

# MID-LOES BENEFICE MAGAZINE

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

**May 2025**



**Benefice Service**

**Dallinhoo - 10am**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May**

**All Welcome**

## WHO'S WHO IN THE BENEFICE

Rector	Revd Gary Best, The Rectory, Earl Soham (Day off Friday) Email: midloesoffice@gmail.com	01728 685550 07493 072 695
Assistant Priest	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 email: robertgrimseyactpc@gmail.com	01728 685 203
Secretary	Robert Grimsey, as above	
Treasurer	Robert Grimsey, as above	

### CHARSFIELD

Churchwardens	Linda Stratton email: linda.e.stratton@gmail.com Mike Bamford	01473 737771 07899 696606
Secretary	Beverley Gugenheim, The Cottage, The Street, Charsfield email: bev@gugenheim.net	
Treasurer	Garry Stratton email: g.d.stratton@outlook.com	01473 737771

### CRETINGHAM

Churchwardens	Alister Gourlay, Tubric Cottage, Cretingham Mrs. Heather Runacres, Dove Farm Cott. Cretingham	07799 588 106 01728 685 736
Treasurer	Alister Gourlay, Tubric Cottage, Cretingham	07799 588 106

### DALLINGHOO

Churchwardens	Mrs. Charlotte Sullivan email : charlottesullivan87@yahoo.com	07967743006
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 panel  
**JUNE 2025 ISSUE is**  
**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

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

**May 2025**

*From The Rectory...*

It is Easter Bank Holiday Monday, and as I write my reflection for the magazine, I do so physically and mentally shattered, but in a very positive way after my 6-week Lenten journey, taking me through Holy Week, to the ultimate day in the Christian calendar...the glorious Easter Sunday.

My Lenten journey was based around the 'blackout' of watching all TV news bulletins, reading newspapers, and staying away from all news outlets, and this was based on a growing obsession in my seeking out the latest bad news, not just from around the world, or even this country, but a blackout of all things darkening our lives that was coming out from the hierarchy of the Church of England, the institution that I am part of, as story after story was being heard about the systematic failure of those whom we turn to for spiritual guidance, support, and love, those who were taking part in, or covering up, the abuse of young people, adults, and the most vulnerable in our society, whilst also allowing known offenders to serve in our communities, whilst still remaining in senior roles with the church.

Yes, the Christian faith is based around forgiveness and repentance, which I accept as part of my faith, but this has been tested to the extreme when we have seen and heard so many tragic stories from victims who put their trust in the church, only to be let down by so many through the most horrific abuse that we could possibly imagine.

I sit here right now, having spent the past five months struggling with my role as a parish priest, but now feeling renewed and re-energised, after the blackout of news bulletins, and shutting down on the bad news that emanates from the hierarchy of our church, and I feel that now is the right time for me to share this with you and to confirm the position of your local churches, reassuring you that each church understands its role with respect to safeguarding, and ensuring

that your church is a safe place and a place where the Christian faith can be seen for what it is meant to be...a faith of serving our neighbours, a faith of joy, a faith of love.

Here is part of a statement that I presented to the PCCs of your churches, last November, which was sent directly after events became known resulting the resignation of the Archbishop.

*Dear PCCs,*

*I am sure everyone is aware of the news of the resignation of Archbishop Justin Welby for his 'personal and institutional responsibility' in addressing the horrific abuse that many young men and boys suffered at the hands of the abuser, John Smyth.*

*However, unlike much else that is deemed 'newsworthy,' this story about abuse is not about something that only happens elsewhere; to other people; in deprived households; only to children at the hands of an abusive relative; or in any other of a multitude of otherwise everyday situations. Abuse happened to countless victims at the hands of John Smyth; historically to a growing number of Harrods employees; to individual children and vulnerable adults whose names appear in headlines all too frequently. For those reasons it is something that we - as members of the Church of England - must address head-on and be seen to respond with the utmost importance and sincerity. That applies in a very specific way to members of our PCCs - elected representatives who hold a special duty of care and responsibility.*

*Each of us will have our own thoughts and opinions on what has gone on, and what is to come in the future of the Church of England, but I know that we will be as one in our thoughts and prayers for ALL victims of abuse, men, women, and children, who have and continue to suffer through abuse. On a personal level, I never thought I could be made so upset by anything relating to safeguarding again after several years as a Foster Carer, but this has been a difficult week and one where I have felt shame serving in an Institution that continues not to learn from years and years of so many cases where innocent people have been abused by those who wear a collar, or abused by those not ordained, but operating alongside clergy who, allegedly, were aware of such atrocities taking place and saying nothing. But, as we know, prayer is a wonderful thing and after a few days, I have been reminded that I am in a position to serve this benefice with integrity through the teaching of the Gospel, and with compassion and love shown towards all whom I serve, as indeed, each of us has in our role as practicing Christians.*



*The past week should have highlighted to every one of us that safeguarding is not something that 'happens over there', or that 'I know everyone in my village and we are all good'. Safeguarding is not an issue to be treated lightly in any context. As Christians, it is our duty to love and care for our neighbours; it is our duty to offer the best possible support to those in most need; it is our duty to show our communities that we are a trusting, caring church, and one that takes its responsibilities in the area of safeguarding, very seriously.*

From everything that has been said, I felt that now is the time to share the above with you, but to also confirm that the PCCs of the benefice churches are fully safeguarding compliant and will continue to remain so. This means that each member of the PCC has undertaken two training modules to understand what safeguarding actually means; to be vigilant within our own communities; and to encourage people to have the confidence to raise any concerns that they may have; but most of all, that our parishes can see their local church as a safe place to go and be part of.

I want to thank our PCCs for the seriousness that they have taken this very important issue, for the support shown to me, and to ensure that our churches are safe, inclusive, and loving...FOR EVERYONE.

I hope and pray that Easter and perhaps your own Lenten journey has been fulfilling, whether you gave up chocolate, alcohol, (or even crisps in one case!), or perhaps using Lent as an opportunity to serve others during this time.

My hope and prayer is that within the Benefice of Mid-Loes, within our eight beautiful parishes, that we can continue to focus on what is important, and that is serving each other in the way we have been taught... serving with joy, with integrity, and with love.

*Love, and Blessings, Revd Gary*

## **A Celebration of Marriage**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July, St. Peter's Church,  
Cretingham, 11am**

A Celebration of Marriage is a service where we will be celebrating the wonderful institution of marriage. Whatever length of time you have been married, if you would like to acknowledge your marriage with a blessing taking part within this service, then please let Revd Gary know.

01728 685 550 – [midloesoffice@gmail.com](mailto:midloesoffice@gmail.com)

## **BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION & LIGHT LUNCH**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 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**

## **Ascension Day Service**

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May – St. Mary's Church, Dallinhoo – 11.30am**

Please join us for our Ascension Day Service where we recognise  
the end of Jesus's earthly ministry as he ascends into heaven,  
leaving his disciples with his final instructions to...

*'go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name  
of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit'. Matthew 28:19*

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Please note the following dates for the  
benefice churches APCMs...**

**Charsfield / Dallinhoo / Ashfield / Cretingham /  
Letheringham / Monewden**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May - St. Mary's Church, Dallinhoo – 11.30am**

**Hoo**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May - Hoo Church - 2pm**

**Earl Soham**

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May - St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham - 7.30pm**

## ASHFIELD NOTES

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### THANK YOU

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To everyone who attended the benefice service at St Mary's on Palm Sunday. It was good to see so many of you worshipping with us! The singing was enhanced by the Benefice Choir with Roger playing the organ. After the service everyone enjoyed the opportunity to chat with friends over coffee and refreshments. Special thanks to those that were actively involved in the service too. RG

### CHURCHYARD - ALEXANDER'S WEED

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Some of you may have noticed that steps have been taken to contain the tall flowering 'weed' that given half a chance will take over the whole churchyard! Alexander's Weed [*Smyrniurn olusatrum*] is extremely rampant and seeds prolifically where ever it is allowed to flower. At the moment we have culled most of those growing in the churchyard, with the exception of an area at the back of the churchyard where it will be allowed to flower for the benefit of pollenating insects and bees. These plants will be cleared before they are able to set seeds. RG

### PARISH MEETINGS, 2025

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The Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will both take place on Monday 12th May in the Village Hall starting promptly at 7.30pm. Residents are encouraged to attend to hear reports from all of the parish organisations summarising their activities during the last twelve months.

If you have anything that you would like to raise at either of these meetings please can you let the Clerk know [email at back of Mag] at least one week before the day of the meeting. Thank you, Robert

### GARDEN EVENT

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It is planned to open the garden at Corner View to raise funds for Ashfield Church. At the time of writing because of uncertainty as to when the trees will be flowering a date has not been confirmed. Once things become clearer details will be circulated via the various parish email systems. It will either be an evening 6 - 9pm or weekend afternoon 2 - 6pm on each occasion a drink and light refreshments will be available. I look forward to welcoming you! There will be no set admission fee just a pot for donations or if preferred a QR code for electronic donations. Robert

### DONATIONS TO ST MARY'S

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St Mary's wouldn't survive without the generosity of its congregation, residents and visitors.

If you would like to make a donation towards our work and do not have cash please do consider making an electronic donation using our QR code which is displayed at the back of the church. If you are a UK tax payer and would like to enhance your donation by letting us reclaim the tax please register that and it will be done for you automatically.



*Robert*

## CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES

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### CHARSFIELD AND DALLINGHOO WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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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, Lynne Miller at [i.miller142@btinternet.com](mailto:i.miller142@btinternet.com) or 07856 656695.

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!

12 <sup>th</sup> May	DVH – 7.45 pm	Bevan Boys	Barbra McElroy
9 <sup>th</sup> Jun	DVH – 7.45 pm	Blood Sweat and Fears, Forensic Science	Mrs Mary Newton
14 <sup>th</sup> Jul	DVH – 7.45 pm	RSPCA	Gill Hendry
11 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Outing	Garden Party	at Silver Birches
8 <sup>th</sup> Sep	DVH – 7.45 pm	The Rabble Chorus	Kirsty Logan
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	CVH – 7.45 pm	Working with the Police	Karen Harris
10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	CVH – 7.45 pm	AGM with cheese and wine	
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	tba	Christmas Party	

## Charsfield Flower Show

Sat 26<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Charsfield Village Hall



Start growing flowers and vegetables to enter the show.

Also photography, domestic and handicraft classes.

The photography classes this year are:

Into the wild, Doorways, A piece of food, A local scene, Pet/s, In the garden, Seaside, A wet day, Birds, Your choice of colour photo and A black and white photo.

So get snapping!

## CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES continued



### CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING

A Coffee Morning and raffle held in Charsfield Village Hall raised £320 for Christian Aid. Charsfield School Choir entertained us singing a selection of songs that they had been practising for the Big Sing event taking place in the Cathedral at Bury St. Edmunds. The choir sung wonderfully and it was lovely to see their enthusiasm.

### EASTER FLOWERS

Thank you to everyone who decorated St. Peter's for Easter Sunday with flowers. The church looked wonderful with all the Spring blooms to celebrate Easter especially after having no flowers in Lent.





**There's a warm welcome waiting in  
Charsfield Village Hall Bar**

Plus Table Tennis! 

Dominos, Shove Halfpenny & other games





**CONTACTLESS PAYMENT**

**BAR WILL BE OPEN**

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> May**

**7pm to 10pm**



### 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**

## CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES continued



CHARSFIELD - MAY FLOWER ROTA				
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	May 10 <sup>th</sup>	May 17 <sup>th</sup>	May 24 <sup>th</sup>	May 31 <sup>st</sup>
Lucy Fox	Lucy Fox	Gill Winkworth	Gill Winkworth	Lesley Fuller

## CHARSFIELD - MAY READER ROTA

Date	Readers	Sides person
<b>May 4<sup>th</sup> 10.00am</b> Benefice Holy Communion At Dallinghoo	Benefice Service Holy Communion at Dallinghoo All Welcome	
<b>May 11<sup>th</sup></b>	No service at Charsfield. Please check the Magazine for details of services elsewhere in the Benefice	
<b>May 18<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm</b> Evening Prayer	Antony Margaret	Margaret
<b>May 25<sup>th</sup> 10.00am</b> Holy Communion	Sheila Linda	Linda

## Charsfield C of E Primary School

*Aiming high, valuing individuals, celebrating success.*



- Small class sizes
- Forest school and swimming lessons
- Affordable wraparound care 8am-5pm
- Close to Wickham Market, Framlingham & Woodbridge
- Rated 'Good' by Ofsted, 2023
- Pre-school coming soon
- High adult to pupil ratio
- Family feel and supportive staff
- Inclusive, diverse curriculum



***Come and see what a small school can do for your child.***

Church Road, Charsfield, Woodbridge IP13 7QB, [office@charsfieldprimary.org.uk](mailto:office@charsfieldprimary.org.uk), 01473 737347



# **Cream Teas at Charsfield Church**

**3-5pm**

**Third Sundays:**

**May 18 Jun 15, Jul 20,**

**Aug 17, Sept 21**

**Proceeds to Church Funds**



## **Coffee Morning**

**Plants, Cakes,  
Books, Bric-a-Brac,  
Raffle & Chat**

**Friday 30 May 2025**

**10am-12noon**

**Hill Farm, Charsfield (opp. Hall Road)**

**Tea/Coffee Cake £5.00**

**Cash payments please**

**Fundraising in aid of  
St. Peter's Church, Charsfield Fabric Fund**

**Please support by making a cake, donating plants, bric-a-brac, books or a raffle prize. Even better, come and join us! We can collect donated items. Please contact Linda or Margaret 01473 737771 or 01473 737182. Looking forward to seeing you there!**



## CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES continued

CHARSFIELD - MAY CLEANING ROTA	
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	May 24 <sup>th</sup>
Margaret & Stephanie	Lucy



Many thanks to all who clean the Church. Any problems please let Lucy know on 737231. email – foxdial@btinternet.com

## CHARSFIELD FLOWER, PRODUCE AND CRAFT SHOW

Sat 26<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at Charsfield Village Hall

Start growing flowers and vegetables to enter the show.

Also photography, domestic and handicraft classes.

The photography classes this year are:

Into the wild, Doorways, A piece of food, A local scene, Pet/s, In the garden, Seaside, A wet day, Birds, Your choice of colour photo and A black and white photo.

So get snapping!

The Flower Show schedule will be available in late May in Charsfield Church porch, the telephone box in Charsfield and Charsfield Village Hall. Have a look at the classes and see if you would like to enter any. Entries cost 30p per class for adults and the children's classes are free.

Entries night is on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 7-9pm at Charsfield Village Hall.



You can now follow the Benefice of Mid-Loes on Facebook or Instagram - [beneficeofmidloes](#)

Also, keep in touch with the Benefice through:

[www.mid-loes.com](http://www.mid-loes.com)

[www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

If you would rather access the Benefice Magazine online through the website, or A Church Near You, rather than receive a printed copy, please let the office know, [midloesoffice@gmail.com](mailto:midloesoffice@gmail.com).



## CRETINGHAM NOTES

### FLOWER AND CLEANING ROTA

	Altar Flowers	Cleaning
May	Mrs Defoe	*Vacant
June	Mrs Walker	*Vacant



\* If anyone has the time to pop into church and give a sweep / dust that would be fantastic!



### CRETINGHAM - ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May – in Dallinghoo Village Hall – 11.30am**

Refreshments on arrival. Please do join us.

*Alister & Heather (Churchwardens)*

### COFFEE and CHAT

**This month we are meeting on –  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 10.30 – 12**

Come along for a chat and meet others over a cup of coffee/tea and biscuits !!

[Next months are 16<sup>th</sup> June and 18<sup>th</sup> July]



### ST. PETERS CHURCH PATRONAL FESTIVAL

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June**

11 am Celebration Service followed by lunch altogether in the churchyard.

Please bring your own picnic, chairs, drink and find a shady or sunny spot !



**SUFFOLK MOBILE LIBRARIES calls at Oak Corner, Crettingham**

every 4 weeks on a Thursday from 14.30 – 14.45.

Next two are: - **1<sup>st</sup> May and 29<sup>th</sup> May**

Do pop along and see them as they are always happy to recommend a good read.

## **CRETINGHAM NOTES continued**

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### **SERVICES IN ST. PETERS, CRETINGHAM**

<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Benefice Holy Communion</b> at St Mary's, Dallinghoo	<b>10.00am</b>
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b> Revd Gary Best	<b>10.00am</b>
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Revd Wendy Gourlay	<b>10.00am</b>
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Ascension Day Service</b> at St Mary's, Dallinghoo	<b>11.30am</b>

### **THE CRETINGHAM TOWNLANDS TRUST**

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The Cretingham Townlands Trust is a private, charitable trust governed by a Constitution approved by the Charity Commission. Its origins lie back in the sixteenth century and it is one of many hundreds throughout the country which date back to the period following the Dissolution of the Monasteries which resulted in care for the poor falling on the parishes, a burden which they were generally not keen to take on.

Before the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII, the religious institutions had looked after the sick, poor and needy as part of their religious duty and many religious houses were given money for this purpose by wealthy benefactors hoping, perhaps, to ease their own paths into the after-life.

With a more secular age it fell upon the community to take care of its own and so those with wealth to spare and position to uphold took on the responsibility and looked for ways to settle monies in perpetuity for poor relief and the benefit of clergy and church buildings.

These public-spirited citizens settled land, buildings and money in private Trusts for the purpose. In many cases these small charitable Trusts were all but forgotten as the centuries passed and often it was not until the last century that communities became aware of the funds and wondered what to do with them.

So it was in Cretingham. The Townlands Trust was set up by Arthur Penning and William Barwick in 1561, early in the reign of Elizabeth I, to keep the church in good repair for the general benefit of the parishioners, the poor and the needy. In 1819 the then vicar, the Rev Joseph Jefferson, added two acres of his own land to augment the glebe lands to be let at ten shillings a year for the benefit of the poor. By 1826 the Trust owned some land, the blacksmith's shop, where now Dial House's garage stands, a cottage for the blacksmith, the public house, now Dial House, and three other cottages for the poor of the parish. The pub, which had become derelict, was sold and The Cretingham Bell moved to its current location at Oak Corner.

## **CRETINGHAM NOTES continued**

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The Trust now owns the former village shop, let as a workshop, the concrete area alongside it , let out as three parking spaces, agricultural land of about 4 acres, formerly tenanted by a local farmer, and investments in COIF and M&G, together with funds at Barclays.

The rules governing the Trust are set out in the Trust Constitution, sealed on September 11 1991. This is publicly available on the Charity Commission website. There are six Trustees, two nominated by the PCC (Pauline Cobley and Revd Gary Best), two by the Parish Council (Katie Shircliff and Helen Marjoram) and two are co-opted (Fiona Harrington and Gerry Field). The current Chair is Gerry Field.

Meetings are held twice a year, although extraordinary meetings can be called. At the January/February meeting the accounts are submitted and funds distributed.

The Constitution stipulates that after the costs of insurance and repair of Trust property have been met, there may be a reserve fund for providing for repair of Trust property and a reserve fund for the extraordinary repair and improvement of the parish church. The remainder can then applied "in relieving either generally or individually persons resident in the Civil Parish of Creetingham who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress by making grants of money or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need, hardship or distress of such persons."

Application can be made to the Chair and will be considered at a meeting of the Trustees. All Trust proceedings are strictly confidential.

In the last 12 months a small area of land, previously let as a garden area, has been sold as a building plot. Four further plots of land have been sold to properties adjoining the land owned by the Trust. The remaining agricultural land is now vacant and all attempts to find a new tenant have failed.

The sale of the plots of land have increased Trust funds and it is hoped will increase Trust income in the coming years to be applied in accordance with the Trust's Constitution.

*Gerry Field, March 2025*

## **THE LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION**

### **THE 2025 100 MILE WALK**

For the first time in 50 years the LDWA are holding their 100 mile non-stop walk in this region. During the afternoon and evening of Saturday 24th May they expect to pass through Creetingham coming along Bird's Lane from Otley/Framdsen, turning left at The Bell and then right on Swan Lane to go through the Golf Club on their way to Brandeston.

Approximately 500 walkers will start walking from near Ipswich and will attempt to complete a 100mile circular route non stop using Public Rights of Way and minor roads within 48hours.

I am sure they would appreciate some support along the way!!

*Rev'd Gary and Sarah invite you to a Garden Party to celebrate Sarah's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday, raising money for*

LIVE MUSIC

LICENSED BAR



**DementiaUK**

Helping families face dementia

BBQ

DEMENTIA UK  
PRESENCE

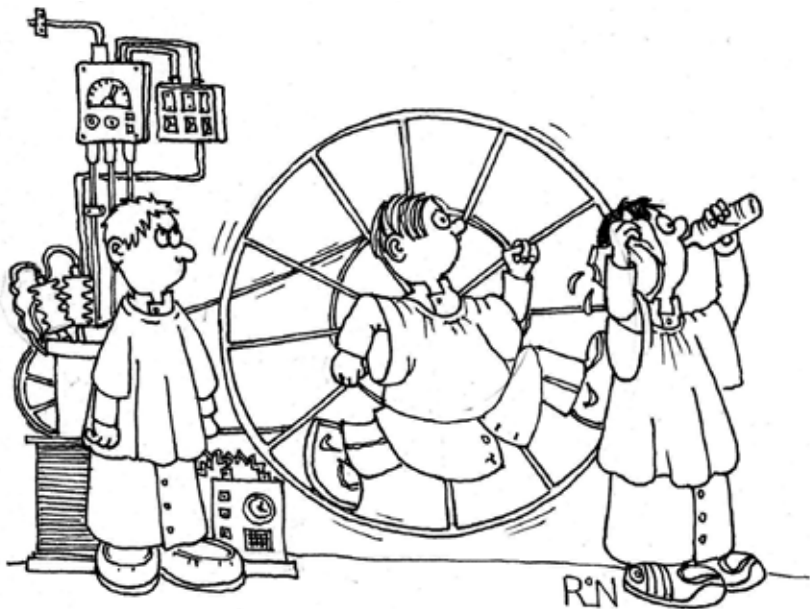
*Please join us on*

*Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July, from 2pm-5pm,*

*The Rectory, Church Lane, Earl Soham, IP13 7SD.*

No presents or cards please, but if you wish to make a donation to Dementia UK, there will be plenty of opportunity on the day, or please use our JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/sarah50thbirthday>



*When the solar panels weren't working,  
there was Plan B*

## READINGS



May 2025

Date	Readings	Psalm
<b>May 4<sup>th</sup></b> Benefice Service	Acts 9: 1-20 John 21: 1-19	30
<b>May 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Acts 9: 36-end John 10: 22-30	23
<b>May 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Acts 11: 1-18 John 13: 31-35	148: 1-6
<b>May 25<sup>th</sup></b>	Acts 16: 9-15 John 5: 1-9	67
<b>May 29<sup>th</sup></b> AscensionDay	Acts 1: 1-11 Luke 24: 44-end	47

## 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**

**Margaret Salter    01473 737 182**

**Mary Vellacott    01728 685423**



## CHURCH SERVICES

May 2025

Church	May 4 <sup>th</sup>	May 11 <sup>th</sup>	May 18 <sup>th</sup>	May 25 <sup>th</sup>	May 28 <sup>th</sup>
	Easter 3 White	Easter 4 White	Easter 5 White	Easter 6 White	Easter 6 White
Ashfield		6.30pm Evening Prayer <b>VB</b>	8.30am Holy Communion <b>KM</b>	X	X
Charsfield with Debach		X	6.30pm Evening Prayer <b>GB</b>	10am Holy Communion <b>GB</b>	X
Cretingham		10am Morning Prayer <b>GB</b>	10am Holy Communion <b>WG</b>	X	X
Dallinghoo	<b>10am Benefice HC GB</b>		10am All-Age Worship <b>KM</b>	X	11.30am Ascension Service <b>GB</b>
Earl Soham		10am All-Age Worship <b>APW</b>	10am Holy Communion <b>GB</b>	10am Morning Prayer <b>WG</b>	X
Hoo		8.30am Holy Communion <b>GB</b>	X	8.30am Morning Prayer <b>KM</b>	X
Letheringham		X	X	X	X
Monewden		10am Holy Communion <b>KM</b>	X	10am All-Age Worship <b>APW</b>	X

### Key to Service Leader:

**GB** = Revd Gary Best;

**KM** = Revd Kathleen Martin;

**WG** = Revd Wendy Gourlay;

**APW** = Amber Pearce Williams, Lay Elder;

**MV** = Mary Vellacott, Lay Elder;

**CW** = Churchwarden;

**VB** = Veda Berriman, Reader.



## DALLINGHOO NOTES

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### CHURCH SERVICES

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Please note the changed service pattern to accommodate Easter,

4<sup>th</sup> May 10am Benefice Holy Communion followed by APCM meetings

28<sup>th</sup> May 11.30am Ascension Day Service



### COFFEE MORNING

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**May 3rd 10-12 Village Hall**

Thanks to everyone who has been supporting these monthly catch ups. Please do come along for coffee, chat and some great baking.



### PLANT AND CAKE SALE

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Thanks to everyone who contributed plants and cakes to this event. It was great to see so many people there. No doubt much gardening inspiration was received ready for the spring bank holidays!



### THANK YOU

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If anyone were in any doubt that the Benefice newsletter is read - and promptly and with with careful attention - then they should simply advertise for empty flower pots - as I did. The response was wonderful.

I think I now have pots for at least another year in addition to this one - the only question is will I be able to grow enough to fill even half of them? So to all who gave us pots - a sincere thank you!

I do hope you came to the Dallingshoo Jubilee Hall car park on 19<sup>th</sup> April and bought a plant you are pleased to have at a price you thought a steal and in a pot that you gave.



*Jeremy - on behalf of the Dallingshoo Church Repair Fund*

### WELCOME

---

Welcome to Isaac Hoffman who has bought & moved into No 4 Church Road. We wish him every happiness in the parish.



# Save the Date



## For Church events taking place across the Benefice

<b>April</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	Easter Stalls	St. Peter's, Cretingham
	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	Plant & Cake Sale	St. Mary's, Dallinghoo
<b>June</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	Open Garden & Concert	Hoo
<b>July</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	Birthday Garden Party	The Rectory
	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	Village Fete	Cretingham
<b>August</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Village Fete	Earl Soham

## **St Elizabeth Hospice are looking to recruit a team of warm, caring and empathetic Community Volunteers to provide support to people living in their own homes**

The support provided may include tasks such as collecting and delivering shopping, collecting medication, making a snack or drink, lighthouse work and gardening or visiting to provide carer/loved one respite, reassurance or a cup of tea and a chat.

We have many patients requesting support in their own homes, across various locations in Suffolk but in particular – Saxmundham, Ipswich, Woodbridge, Eye, Felixstowe and Stowmarket areas. Visits can sometimes be up to 4 hours, but usually would be much less.

**If you have any questions regarding the role please contact the Volunteer Team on 01473 707939 or email [volunteer@stelizabethhospice.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@stelizabethhospice.org.uk)**

## EARL SOHAM NOTES

---

### EARL SOHAM WI

A thriving, growing and friendly group. We hold interesting, informative and fun meetings. These are usually on the 4th Thursday of every month at 7.00pm at Brandeston Village Hall. New members from Earl Soham and the surrounding villages/areas are most welcome.



*Next meeting:*

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>** – 7.00pm – The Beehive – A refuge for abused women in Kenya  
Introduced to us by Ruth Leigh

Find us at [www.sefwi.org.uk](http://www.sefwi.org.uk) or contact Eleri Whitham – 01728 628614



### EARL SOHAM 100 CLUB

As we have been unable to find someone to join the committee it has been agreed that, with effect from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025, the club will be closed down. I will keep the bank account open until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025 for any subscriptions. I will, of course, start returning 2025 subscriptions that have already been paid but please ensure that you have cancelled any Standing Orders. If you would like to convert your subscription into a donation please let me know as soon as possible on [chris.anne1@btinternet.com](mailto:chris.anne1@btinternet.com) or 07395 918937. Once the accounts have been completed I will arrange for the outstanding balance to be divided between St Mary's Church and the Village Hall. This has been a disappointing decision to have to make and I must thank all those, who over the years, have enabled the club to support these two very worthwhile causes.

*Chris Pratt, Chairman/Treasurer*

Rota for the Altar and Roll of Honour Flowers and Brasses- St. Mary's	
May	Mrs Stott
June	Mrs Rothery/Mrs Hinton
Any problems Ring Denise - 685234	



## Ascension Day Service

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May – St. Mary's Church, Dallinghoo – 11.30am**

Please join us for our Ascension Day Service where we recognise the end of Jesus's earthly ministry as he ascends into heaven, leaving his disciples with his final instructions to...

*'go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit'. Matthew 28:19*

Earl Soham Allotment and Leisure Garden Association

## **Music, Bar & BBQ event**

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025

4pm start - Children's activities

6pm onward - Music and BBQ

At the Village Hall, Earl Soham

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for advance tickets or further information



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According to The Energy Saving Trust, an uninsulated home loses a quarter of its heat through its roof. For the second year in a row, help to afford eco-friendly loft insulation is now available.

The Suffolk Climate Change Partnership (Suffolk County Council, Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils, East Suffolk Council, Ipswich Borough Council and West Suffolk Council) has teamed up with High Loft to help Suffolk residents make their homes warmer and save money on their energy bills.

High Loft also offers Klarna as a payment option, allowing you to spread the cost of your insulation purchase.

**To find out more visit [www.greensuffolk.org/at-home/funding](http://www.greensuffolk.org/at-home/funding).**



Earl Soham WI



# Coffee Morning

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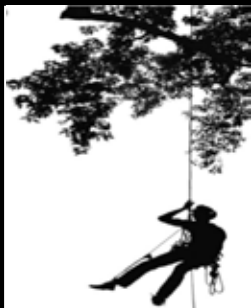
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## Clerks to Parish Councils

<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
<b>Dallinghoo</b>	Chris Ling E-mail: dallinghoo@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>	Mrs Mel Thurston E-mail: letheringhamparishcouncil@gmail.com Website: <a href="https://letheringham.onesuffolk.net">https://letheringham.onesuffolk.net</a>
<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: <a href="http://www.charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk">www.charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk</a> Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk">enquiries@charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk</a> Or Tel: 07935 445193
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## 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	charsfieldrc@gmail.com	
"	Tennis Club	charsfieldrgttennis@yahoo.com	
"	Flower Show Secretary	Mrs Pip Smith	01473 277166
"	Village Hall	Pam Hembra committee@charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk	
<b>CRETINGHAM</b>	Friends of St. Peters	Mr Charles Wright	01728 684 065
<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
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"	Village Hall Secretary	Mrs Susie Starke	01728 684 385
"	100 Club	Christopher Pratt	07395 918937
"	Tennis Club	Mrs Mary Patterson	01728 685 362
"	Bowls Club	Martin Dorey	01728 684880
"	Scouts/Cubs/Beavers	Mrs J. Lovett	01728 723 712
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## MIRACLES OF PETER

At which temple gate  
did the crippled man lay?

Acts 3:1-10



Who were the man and wife  
who lied to God?

and

Acts 5:1-11

People carried the sick into  
the streets so that when Peter  
came by at least his

might fall on them.

Acts 5:12-16

How long had Aeneas  
been paralysed for?

years  
Acts 9:32-35

Where had Tabitha's body been laid?  
in the

Acts 9:36-42



"And the word  
of God  
continued to  
increase,  
and the number  
of the disciples  
multiplied  
greatly."  
Acts 6:7

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ascended into  
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Holy Spirit  
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the Apostles  
and Peter was  
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many miracles  
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*See the book  
of ACTS*

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AENEAS • PARALISED • TABITHA • ILL • PRAYED • ALIVE



Find the words from the questions too!

## 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, 5 Clarke Drive, Framlingham	07395 918 937

### 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 fwitbread57@gmail.com	07788 563827

### LEATHERINGHAM

Churchwardens	Malcolm Ross, Pips Cottage, Cooks Hill, Letheringham Email malcolmnross@icloud.com	07720 213472
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Treasurer	Terence Carlin. Email terence.carlin@btinternet.com	01728 746480

### MONNEWDEN

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

**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 panel  
**JUNE 2025 ISSUE is**  
**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

# **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**

**Please note the following dates for the  
benefice churches APCMs...**

**Charsfield / Dallingshoo / Ashfield / Cretingham /  
Letheringham / Monewden**

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May - St. Mary's Church, Dallingshoo – 11.30am

**Hoo**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May - Hoo Church - 2pm

**Earl Soham**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May - St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham - 7.30pm

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the governing body of a church, overseeing the church resources, assets, and buildings, with responsibility for ensuring compliance with policies such as health and safety, and safeguarding. The PCC also collaborates with the Rector and Ministry Team in discerning and promoting the mission and ministry of the church.

The PCC is required to hold an APCM at which reports are shared, accounts approved, new members and officers are elected and questions may be asked about any area of the church's ministry.

Anyone may attend the annual meeting and raise questions; only those on the electoral roll may vote in any formal resolutions that might be made.

**If you would like to become more involved in your local church,  
please contact Revd Gary:**

**midloesoffice@gmail.com - 01728 685 550.**