

MID-LOES BENEFICE MAGAZINE

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

October 2025



Benefice Holy Communion

Charsfield - 10am

Sunday 5th October

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	07760 220970 07899 696606
Secretary	Beverley Gugenheim, The Cottage, The Street, Charsfield email: bev@gugenheim.net	
Treasurer	Garry Stratton email: g.d.stratton@outlook.com	

CRETINGHAM

Churchwardens	Alister Gourlay, Tubric Cottage, Cretingham Jonathan Lettin, Moat Farm, Cretingham	01728 685 335 07896 251 569
Treasurer	Alister Gourlay, Tubric Cottage, Cretingham	07799 588 106

DALLINGHOO

Churchwardens	Mrs. Charlotte Sullivan email : charlottesullivan87@yahoo.com	07967 743006
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
NOVEMBER 2025 ISSUE is
Sunday 19th October

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

OCTOBER 2025

From The Rectory...

Having grown up in Cornwall, which is a rural county, I hadn't fully understood what a real rural county looked like until I arrived here in East Suffolk, 3 years ago. Cornwall has a rugged coastline, for me, one of the most beautiful in the country, and yes, there are a lot of fields, but nothing like here in East Suffolk, and this got me thinking during the past few days as I have been preparing for the various harvest services which are now starting to take place, how lucky I am to be living here, and how I thank God through my prayers every day, for the opportunity he has given me to live here.

This is my fourth Autumn in East Suffolk, and it is one of my favourite times of the year. Whether driving from one church to another, whether walking the dog (Louis) with Sarah, the beauty of the landscape and the changing colours of the landscape never cease to amaze me. It is also about the conversations I have with local landowners, farm workers, those involved in farm machinery, and of course the local seed merchants, with conversations ranging throughout the year from, 'we need more rain', to, 'there is too much rain', and finally with conversations of relief as the harvesting has been completed and, from one or two reliable sources in The Vic, it has been a 'good year', and for that we give thanks to all those involved in local farming, as well as giving thanks to God for his managing the rainfall to keep everyone happy... for this year at least.

But it is to the Harvest Services that we now turn to, a time to give thanks for the local farming, the crops that have been grown; to give thanks for the allotments and all the food that is grown on a local level; to give thanks for the supply chain that enables what has been grown to make its way into our shopping baskets.

Today, for most of us, food comes already picked and packed from a supermarket or the delivery van, not our own fields – so perhaps it's even more important now to remember the work that is carried out on a local basis, and to remember that our food comes from God's creation.

Perhaps I could encourage you when you are sitting at home, enjoying the vegetables, and the fruit, and the food set before you, to say a simple prayer... 'We give thanks to all those involved in the supply chain of our food, from farm workers to seed merchants, from lorry drivers to supermarkets, we give thanks to all who have worked to put this food before me. Amen'.

And let us not forget how lucky most of us are in being able to put food on the table; for living in warm homes; and for living here in East Suffolk.

Love, and Blessings,

Rev'd Gary



October Harvest Services

Sunday October 12th

Cretingham – 10am

Letheringham – 10am

Dallinghoo – 6.30pm

Prayer Requests

**Please use the
Prayer Boxes
found in all the
benefice churches
or email
midloesprayer@gmail.com**



BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION & LIGHT LUNCH

Thursday 9th October 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

Are you caring for someone with memory loss and/or dementia?

Then we are here to help you.

We provide a carers' café, post-diagnosis support,
information, advice, peer support, songs for sharing,
transport and much more.

Carers' club and info café on 14th and 28th October,
2-4pm in Dove Cottage, 39 High Street,
Debenham IP14 6QN (free!)

Just come along, relax and find a listening ear.
(Your loved one will also be most welcome)

Further information: The-debenham-project.org.uk

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



ST. PETER'S CHURCH CHARSFIELD SEPTEMBER CLEANING ROTA 2025

11 October	Angela & Joyce
25 October	Sheila & Pauline

ST PETER'S CHURCH ROTA

Date	Readers	Sides person
5 th October 10am Benefice Holy Communion, Charsfield	Benefice Holy Communion Charsfield All welcome	
12 th October	No Service at Charsfield Please check the Magazine for details of Services elsewhere in the Benefice	
19 th October 6.30pm Evening Prayer	Margaret Mike	Mike
26 th October 10am Holy Communion	Antony Linda	Linda

**All welcome at
Charsfield Village Hall!**

**Table
Tennis**

Pop Up

Bar

**Contactless
Payment**

**Friday 3rd and 17th October
7pm – 10pm**

CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES continued



ST PETER'S FLOWER ROTA

4 Oct 25	11 Oct 25	18 Oct 25	25 Oct 25
Lucy Fox	Gill Winkworth	Gill Winkworth	Lesley Fuller

HOSPICE COFFEE MORNING

Joyce & Dave Whitley invite you to our annual Coffee Morning supporting St. Elizabeth Hospice on Saturday 29th November 2025 at 10am to Noon in Charsfield Village Hall. This is a special day as it is our final fund raising event for the hospice.

As Usual there will be a Raffle and our Craft Stall. The Cotton Club have been working hard to donate their beautiful Christmas Crafts for our cause. We will be providing Hospice Collection Buckets for any small change that you have collected over the year. Delicious tea, coffee and cake too! Adults: £4 Children: free (includes Tea or Coffee and Cake)

If anyone is interested in taking over this worthwhile event please contact us on 01473 737549

CHARSFIELD SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

5 th October	10.00am	Benefice Holy Communion
19 th October	6.30pm	Evening Prayer
26 th October	10.00am	Holy Communion



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

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CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES continued

CREAM TEAS AT CHARSFIELD CHURCH

Cream Teas season has now ended, and we would like to thank everyone who has come along to Charsfield Church and supported us this year. A total of **£587.50** has been raised for much needed church funds and it has also become a social gathering for villagers and the occasional cyclists and walkers.

We look forward to seeing you again in May next year!



SAVE THE DATE

Charsfield Christmas Lunch

and entertainments

For the over 60's is on Saturday 13th December

Starting at noon More details to follow



BENEFICE CHOIR If you would like to join a group of committed singers who come together on the first Sunday of the month at our benefice services, then please read on. Whether you are an experienced singer or have a good ear and the ability to 'pick up a tune', then please come along and join us at the next benefice service, details of which are on the front cover of this magazine. The Benefice Choir is developing a growing repertoire of Choral Music, Anthems, Psalms and Chants, and we would welcome anyone who would like to join us to sing at these well supported services.

If you would like further information, please contact Jonathan Lettin – lettins@me.com

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NOVEMBER BENEFICE SERVICE

Sunday 2nd November at 10am

Ashfield

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, 01473 737347

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:

Revd Kathleen Martin 01473 737 285

Margaret Salter 01473 737 182

Mary Vellacott 01728 685423

Revd Wendy Gourlay 01728 685335





VILLAGE HARVEST SUPPER

Saturday 11th October

Start 7.00-7:30pm

Charsfield Village Hall

Hot Meal - Bar - Raffle

Please email linda.e.stratton@gmail.com
to reserve a place and for any dietary requirements

Donations to Charsfield Church Funds

FAT BAND are back with Polly Gibbons

Support Band 'Black Coffee' from Cambridge

**Charsfield Village Hall
Saturday 22nd November**



**An evening of Jazz, Soul, Rock and Blues
In aid of The Brain Tumour Charity**

Doors Open 7pm, with Bar (card payment only)

Tickets £15

Email charsfieldvh@gmail.com



HARVEST SUPPER

Saturday 4th October 2025

in Brandeston Village Hall starting at 7 pm.

£12 Adults / £5 Children

Please inform us of any dietary requirements.

Contact either Alister (01728 685335

email tubric.cottage@gmail.com or Heather

email: heather.runacres@hotmail.co.uk

to let us know you are coming.

*The Tuckwell Cup (for school-age) and Appleby Cup
will be contested at the supper. Details in October magazine.*

Traditional HARVEST FESTIVAL Service

10 am Sunday 12th October 2025

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 in aid of FIND (Families in Need)

CRETINGHAM NOTES continued

THE FUNERAL OF MIKE OLIVER

will be held at St. Peter's Church, Cretingham, at 11am on Tuesday 14th October.
The service will be followed with refreshments at The Cretingham Bell.

COFFEE AND CHAT

10.30 - 12noon

October Monday 13th

November Monday 10th

December Saturday 13th as part of the Christmas Stall

Everyone welcome.

Pop the dates in your diary now!



DON YOUNG (1939 - 2025) OBITUARY

Don Young was born in Dublin in 1939 and lived in Lincoln from 1947 where went school and joined Air Training Corp, learned gliding, got a licence at 15 and progressed to Tiger Moths getting his pilot's licence at 17. He was offered a place at Cranfield but went to LSE and from there joined the graduate scheme at Unilever. After a wide range of placements, he went to Newfoundland as Manager of a trawler fleet in a new Unilever venture producing cod for UK fish fingers factories in Great Yarmouth and Grimsby. His subsequent roles were in large companies Plessey, Ellermans, ThornEMI and Redland as Director for Organisation and People. I met and worked with Don at ThornEMI. In 1990 we set up YSCLtd (Young, Samuel, Chambers) a consultant psychology practice Don's last role full-time role was with Redland which merged with Lafarge in 1992.

We became partners in 1989, got actively involved in boating, bought a 1954 wooden lifeboat to be refurbished in Norfolk and decided to live in Suffolk, so bought Old School in 1992 and married in 1994. We continued to work in London, refurbished the house and became full-time residents. Don absolutely loved Cretingham – the Bell, the community and inclusion and the vegetables he grew and I cooked. He got deeply involved and financially supported Ipswich Community Media and Learning and other social ventures aimed at supporting children, refugees and disadvantaged people in Ipswich and fostering integration, opportunity and quality of life in the more deprived parts of Ipswich. And he wrote and produced websites both about the dysfunctional aspects of our world and the hilarious events of our many cruising trips all over Europe. Don leaves 2 wonderful sons and will be desperately missed because he was hugely inspiring and generous, challenging and loving and very funny indeed.

DALLINGHOO NOTES

DALLINGHOO COFFEE MORNING

Dallinghoo Coffee morning is back on Saturday 4th October, please keep Linda, Tina, Norman myself busy by turning up in your droves!! All coffee morning proceeds go to the church funds and I believe since starting in March we have raised in excess of £300. Many thanks to all who support the coffee mornings, in any way your help and support is greatly appreciated.

FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

Thank you to Andy and Annie, and Jeromy and Bridget for letting Linda use some of the flowers from your gardens to use in the church this is very much appreciated. If anyone has flowers that can be spared from the garden please do leave them in the church or let Linda know and she will collect them.

CHURCH CLEANING

If anyone wishes to help Linda and I to clean the church let us know. You can email me on janedsewell@gmail.com to find out more or you could pop in to see Linda. We clean most Fridays usually between 10.00 - 12.00 the last half hour being coffee break.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October 18th - Harvest Supper this is a great way to get to know your neighbours in a nice sociable setting. Watch out for more details.

DALLINGHOO CHURCHYARD AUTUMN CLEAR-UP

This will be on Saturday 18th October from 9:30 to 12. Please bring appropriate tools with you. Those cooking for an evening event (if there is one) may have a bye.

ALL YOU CAN EAT FOR £8.00 -

THE HALL & CHURCH REPAIR FUND COMMITTEES COMBINE

The Dallinghoo BBQ on Sunday 7th September was a success - gently & conversationally enjoyed by the 40 who came. We had a warm sunny day, the two gas barbecues cooked everything all at once and the puddings were worthy of the biblical 5,000!

If you thought of coming but didn't, you missed a really good 'do'. Although we were sorry there weren't more, we still made a profit of £80: half to the Jubilee Hall and half to the Church Repair Fund.



DALLINGHOO NOTES continued

DALLINGHOO PARISH AGM

Tuesday 28th October 7.30pm 2025 at the Village Hall, Guest Speaker Councillor Colin Hedgley, Carlford & Fynn Valley Ward.

MOWER REPAIR - A BIG THANK YOU

I would like to say a big thank you to my Grand Stepson Jamie who took on the challenge of mending St Mary's Church ride-on lawn mower. There were many stages to this repair. These included the making of templates for the patches, welding, reconstruction and a coat of Post Office red paint. (The painting was my job.) The repair took quite a few days to complete, and Jamie managed this project alongside his work at Dubweld renovating vintage cars. I learnt a lot during the repair!

I would also like to say thank you to the PCC who funded the repair.

Thank you so much.

Chris Pennington



DALLINGHOO HARVEST SUPPER



Join us on
Saturday 18th October

at

Dallinghoo Jubilee Hall

7pm for 7.30pm

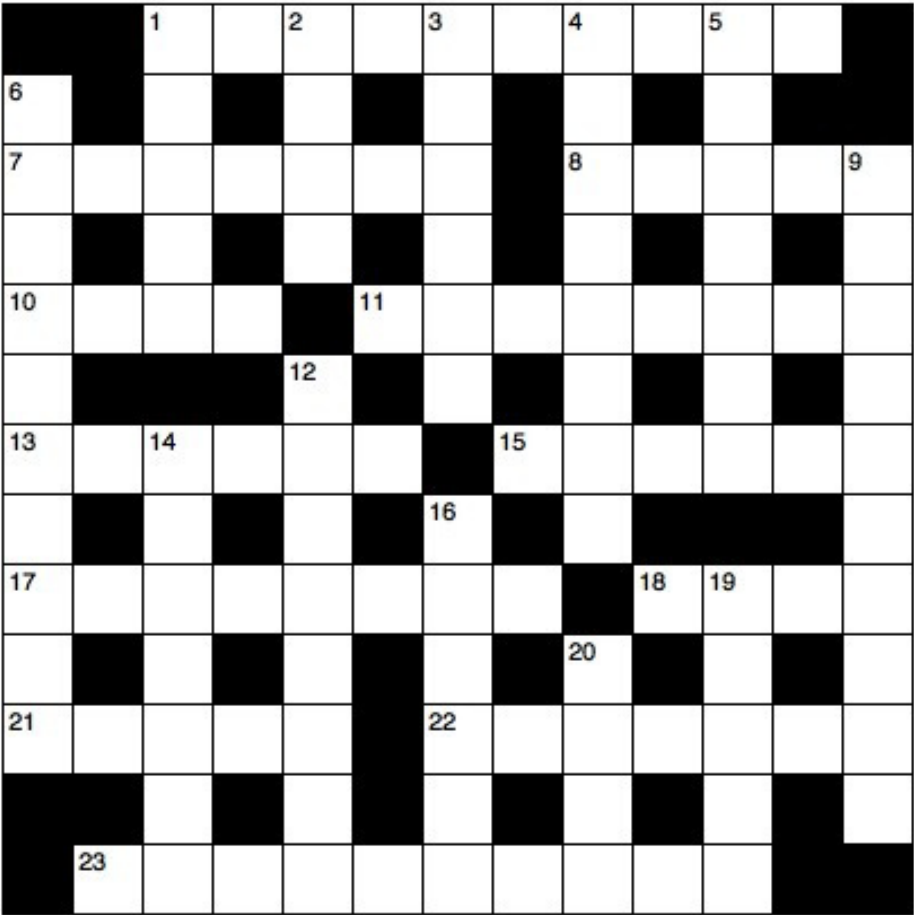
£15 per person, under 12's £7.50
(Two course meal, bring your own drinks)

To register your interest,

please email
dallinghoo.hs@gmail.com
or call John Gill on

07798 724641





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Across

- 1 He was replaced as king of Judah by his uncle Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17) (10)
- 7 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before him — the cross' (Hebrews 12:2) (7)
- 8 Relieved (5)
- 10 Impetuous (Acts 19:36) (4)
- 11 Surprised and alarmed (Luke 24:37) (8)
- 13 'It is — for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God' (Mark 10:25) (6)
- 15 Directions for the conduct of a church service (6)
- 17 One of the acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19) (8)
- 18 and 20 Down
'She began to wet his — with her tears. Then she wiped them with her — ' (Luke 7:38) (4,4)
- 21 'We will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an — , — the last trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:51–52) (3,2)
- 22 'But he replied, "Lord, I am — — go with you to prison and to death"' (Luke 22:33) (5,2)
- 23 Third person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14) (4,6)

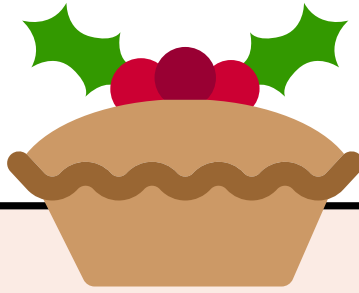
Down

- 1 He betrayed Jesus (Matthew 27:3) (5)
- 2 Paul's assurance to the Philippian jailer: 'Don't — yourself! We are all here!' (Acts 16:28) (4)
- 3 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this — the whole — of man' (Ecclesiastes 12:13) (2,4)
- 4 The sort of giver God loves (2 Corinthians 9:7) (8)
- 5 Sun rail (anag.) (7)
- 6 Naboth, the ill-fated vineyard owner, was one (1 Kings 21:1) (10)
- 9 Paul said of young widows, 'When their sensual desires overcome their — to Christ, they want to marry' (1 Timothy 5:11) (10)
- 12 This was how Joseph of Arimathea practised his discipleship 'because he feared the Jews' (John 19:38) (8)
- 14 Mop ruse (anag.) (7)
- 16 Foment (Philippians 1:17) (4,2)
- 19 Where Joseph and Mary escaped to with the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:14) (5)
- 20 See 18 Across

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



TEA/COFFEE AND MINCE PIES

*START YOUR CHRISTMAS SEASON
WITH US ON*

**SATURDAY
29th NOVEMBER**

**EARL SOHAM VILLAGE HALL
2.30pm - 4.30pm**

COME AND MAKE A CHRISTINGLE

Christingle is a joyful celebration that brings families and communities together
to share the light of Jesus and spread a message of hope.

**Books - Jigsaws - Cakes - Tombola
and more**

PROCEEDS TO ST MARYS EARL SOHAM

**ALL AGE CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
10am Sunday 30th November
ALL WELCOME**



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:

Oct 23rd 7:00 pm - Protecting the UK border with James Jarvie

Find us at www.sefwi.org.uk or contact Eleri Whitham– 01728 628614



ST MARY'S EARL SOHAM

CHRISTMAS EVE CRIB SERVICE 2025

This outdoor service has been a popular tradition for over 50 years and we would love to keep it going.



We need school age children to take part as various characters (no acting or speaking required) to create the nativity scene whilst the congregation sing carols to narrate the story of Christ's birth.

The Commitment:

- To attend rehearsal on Sunday 21st @ 10am (approx 1hour)
- To be at Earl Soham Church at 5.30pm on Christmas Eve to get ready for the 6 o'clock service – to which all are very welcome

Costumes provided

Please let Mavis or Charlotte know if you would like your child to take part this year.

Mavis 01728 685700 maviskerridge@gmail.com

Charlotte 07789307976 charlottepeacher242@msn.com

Mavis Kerridge, For St Mary's PCC

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

October	Mrs Kerridge / Mrs Roberts
November	Mrs Patterson
Any problems Ring Denise - 685234	





October 2025

Date	Readings	Psalm
October 5th Benefice Service	2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10	137
October 12th	2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19	111
October 19th	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:18	121
October 26th	2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14	65

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:

Revd Kathleen Martin 01473 737 285

Margaret Salter 01473 737 182

Mary Vellacott 01728 685423

Revd Wendy Gourlay 01728 685335



CHURCH SERVICES

Church	October 5 th	October 12 th	October 19 th	October 26 th
	Trinity 16 Green	Trinity 17 Green	Trinity 18 Green	Last of Trinity Green
Ashfield		6.30pm Evening Prayer VB	8.30am Holy Communion GB	X
Charsfield with Debach	10am Benefice Holy Communion GB	X	6.30pm Evening Prayer KM	10am Holy Communion WG
Cretingham		10am Harvest WG	10am Holy Communion GB	X
Dallinghoo		6.30pm Harvest Holy Communion GB	X	X
Earl Soham		10am All-Age Worship APW	10am Holy Communion KM	10am Morning Prayer KM
Hoo		8.30am Holy Communion KM	X	8.30am Morning Prayer KM
Letheringham		10am Harvest GB	X	X
Monewden		10am Holy Communion KM	X	10am All-Age Worship APW

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.



NOVEMBER BENEFICE SERVICE

Sunday 2nd November at 10am - Ashfield



EARL SOHAM NOTES continued

EARL SOHAM VILLAGE HALL – DIARY DATES !

CYCLE CAFÉ + FREE BIKE SERVICING

Sun 5th Oct. 9am-2pm

(Bike servicing booking essential. See Events on www.earlsohamvillagehall.org)

BOOK FAIR AND CAFÉ

Sun. 16th Nov. 10am - 4pm

ESVH ART EXHIBITION

Sun. 26th Oct. – 2nd Nov. 10 - 4 daily

CAFÉS

Sunday 26th Oct. & Sunday 2nd Nov. 10 - 4

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Friday 7th December 6 - 10pm

QUIZ NIGHTS

Friday 7th Nov / 12th Dec / 2nd Jan / 6th Feb / 6th March

Profits to the Village Hall Renovation Fund

www.earlsohamvillagehall.org

ANNUAL TOURNAMENT 2025

The Earl Soham Bowls Club Annual Tournament was held on Saturday 6th September.



Our Annual Tournament was well supported by players from a wide area of surrounding villages in Suffolk and two teams from Mistley and Manningtree Bowls Club. 42 players participated in a three-wood triples competition. It was won by a joint team from Earl Soham and Easton Bowls Club and second place went to a joint team from Kesgrave and Bredfield Bowls Club. Third place went to a team from Saxmundham Bowls Club.

Thanks to the hard work of Earl Soham Bowls Club members, the support of visiting players and the generous sponsorship of Longstaff Transport, Walnes Seeds, Bruce Hinton and Clarke and Simpson, £975 was raised at our Annual Tournament on Saturday for Club funds.

The season is almost over and we have done reasonably well this year, finishing third in the Bob Wright 3-wood league and third in division 2 of the Saxmundham League 2-wood league. We have gained 4 new members this year, but as usual we always need more.

Please contact Martin Dorey (Club Secretary) on 01728 684880 for further details of the Bowls Club and if you are interested in coming down and giving bowling a try, we meet at the green every Saturday at 2.30pm for a practice and you will be more than welcome.

HOO NOTES

We were very pleased to welcome twenty-five visitors, a combination of cyclists and walkers, to Hoo church on 13 September for the annual Suffolk Historic Churches Trust “Ride and Stride” event. Thanks to Gay, Liz, Peter and Trevor from the PCC, who manned the church at various times of the day. A special thank you is due to Trevor, for organising everything, including setting up and taking down at the beginning and end of the day, and the refreshments to offer to our visitors, as well as for all you do throughout the year as PCC secretary.

Our other two lay PCC members, Sonia and Mark, were not with us last Saturday, because, quite simply, they have more important things than Hoo church to worry about at present. On behalf of the other PCC members, I send Sonia and Mark our love and best wishes, thank you for all you have done for Hoo church over the last few years, and I know you will continue to do as soon as you are able.

On events like “Ride and Stride”, which give us an opportunity to show off our little church, all the PCC members are always very willing to get involved. I have been reflecting a bit on why this is, and a good starting point seems to be that none of us actually live in the village of Hoo. I dare to suggest that we have all been seduced, bewitched, or entranced, take your pick, by little St Andrew and St Eustachius. Hoo doesn’t even rate a mention in the Suffolk edition of Arthur Mee’s *The King’s England*, while another of my Suffolk guidebooks describes it as “of little interest”. I and my fellow PCC members would argue that both chroniclers have missed the point, because it is the very simplicity and peace of the place that attracts us.

There is another equally important reason, and that is because we all, at one time or another, experienced the warmth projected round Hoo church by those two wonderful ladies, Perry Branton and Margaret Doe, churchwardens for so many years. I have described before how I met Perry first when I used to come up to Suffolk for the day for the churches bike ride and always had a warm welcome from her and Mrs Frances Parkinson. Margaret, I got to know after acquiring a weekend cottage in Suffolk and had the same welcome. I know that at least one other member of Hoo PCC, from conversations we have had over the years, chose to worship at St Andrew and St Eustachius following a first meeting with Perry and Margaret.

Regular readers of this magazine will think I am always writing about my two dear friends, and I freely admit I do, and make no apologies for so doing. Perry and Margaret gave Hoo church a warmth that was nothing to do with radiators or thermostats, but something far more special, which we, the current members of the PCC very much want to continue. Without wishing to appear vain, I feel we are succeeding. Perry and Margaret were great role models on how to be a good PCC member, clear uncomplicating thinking, with the love of Hoo church as their driving purpose.

I have asked before in these notes if anyone who lives in Hoo would like to join the PCC, and repeat that request now. As you know, we have various regular events during the year but are also looking at one or two new ones for 2026, and new blood, with new ideas and a willingness to help, would be most welcome.

Francis Whitbread

LEATHERINGHAM NOTES

SAVE THE DATES

Sunday 10 th October	10am Harvest Festival
Sunday 9 th November	Remembrance Service with Hoo
Saturday 13 th December	St.Mary's, Letheringham - 'Illuminati Choir'
Sunday 21 st December	6pm Christmas Candlelight Service



... if you have been affected by any of the issues raised in the sermon



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DID YOU KNOW? | Each of us, on average, bins our body weight in rubbish every three months.

MONNEWDEN NOTES



CHURCH ROTAS

Date	Flowers/Brasses	Church Cleaning	Sidesperson	Coffee
Oct. 5	BENEFICE SERVICE			
Oct. 12	M. Gibson	W. Heath	J. Dinwiddy	L. Grier
Oct. 26	L. Grier	M. Sills	B. Martin	W. Heath

CHURCH READERS

October 12 Martine, Margaret.



FIRS FARM COMMUNION

This month's service will be on Thursday, October 9th, at 12 noon, and will be taken by Revd. Kathleen Martin.

Our next **SATURDAY CAFE** will be on Saturday, October 18th from 10 a.m. onwards. Real coffee, tea, breakfast and bacon rolls will be served. Come and join us, this monthly event is now very popular. The 100 Club draw prizes will be drawn at this event.



Prayer Requests

Please use the
Prayer Boxes
found in all the
benefice churches
or email
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WARM UP WITH THOUGHTS OF A...



CURRY NIGHT.

6.30PM

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Crossword Answers

ACROSS:

1, Jehoiachin. 7, Endured. 8, Eased.
10, Rash. 11, Startled.
13, Easier. 15, Rubric. 17, Impurity.
18, Feet. 21, Eye at. 22, Ready to.
23, Holy Spirit.

DOWN:

1, Judas. 2, Harm. 3, Is duty.
4, Cheerful. 5, Insular. 6, Jezreelite.
9, Dedication. 12, Secretly.
14, Supremo. 16, Stir up. 19, Egypt.
20, Hair.



*After his induction, Revd Gary met the
leaders of the other denominations*

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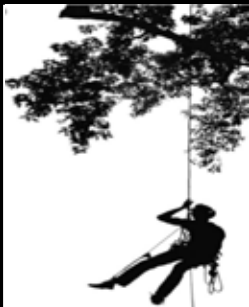
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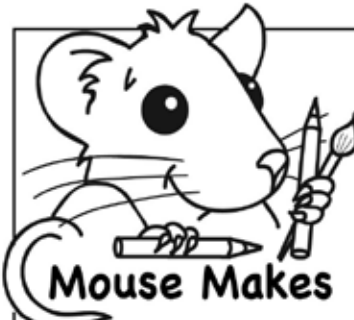
Ashfield	Mrs Sarah Clare E-mail: actpc.clerk@gmail.com Tel: 01449 781671
Charsfield	Viviane Ward E-mail: charsfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com Tel: 07710 187570
Cretingham	Acting Clerk : Caroline Saxby E-mail: cmhparishcouncil@gmail.com
Dallinghoo	Chris Ling E-mail: dallinghoo@outlook.com Tel: 07963305205
Earl Soham	Guy Harvey E-mail: espcclerk@gmail.com Tel: 01728 685729
Hoo	Caroline Saxby (see Cretingham above)
Letheringham	Mr Trevor Gill E-mail: letheringhamparishcouncil@gmail.com Website: https://letheringham.onesuffolk.net
Monewden	Caroline Saxby (see Cretingham above)

Village Hall/Community Centre Booking Secretaries:

Ashfield	Geoff Henney Tel: 07507 040041 Email: sueandgeoffhenney@hotmail.co.uk
Charsfield	Website: www.charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk Email: enquiries@charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk Or Tel: 07935 445193
Dallinghoo	Mr Chris Pennington Tel: 01473 737 836
Earl Soham	Village Hall Committee Tel: 07961 606647 Email: esvhbookings@gmail.com Website: earlsohamvillagehall.org
Monewden	Sian Kingston Tel: 07887606717 Email: sian@rskingston.com

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

ASHFIELD	Community Council	Ms Sam Thomas	07985 807683
"	Ladies Group	Mrs Susan Hansen	01728 685 738
CHARSFIELD	CEVC Primary School	Mr Mark Taylor	01473 737 347
"	WI Secretary	Mrs Rosalin Baley	01473 737171
"	Rec. Ground Com	charsfieldrc@gmail.com	
"	Tennis Club	charsfieldrgtennis@yahoo.com	
"	Flower Show Secretary	Mrs Pip Smith	01473 277166
"	Village Hall	Pam Hembra committee@charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk	
CRETINGHAM	Friends of St. Peters	Mr Charles Wright	01728 684 065
DALLINGHOO	Rec. Ground Com.	Mr Derek Spall	01473 737 565
"	Carpet Bowls Club	Mr Cliff Green	01473 737 421
"	Village Hall Com.	Mr Derek Spall	01473 737 565
EARL SOHAM	FO St. Mary's	Mr John Stott	01728 861 340
"	Primary School	Mrs Jen Carlyle	01728 685 359
"	WI Secretary	Eleri Whitham	01728 628614
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	Allotment/Gardeners Association	Mr Tony Carr	07717 302214



Mouse Makes



This is **Psalm 150**,
a song of praise to God,
it tells us why and how
to worship God.
*How do you praise and
worship God?*

Praise God in His Temple,
Praise Him in His mighty heavens.
Praise Him for His acts of power,
Praise Him for his surpassing greatness.

Praise Him

with the sounding trumpet,

Praise Him

with the harp and lyre,

Praise Him

with tambourine and dancing,

Praise Him

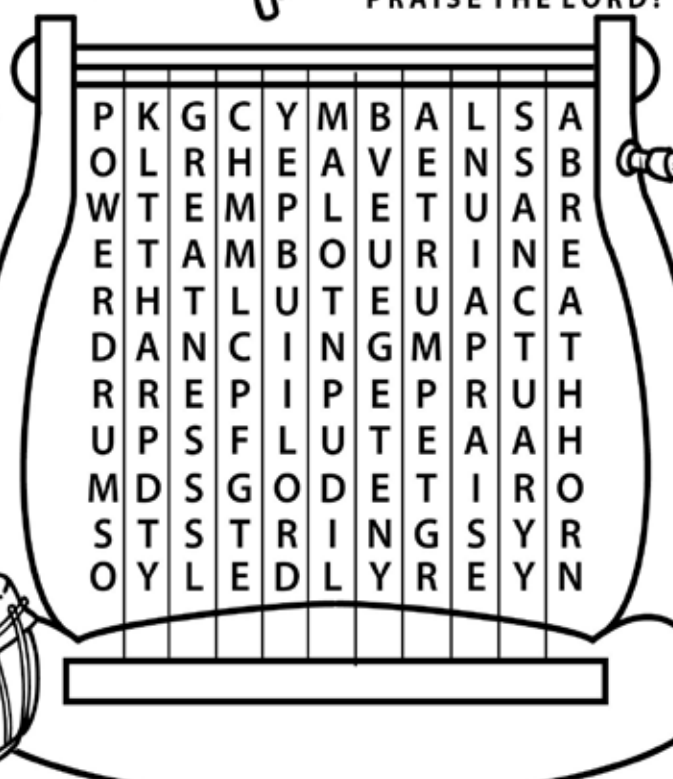
with the clash of cymbals,

Praise Him

with the resounding cymbals.

Let everything that has breath

PRAISE THE LORD!



P	K	G	C	Y	M	B	A	L	S	A
O	L	R	H	E	A	V	E	N	S	B
W	T	E	M	P	L	E	T	U	A	R
E	T	A	M	B	O	U	R	I	N	E
R	H	T	L	U	T	E	U	A	C	A
D	A	N	C	I	N	G	M	P	T	T
R	R	E	P	I	P	E	P	R	U	H
U	P	S	F	L	U	T	E	A	A	H
M	D	S	G	O	D	E	T	I	R	O
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WHO'S WHO IN THE BENEFICE *(Continued from inside front cover)*

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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
Secretary	Janet Ross, Pips Cottage, Cooks Hill, Letheringham Email jross1@me.com	01728 746228 07736 120931
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.
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The Deadline for contributions panel
NOVEMBER 2025 ISSUE is
Sunday 19th October

WARM UP WITH THOUGHTS OF A...



CURRY NIGHT.

6.30PM

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