel: 07963305205
<b>Earl Soham</b>	Guy Harvey E-mail: espcclerk@gmail.com Tel: 01728 685729
<b>Hoo</b>	Caroline Saxby (see Cretingham above)
<b>Letheringham</b>	E-mail: letheringham@btinternet.com
<b>Monewden</b>	Caroline Saxby (see Cretingham above)
Village Hall/Community Centre Booking Secretaries:	
<b>Ashfield</b>	Geoff Henney Tel: 07507 040041 Email: sueandgeoffhenney@hotmail.co.uk
<b>Charsfield</b>	Website: www.charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk Email: enquiries@charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk Or Tel: 07935 445193
<b>Dallinghoo</b>	Mr Chris Pennington Tel: 01473 737 836
<b>Earl Soham</b>	Village Hall Committee Tel: 07961 606647 Email: esvhbookings@gmail.com Website: earlsohamvillagehall.org
<b>Monewden</b>	Sian Kingston Tel: 07887606717 Email: sian@rskingston.com

Village Organisations			
<b>ASHFIELD</b>	Community Council	Ms Sam Thomas	07985 807683
"	Ladies Group	Mrs Susan Hansen	01728 685 738
<b>CHARSFIELD</b>	CEVC Primary School	Mr Mark Taylor	01473 737 347
"	WI Secretary	Mrs Rosalin Baley	01473 737171
"	Rec. Ground Com	Gerry Smith	01473 277166
"	Tennis Club	charsfieldrgtennis@yahoo.com	
"	Flower Show Secretary	Mrs Pip Smith	01473 277166
"	Village Hall	Pam Hembra committee@charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk	
<b>CRETINGHAM</b>	100 Club	Mr Alister Gourlay	01728 685 335
<b>DALLINGHOOD</b>	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
<b>EARL SOHAM</b>	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 Secretary	Mrs Susie Starke	01728 684 385
"	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 Susie Starke Mrs Janice Meakin	01728 684385 07921 263632



After Jesus miraculously fed 5,000+ people from two fish and five loaves, he sent his disciples off in a boat across the Sea of Galilee before going up a mountain by himself. Later in the night, as the boat was being blown and buffeted by the wind, Jesus came miraculously walking on the water towards them...

Read the story in: *Matthew 14: 22-27,*  
*Mark 6:45-56 or John 6:16-21*

What did Jesus do when he went up on the mountain?

Matthew 14:23

What was the boat struggling against?

The \_\_\_\_\_ and  
the \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 14:24



What did Jesus say to his disciples?

Do not be

Matthew 14:27

What did the disciples think Jesus was when they saw him walking on the sea?

A \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 14:26

Who walked out on the water to Jesus?

Matthew 14:29

What did Jesus say to Peter?

Oh you of little \_\_\_\_\_  
why do you \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 14:31

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

JESUS • DISCIPLES • BOAT • OTHER SIDE • CROWDS • MOUNTAIN • EVENING • ALONE • LAND • NIGHT • SEA  
WALKING • TERRIFIED • FEAR • COME • WATER • SINK • SAVE • INTO • CEASED • WORSHIPED • SON OF GOD

## **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 Lane, Debenham. Email fwhitbread57@gmail.com	07788 563827

### **LEATHERINGHAM**

Churchwardens	Vacancy	
Secretary	Janet Ross, Pips Cottage, Cooks Hill, Letheringham Email jeross1@me.com	01728 746228
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**

Pastor	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 Deadline** for contributions to the  
**OCTOBER** edition is  
**SUNDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER**



**September  
Benefice Communion Service**

**10am**

**Sunday 3rd September  
St. Mary's Church, Ashfield**

**Please join us for this Benefice Service  
where we will welcome the recently installed  
Archdeacon of Suffolk,  
Revd Rich Henderson**