

MID-LOES BENEFICE MAGAZINE

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

May 2024



Benefice Service

Sunday 5th May

10am

**St. Peter's Church,
Charsfield**

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

CHARSFIELD

Churchwardens	Linda Stratton Mike Bamford	01473 737771
Secretary	Beverly Gugenheim, The Cottage, The Street, Charsfield Email: bev@gugenheim.net	
Treasurer	Vacancy	01473 737667

CRETINGHAM

Churchwardens	Alistair Gourlay, Tubric Cottage, Cretingham Mrs. Heather Runacres, Dove Farm Cott. Cretingham	01728 685 335 01728 685736
Secretary		
Treasurer	Alistair Gourlay, Tubric Cottage, Cretingham	01728 685 335

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 to the
June 2024 edition is
Sunday 19th May

MID LOES BENEFICE
Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Charsfield with Debach,
Cretingham, Dallinghoo, Earl Soham, Hoo,
Letheringham and Monewden
May 2024

From The Rectory...

With the Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs) within the benefice now taking place, I thought I would share with you my report for 2023, as presented to the churches within the benefice.

At the APCMs which each church holds, annual reporting is shared, accounts approved, new members and officers are elected and questions may be asked of the church's ministry. Here is my report in full....

I write my report for 2023 as Rector of the benefice, rather than Priest-in-Charge, Rector being a title that I was proud to have recently accepted but, more importantly, a title that has been given due to the work and ministry that has taken place in Mid-Loes during the past year, which I can assure you, is down to the commitment and love of the people of our churches and communities, within the benefice.

Whilst I must firstly acknowledge the tireless efforts of the PCCs across the eight churches within our benefice, without whom we would struggle to keep our churches open and available for the various services that take place each week, I feel it is also important to use the word 'communities' because there are many people who would consider themselves to be 'non-church' who contribute to the life of our churches in varying ways. From flower arrangers; to the grass-cutters who keep our churchyards in good order; to those who clean our churches; to those who help at the various church events that take place regularly across the benefice; to the many people who contribute to church life as self-proclaimed 'non-church' people... thank you for all that you have contributed during 2023, and continue to do so as we move deeper into 2024.

I was delighted to present the '5-Year Plan for Growth' initiative that was put together after a series of Listening Events and various discussions from which three key areas were identified as important to our ministry going forward. The three key areas were:

Depth – more opportunities for Bible Study and Prayer

Influence – continued ministry through pastoral support across the benefice

Younger – a review of ministry to younger people and families.

The Ministry Team will focus on these key areas, working through established service patterns and styles, as well as bringing new ideas and creativity to our worship and events over the coming months and years.

Two areas that have already begun to grow out of the Plan for Growth 5-Year Plan is a monthly Home Communion Service, and a Bible Study Group.

The Home Communion Service takes place at Firs Farm and is led by Revd Kathleen. Whilst a simple service of Communion and a light lunch, the attendance at this service indicates the importance of serving people where they are, something that enables church to be present and available 7 days a week, something that is important in the ever-changing society in which we live.

The Bible Study Group has continued from a 6-week course, based on the Pilgrim series of study books from the Church of England. Whilst the Monday group is at capacity, there is room for more people to join the Tuesday afternoon group, which provides a safe, trusting, opportunity for people exploring their personal faith, through to people who wish to explore different aspects of their faith. Please let me know if meeting on a Tuesday afternoon might work for you.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Ministry Team, Revd Kathleen, Revd Wendy, Amber, and Mary, for their continued presence throughout the benefice serving alongside myself and the eight parishes within the benefice. I am very grateful for their presence and support, as I know many, many, people are also very grateful for all that they do.

Whilst I am thanking people, (and I am sure I will miss someone!), I would also like to thank the benefice organists who make such an important contribution to our services, and in turn, thank you to the growing Benefice Choir, who may only come together at our benefice services, but again, a group of people who enhance our worship, and bring real joy to our services.

This year saw the start of an important outreach opportunity for the benefice, and that was establishing all the benefice churches as donation points for the charity, FIND (Families in Need), based in Ipswich. FIND is a charity focussing on the provision of free food parcels and personal care items to help people get through a crisis, as well as furniture, bedding and other household items where the person or family has none. I must thank every single person/family who has contributed to this cause. I can assure you that the donations taken to the FIND offices each month, are gratefully received, and demonstrate the generosity shown by all the parishes within the benefice. The churches will remain as donation points, so please, if you are able and willing, please keep the donations coming....you are making a difference to peoples' lives.

With the thought of bringing the benefice churches together for an annual event, this year saw the first Vicar's Tea Party, held at The Rectory. The idea behind the event was to raise funds for mission and outreach for the benefice; raising funds for a local charity; as well as bringing the benefice churches working together. The event proved to be a great success, with each church represented on the day, as well as £600 being raised for EACH (East Anglia's Children's Hospices). A wonderful afternoon was enjoyed by the many people, where music, food and drink was a plenty, as well as many activities for the whole family to take part in, but most of all, an afternoon of friendship, fun and laughter, was enjoyed by everyone. The date of the Vicar's Tea Party 2024 has been set as Saturday 6th July, with more information to follow.

The Vicar's Tea Party was just one of many events that took place during 2023 across the benefice. From Saturday Morning Café to Afternoon Tea; from Race Nights to Beetle Drives; Harvest Suppers; Burns Night; Village Fetes; Open Gardens; all the events proved to be a vital outreach for our churches in not just raising funds for our churches, but bringing communities together, with church remaining at the centre of each event that takes place. Every event continues to be a success on all levels, so thank you to everyone who contributes to their ongoing success.

I was challenged this year with some correspondence about the validity of church today, especially within our villages, with one direct quote of, *'the majority of local people do not identify as Christian let alone church goers'*, a challenge that is well documented through the benefice magazine, but a challenge that I was not going to ignore.

2023 has been a wonderful year for our churches and proved this challenge to be wrong. The commitment and love shown by all of our churches has been incredible and continues to be so. It is not just about the many events that have taken place during the year, bringing communities together, but it is also the quiet, untold pastoral work and support that is shown through our churches supporting our communities. It is about the many people who quietly demonstrate Christian values through the loving of their neighbours. It is about the increased numbers of people attending the principal services during the year. Numbers of people attending Mothering Sunday and Harvest services were higher than the previous year, with Easter and Christmas showing increased numbers of people attending services across the benefice. I am also delighted that five weddings have been confirmed for 2024, with two further awaiting dates to be confirmed. All this proves to me that our churches are alive and, in the context of where our churches are set, and with the demographics of our parishes, it is fair to say that the Benefice of Mid-Loes is doing well, and will continue to do so.

Going back to the beginning of this report talking about my being made Rector... *a title that has been given due to the work and ministry that has taken place in Mid-Loes during the past year*, this in itself is testament to the fact that we are a benefice of churches sharing the love of God within our community, through our ministry and service, supporting ALL through life's joys and sorrows.

Love and Blessings, Revd Gary

VICAR'S tea party



SATURDAY 6th JULY 2024

2.30pm – 5pm

Afternoon Tea – Bar - Live Music - BBQ

Digger Challenge

***Fun Activities
for Everyone***



Taking Place at:

THE RECTORY, EARL SOHAM, 1P13 7SD

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. Peter's Church, Charsifled

Sunday 5th May - Choir present from 9am

If you wish to join the choir or have any questions relating to the choir, please contact:

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

BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION AND LIGHT LUNCH

Thursday 9th May from 12 noon

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



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	

FLOWER ARRANGING

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Ladies who help me with the flower arranging at St Mary's. The arrangements are absolutely stunning on every occasion.

Is there anybody else who would like to join our team if so, I'd love to welcome you on board.

If this opportunity appeals to you, please contact me, Denise, on 01728 685234/norman.haines@outlook.com

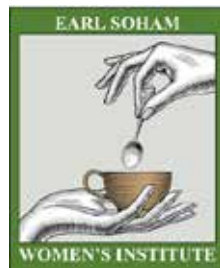
EARL SOHAM WI

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:

23rd May – 7.00pm Brandeston Village Hall
"The Chiropractor's Art" with Dr Mykel Mason

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

theWi



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CRETINGHAM NOTES

FLOWER AND CLEANING ROTA

	Altar Flowers	Cleaning
May	Mrs Chenery	Mr & Mrs Gourlay
June	Miss Whiting	vacant



Cretingham - ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

Sunday 5th May – in Charsfield Village Hall – 11.30am. Refreshments on arrival. Please do join us.

Alister & Heather (Churchwardens)

COFFEE AND CHAT

This month we are meeting on Monday 13th May 10.30 – 12



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

[Full list of dates to August on Church Notice Board]

CHURCH SERVICES IN ST. PETERS CRETINGHAM

12th May, 19th May.



ST. PETERS PATRONAL FESTIVAL – SUNDAY 23RD JUNE

11.30 am Celebration Service followed by lunch altogether in the churchyard. Please bring your own picnic, chairs, drink and find a shady or sunny spot !

CONTRIBUTIONS TO MAGAZINE COSTS

THANK YOU to everyone who has made a contribution towards the costs of producing our monthly magazine. To date some £155 has been donated to meet the estimated £350 net costs. If you would still like to contribute a donation can be given to any PCC member – Heather Runacres, Pauline Cobley and Alister Gourlay; popped through the door at Tubric Cottage (we still collect mail regularly); or paid by internet banking direct to our Business account:

PCC Cretingham Sort Code 30-99-85 Account no 00038145 Ref MAG24

Thank you. Alister (Treasurer)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Our Parish Annual Meeting will take place at Monewden Village Hall on Tuesday 21st May at 7pm. This is an open invitation to come along and speak with your Parish Councillors – Jonathan Lettin, Mike Oliver, Brigit Parker and Alister Gourlay - about any aspect which comes within the remit of the Parish Council. We are a useful conduit to other authorities such as the District and County Councils, Anglian Water, Power Networks, Highways and Planning and are very conscious that we act on your behalf – so come along and give us your views!

Cretingham Village Fete & Fun Day



Saturday 13th July
2024

3pm At
Oak Corner
for stalls
and games

Followed by
BBQ and live
music at the
Cretingham
Bell

More details to follow

MONEWDEN NOTES

MAY CHURCH ROTAS

Date	Flowers/ Brasses	Church Cleaning	Sidesperson	Coffee
May 5	Benefice Service at Charsfield			
May 12	W. Heath	M. Sills	J. Dinwiddy	L. Grier
May 19				
May 26	S. Kingston	L. Grier	W. Heath	C. Saxby

READERS FOR MAY:

12th The Eastwood Family.

COFFEE MORNING

Our next **COFFEE MORNING** will be on Saturday, May 18th from 10 a.m. onwards. Coffee, tea, breakfast and bacon rolls will be served. The 100 Club draw prizes for May will be drawn at this event.

100 CLUB WINNERS FOR APRIL:

1 £25 R. Aitchinson; 2 £15 Mrs. L. Grier; 3 £10 R. Aitchinson.

APCM

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting for Monewden St. Mary will be held in Charsfield Village Hall on Sunday, May 5th immediately after the Benefice Communion Service at 11.30 a.m. This meeting is a public meeting and is open to all.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Our Parish Annual Meeting will take place at Monewden Village Hall on Tuesday 21st May at 7pm. This is an open invitation to come along and speak with your Parish Councillors – Caroline Saxby, Richard Chenery and Brian Martin – about any aspect which comes within the remit of the Parish Council. We are a useful conduit to other authorities such as the District and County Councils, Anglian Water, Power Networks UK, Highways and Planning and are very conscious that we act on your behalf – so come along and give us your views!

HOO NOTES

QUAYNOTE CONCERT 13 APRIL 2024

A very enjoyable time was had by the audience of over forty people who attended the concert given by Quaynotes at the church on the evening of 13 April. As well as the excellent music, there was some excellent chatter and laughter during the nibbles, evoking yet again memories of our much-missed churchwardens Perry and Margaret. Thanks are due to all those members of the PCC who contributed towards making the evening a success, the Rev Kathleen Martin for introducing the concert, and all who attended. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to raise a total of over £450 for the church funds. However, the most important thank you must come last, and that is to Penny, Claudia and Julia of Quaynotes, for offering to put on the concert to support Hoo church, for their splendid musicianship, and giving us what was a truly lovely evening. We very much hope you will pay Hoo church a return visit before too long.

HOO HALL OPEN GARDEN 9 JUNE 2024

Another reminder that the garden at Hoo Hall will be open in aid of the church on Sunday 9 June, see the flyer elsewhere in this magazine for full details. Our thanks as always to Graham Nicholson for his generosity in opening the garden, and also to Mark, his gardener. It would be remiss of me not to mention Mark, because as well as his day job he finds time to be a very active member of Hoo PCC. The other members of the PCC are very grateful to Mark for keeping a watching eye on the church while he is busy in the Hall garden.

As far as Mark's hard work in the garden is concerned, there can be no greater compliment than the fact we are expecting to see many familiar faces on 9 June, visitors who come every year simply because it is such an impressive garden.

A SPANISH MEMORY OF MARGARET DOE

One of dear Margaret's stories I remember, probably from a Monewden harvest festival, concerned a Mrs Farton, who as you can guess, suffered from an excess of wind. I am writing these words in Spain, and every time we are here, and I see a board outside a restaurant, I am reminded of one I saw a few years ago. The items on offer included "Fartons", so I of course took a photo of it.; when I showed it to Margaret the next time I saw her, probably at Monewden café, it caused her considerable amusement, and even better, inspired her to tell me some more of those unique Margaret stories.

Francis Whitbread

HOO PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Our Parish Annual Meeting will take place at Monewden Village Hall on Tuesday 21st May at 7pm. This is an open invitation to come along and speak with your Parish Councillors – Andrew Branton and Alan Peat – about any aspect which comes within the remit of the Parish Council. We are a useful conduit to other authorities such as the District and County Councils, Anglian Water, Power Networks UK, Highways and Planning and are very conscious that we act on your behalf – so come along and give us your views!

Phoenix singers

Saturday, 11 May 2024, 7.30pm
Snape Maltings Concert Hall



Ralph Vaughan Williams

A SEA SYMPHONY

with Beccles Choral Society and Lambeth Orchestra

Tickets: £20, £25 and £28 from choir members,
phoenixsingers@outlook.com, Snape Maltings box office,
01728 687110, and brittenpearsarts.org/whats-on.
reg. charity no. 1076549

**IF YOU WISH TO ADVERTISE IN THIS MAGAZINE,
PLEASE CONTACT:**

Caroline Saxby, Advertising Manager:

Tel: 01473 277146

E-mail: saxbies@hotmail.com

HOO HALL

Open Garden and Concert
Sunday 9 June, 2pm - 5.30pm



Hoo Hall, Church Lane, Hoo, IP13 7QT

Admission - £5 *In aid of Hoo Church*
Teas, coffee and cakes available, and raffle

In addition, there will be a short **Concert in Hoo Church at 3pm**
with a string quartet featuring music by Haydn and Mendelssohn

There will be a retiring collection in aid of Hoo Church Building Trust.

CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES

MAGAZINE DONATIONS FOR 2024

Many thanks to all those who have made donations towards the costs of producing and printing the magazines. This is much appreciated. If you have not yet made a donation there is still time! An easy way to make a contribution, if you are able to do so, is by Bank Transfer. For Charsfield and Debach the Account number is: 80249289 (which is Charsfield Parochial Church Council) : Sort Code: 20-98-07 : With a reference : Mag24 Cheques made payable to 'Charsfield Parochial Church Council' or cash can be given to members of the PCC or put into the collection at services.

Thank you, Antony & Ros Wilson

CHARSFIELD AMATEUR DRAMATICS SOCIETY (CADS) would like to say a Big Thankyou to everyone who supported their annual show - Laughter is the Best Medicine. Two capacity audiences enjoyed much laughter and participation, resulting in £1,500 being donated to local charities.

CHARSFIELD BAPTIST CHAPEL

It is with sadness that we have to announce the closure of Charsfield Baptist Chapel due to the decrease in numbers attending our regular services. The Covid pandemic and the autumn floods have been factors in bringing us to this point, as well as Pastor John's continuing health issues. We still await restoration of the flood damaged chapel hall and Manse.

Our last Sunday service will be on 9th June at 11am, when all those in the village and others with a connection to the chapel are welcome to join us, as we remember over 200 years of Christian work and worship in Charsfield.

In the meantime, Sunday services continue each week at 11am.

CREAM TEAS AT CHARSFIELD CHURCH

Last year's popular Cream Teas are staring again on the 3rd Sunday of each month starting in June.

The dates for Cream Teas are **June 16, July 21, August 18 and September 15**. Come along between 3pm and 5pm for delicious cake and home-made scones, jam and cream. Why not bring a friend! Everyone welcome!



MANAGEMENT OF THE CHURCHYARD AT ST.PETER'S CHARSFIELD

Churchyards provide increasingly rare areas of native grassland where pesticides and fertilisers have not been used routinely.

Therefore, churchyards can be a very important for wildlife providing a refuge for a wide range of wildflowers, birds, animals and invertebrates. With sensitive management this wildlife can be encouraged safeguarding this valuable habitat to be enjoyed by parishioners and visitors.

Some of the areas of the churchyard are now being managed for wildlife while paths and areas around the more regularly visited graves are being cut to allow access.

Flower rich grassland needs to be cut to maintain floral diversity but cutting needs to be timed to allow the grasses and other species to flower and set seed. Sometimes this will mean cutting in July and sometimes later in September.

It is important to rake off and remove clippings which need to be left to dry for a few days to allow flowers to shed any ripe seed and insects to escape. Cut vegetation is then piled up in corners to provide useful habitat for creatures such as hedgehogs and slowworms.

In summary we now have areas where wildflowers and wildlife can flourish and already this year, we have seen a proliferation of cowslips and bluebells and hope to see pyramid orchids and scabious again later this year as well as lots of bees and butterflies. We also have cut paths and areas around graves to provide access.

We must wholeheartedly thank the small team who are helping to maintain and manage the churchyard with wildlife in mind. If you feel you would like to help, one of the most labour-intensive jobs is raking the long grass cuttings after they have dried.

Any help with this this would be much appreciated. Watch out for a village email which will tell you when help is needed.

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

3rd and 17th May, 7th and 21st June

7pm to 10pm

CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES

CHURCH ROTAS

Date	Readers	Sides person
May 5 th 10.00am Benefice Holy Communion at Charsfield	Benefice Service Holy Communion at Charsfield - All Welcome	
May 12 th	No service at Charsfield. Please check the Magazine for details of services elsewhere in the Benefice	
May 19 th 6.30pm Evening Prayer	Antony, Margaret	Margaret
May 26 th 10.00am Holy Communion	Lesley Linda	Linda

St. Peter's Church Cleaning Rota - May 2024

May 11th	May 25th
Linda & Kurt	Gill & Beverley

St. Peter's Church Flower Rota - May 2024

May 4th	May 11th	May 18th	May 25th
Lucy Fox	Gill Winkworth	Gill Winkworth	Bev Gugenheim

St Peter's Church Charsfield Fabric Fund 2024

Coffee Morning on Friday 17 May 2024 10am – 12noon

Hill Farm, Charsfield (opposite Hall Road)

Tea, Coffee & Cake *Cakes & Preserves * Bric-a-Brac * Books* Plants * Raffle

Please do come and support

Offers of cakes, preserves, bric-a-brac, books and plants greatly appreciated.

Please contact Linda 737771 or Margaret 737182

We can collect. Offers of Plants particularly welcome.

Charsfield with Debach PCC

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

FLAGPOLE AT ST. PETER'S CHARSFIELD


At long last with the fundraising complete and with the weather a bit more benevolent, the new flagpole has been put up on the tower at St. Peter's.

Thankyou to Garry, James and Martin for all their help getting the old flagpole down and the new one put up which was no mean feat!

The flag can now be seen from most of the village and we will be giving thanks for the completion of this project at the Benefice Service at 10am on Sunday 5th May.




COME & TAKE PART IN WORKSHOPS
for
Akenfield
a new play, based on the book by Ronald Blythe
singing, story-telling, ploughman's lunch!



Saturdays June 22 & 29, 10am-2:30 pm

Charsfield Village Hall
ALL WELCOME

Creative Team: Jenny Hall, Talulah Brown, Finn Collinson
Management Team: Tim Wilson and Liz Cook
<https://shakefestival.com>



**Charsfield Recreation Ground
Tennis Permit - £30**

CRG Household Permit for £30 includes:


- Access for All Players in Your Household Until the 31st of March
- Booking Required
- Entry via Coded Padlock

- Occasional Household Guests are Allowed to Play for Free

NEW in 2024 CRG Toilet Facilities Access


Single Use is £8 for 90 Minute Session

Scan this QR Code to visit our Website & Purchase a Permit:



<https://charsfield.org.uk/charsfield-tennis>

If you have any additional queries, please contact:
charsfieldrgtennis@yahoo.com





Songs for Summer

6.30 pm
Sunday 9 June 2024
St Peter's Church,
Charsfield

illuminati

Free Admission • Refreshments will be served
Retiring collection for church funds



**CHARSFIELD
FLOWER SHOW**

**SATURDAY 27TH JULY
2024**

**2PM FOR VIEWING
REFRESHMENTS/RAFFLE**

**(DOORS OPEN 8AM - 10.15AM
FOR ENTRIES)**

**ENTRIES EVENING
TUESDAY 23RD JULY
7-9PM**

Charsfield Flower Show 2024

Here is a list of the subjects for the Flower Show Photo classes for this year. We hope that you find something that inspires you to take that perfect prize winning picture!

Classes

72. Into the Wild
73. Bridge(s)
74. A dessert
75. A Charsfield scene.
76. Coast
77. Pet(s)
78. A Favourite plant in your garden
79. Your choice of coloured photo
80. Insect(s)
81. A black and white photograph

Also

71. Novice Class - Photo can be of any subject. (Entry to this class is restricted to a competitor who has not won a first place in any photography class at Charsfield Flower Show in the last 3 years.)

Unless otherwise stated photos should be in colour and a maximum size of 7"x 5".

As well as photography the different areas covered by the Flower Show are flowers both growing in pots and cut flowers, floral art, home grown vegetables, cake, biscuits, and bread making, eggs, preserves and crafts as well as a section for children's crafts, baking and handwriting.

Charsfield Flower Show has been very grateful to sponsors for the 92 different classes over the years and if anyone feels that they would like to sponsor a class or classes (£3 a class) to support this village community event please contact:

**Maureen Arbon (01473 737 346),
email- thearbons@btinternet.com**

CHURCH SERVICES

Church	May 5th	May 12th	May 19th	May 26th
	6th of Easter White	7th of Easter White	Pentecost Red	Trinity Sunday White-Gold
Ashfield		4pm Rogation Service GB	8.30am Holy Communion GB	X
Charsfield	10am Benefice HC GB	X	6.30pm Evening Prayer KM	10am Holy Communion KM
Cretingham		10am Morning Prayer KM	10am Holy Communion GB	X
Dallinghoo		X	10am All-Age Worship WG	X
EarlSoham		10am All-Age Worship APW	10am Holy Communion KM	10am Morning Prayer GB
Hoo		8.30am Holy Communion GB	X	8.30am Morning Prayer KM
Letheringham		X	X	X
Monewden		10am Holy Communion WG	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;

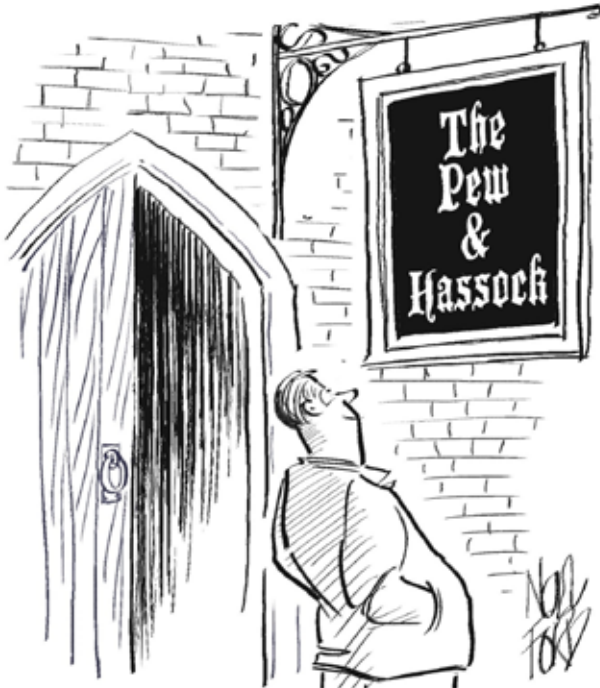
VB = Veda Berriman, Reader.

READINGS

Date	Readings	Psalm
April 7th	Acts 4: 32-35 John 20: 19-end	133
April 14th	Acts 3: 12-19 Luke 24: 36-48	4
April 21st	Acts 4: 5-12 John 10: 11-18	23
April 28th	Acts 8: 26-end John 15: 1-8	22: 25-end

June Benefice Service

Sunday 2nd June - St. Peter's Church, Cretingham



Changing the name from 'St Mark's Parish Church', resulted in the number of men attending services.

**Wickham Market Flower Club
along with “Chaffinch”
from New Street Woodbridge**

present a



FASHION SHOW



ON

FRIDAY 17th MAY 2024

AT

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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

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A yellow starburst badge with a red border. It contains the text 'FULLY INSURED' in bold, black, sans-serif font, with three yellow stars below it.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR MAY

19th May 10am Family Service

COFFEE MORNINGS

4 May and 8 June 10.30am to midday

Come and join us for a coffee and chat.
A great opportunity to meet friends old and new.



CONGRATULATIONS

Best wishes to Alice and Peter who will be getting married at St Mary's in May. We wish them a wonderful day and every happiness in their life together.

APCM 5 MAY

Please note that the annual church meeting will take place in Charsfield following the May Benefice service. See the separate notice for full details.

APRIL CHURCHYARD TIDY UP

Thank you to all who helped on the day and on following days. We tackled the weeds on the path and did lots of strimming and clearance of undergrowth. The churchyard looks ready for summer. We are planning another tidy up in the autumn so do watch out for that.

Thank you to everyone who contributes to cleaning the church and maintaining the grounds throughout the year. This helps to welcome all the visitors to our wonderful church.



VILLAGE SIGNPOSTS



Many of you have commented about the new signposts that have been erected across our three parishes. These were funded by the Parish Council through our Community Infrastructure funding which we obtained as a result of new-build housing in Cretingham over the past 5 years. We were also grateful for financial support from our , to which we were able to add funding from our County Councillor and District Councillors' Locality Budgets.

We are now looking to use the remaining funds to erect a second signpost in each village. Replacement of the other signposts may follow but we cannot afford these smart "heritage" signs at every location and may replace them like-for-like with the aluminium transfer signs that are the standard SCC model.

Photo of Hoo sign and Councillors to follow next month.





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

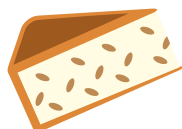
at thearbons@btinternet.com or 01473 737346

We would love to have some new members join us.

13th May - Dallinghoo Village Hall
Sing-a-Long Joke and Smile Ukelele Band

10th June - Dallinghoo Village Hall
Working on Hospital Radio—Tim Ward

VICAR'S
tea party



SATURDAY 6th JULY 2024

2.30pm – 5pm



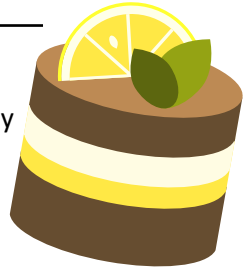
Afternoon Tea – Bar - Live Music - BBQ
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ASHFIELD NOTES

ROGATION SERVICE, TEA AND CAKE

St Mary's is hosting this year's Rogation Service on Sunday 12th May at 4pm. We hope that the weather is fine so we can celebrate this outdoors in the churchyard. This is an act of worship where prayers are said and blessings passed over crops for a good harvest. Everyone is welcome to join us.



Following this service tea and cake will be served to which all Ashfield residents are warmly invited. Further details will be sent out on the village email nearer the time. We look forward to seeing you.

Robert

MAGAZINE DONATIONS, 2024

Thank you to everyone who has made a donation towards the magazine these are greatly appreciated. If you have not yet done so payment details can be found in the April magazine or alternatively donations can be left with Jane at Ashfield Hall or Robert at Corner View.



RG

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

These two important meetings are scheduled to take place on Monday 20th May in the Village Hall. The Annual Parish Meeting will commence at 7.30pm with the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council following it.

Please do come along to hear reports from village organisations and to question your Councillors and the elected District and County Councillors.

If you have any specific issue that you would like to raise if possible please let the Clerk know by tenth May if possible so the Council can be prepared to address the issues raised with us please let the Clerk [details at back of this mag] know at least one week before the meeting if possible.

We look forward to seeing you at these important meetings.

Robert Grimsey, Chairman



I can't imagine there are many MPs, regardless of party affiliation, who would be willing to claim that mental health policy in the United Kingdom needs no reform. It's an undeniably complex, emotive topic which has for decades challenged Governments, and last month, a full year after I published a report together with other MPs into how the mental health system could be improved, the Government gave their response.

As a practicing NHS consultant psychiatrist here in Suffolk, who has served on committees holding the government to account over this issue, I have long stated publicly that our mental health laws need to be updated.

A glance at the Mental Health Act 1983, which as its title suggests is now over 40 years old, highlights some of the challenges we face. Given the big changes during those decades, not to mention the societal shifts in attitudes to mental health over the same period, it is plain for all to see that mental health legislation is in urgent need of modernisation.

It was with great optimism in 2022 that I joined the Joint House of Commons and House of Lords Committee on the Draft Mental Health Bill, established to unite parliamentarians with relevant expertise to investigate how much-needed changes to mental health lawmaking could be shaped and implemented.

The process was collaborative and gathered evidence from a wide array of clinical experts alongside individuals and organisations operating throughout the healthcare sector. Once all information was collated and absorbed, the committee published its proposals in pursuit of wide-reaching alterations that were only ever intended to be a starting point for continued updates in the years ahead.

The motivation behind this was never ideological; it has always been rooted in the fact that patients are too often denied the standard of care they deserve, in addition to the recognition of long-running inequalities woven into an outdated policy framework.

Among the committee's key recommendations were measures to address the unfairness experienced in the mental health care system by certain groups in our communities.

For example, we need to understand why Black people are four times more likely to be detained under the Mental Health Act than white people, and 11 times more likely to be given a community treatment order.

CONTINUED OVER

It is unacceptable that currently, too many autistic people and those with learning disabilities are detained in inappropriate mental health facilities and for excessively long periods of time.

Our committee also sought to introduce amendments to existing legislation to improve patient choices regarding their care and to safeguard individuals from criminalisation as a result of a severe mental illness.

When considering the timing of this review, it is important to note that the urgency with which legislative advancements are required has ramped up significantly since the Covid-19 pandemic.

The number of children and young people experiencing mental distress since the lockdowns earlier this decade is a particular cause for concern, especially when this can mean they end up on adult wards or in hospitals far from home due to the lack of appropriate care placements.

What our committee called for was extensive, urgent modernisation. 55 recommendations were put forward for government consideration and the responses to each and every proposal have now been returned. What was delivered – nothing of substance to date – has, in truth, left me very disappointed.

What I worry about is the idea that some recommendations may now end up debated again for months and years ahead, when we as a nation do not have the luxury of time to mull over these critical issues.

It is not just time being wasted. Government projections suggest mental health expenditure this year will be around £14.8 billion. As people working in or using any part of the NHS will tell you, throwing money at the health service will not instantly solve its problems and we need to reform and transform the services that we deliver to patients.

Ensuring public money is spent wisely is always of paramount importance in delivering our public services, especially in healthcare. Fundamentals of this have to be the consistent, unbiased prioritisation of patient care and a commitment to taking onboard feedback from experts in their field regarding how to shape future policy.

While I fear a partial acceptance of our committee's recommendations, without meaningful delivery of proposed reforms, represents an opportunity missed for this government to achieve something truly transformative on mental health.

Nevertheless, it is undoubtedly most distressing for those requiring mental health care right now who are all too often contending with a system which needs to modernise and transform its care for patients.





Food Donations across the Benefice

The benefice churches are delighted to be supporting FIND (Families in Need) a local charity based in Ipswich supporting people across the local villages and towns.

For over 30 years, Families in Need (FIND) Ipswich, has offered a lifeline to people in Ipswich and the surrounding areas who are experiencing poverty and despair.

FIND provides free food parcels and personal care items to help people get through a crisis, as well as furniture, bedding and other household items where the person or family has none.

An army of over 80 volunteers regularly give their time freely to check and sort the donated food, collect items from local stores, make up the food parcels and deliver them.

It's a six-day a week operation.

The demand for food parcels has risen year on year and FIND now distributes an average of 120-150 parcels every week and even more at Christmas - more than 7,000 every year.

Going Forward

Each church within the benefice has now become a donation point where there are boxes in the church porches in which donations can be left. The donations will then be collected on a regular basis and taken to the offices of FIND. Currently, the food requirements are as follows:

Long grain rice - Long-life whole milk

Toiletries for men, women and children

Tinned vegetables, meat, fruit/desserts

Coffee - Sugar - Jam - Soup

Pet food (dog, cat, fish, rabbit/guinea pig)

If you are able to donate, thank you.

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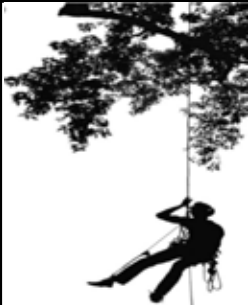
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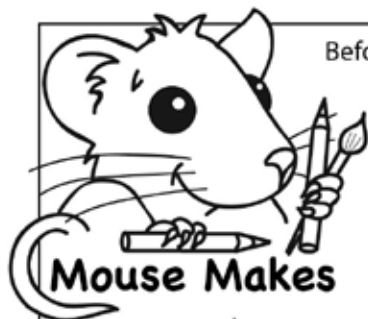
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Dallinghoo	Mr Chris Pennington Tel: 01473 737 836
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VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

ASHFIELD	Community Council	Ms Sam Thomas	07985 807683
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CHARSFIELD	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	charsfieldrgttennis@yahoo.com	
“	Flower Show Secretary	Mrs Pip Smith	01473 277166
“	Village Hall	Pam Hembra committee@charsfieldvillagehall.org.uk	
CRETINGHAM	100 Club	Mr Alister Gourlay	01728 685 335
DALLINGHOO	Rec. Ground Com.	Mr Derek Spall	01473 737 565
“	Carpet Bowls Club	Mr Cliff Green	01473 737 421
“	Village Hall Com.	Mr Derek Spall	01473 737 565
EARL SOHAM	FO St. Mary's	Mr John Stott	01728 861 340
“	Primary School	Mrs Jen Carlyle	01728 685 359
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“	Village Hall Secretary	Mrs Susie Starke	01728 684 385
“	100 Club	Christopher Pratt	07395 918937
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“	Bowls Club	Martin Dorey	01728 684880
“	Scouts/Cubs/Beavers	Mrs J. Lovett	01728 723 712
“	Carpet Bowls Club	Chris Pratt	07395 918937
	Allotment/Gardeners Association	Mrs Susie Starke Mrs Janice Meakin	01728 684385 07921 263632



Before Jesus ascended to heaven he told his disciples
"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit
has come upon you, and you will be my
witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea
and Samaria, and to the end of the earth"...
...When the day of Pentecost arrived,
they were all together in one place,
and they were all filled
with the Holy Spirit."



READ the story
of Pentecost
in Acts 1-2

Look up the Bible
verses to find
the answers to the
crossword clues.

How many
words can you
make from
the letters of:
DAY OF
PENTECOST



- 1 After Jesus ascended into heaven, which city did the Apostles return to? *Acts 1:12*
- 2 What appeared? Tongues of ...? *Acts 2:3*
- 3 Who spoke to the crowd? *Acts 2:14*
- 4 What were the disciples filled with? *Acts 2:4*
- 5a What did the Apostles devote themselves to? *Acts 1:14*
- 5d Which special day was it? *Acts 2:1*
- 6 Who was chosen to replace Judas? *Acts 1:26*
- 7 Who had prophesied this? *Acts 2:16*
- 8 What rushing sound came from heaven? *Acts 2:2*
- 9 What did they start speaking in? *Acts 2:4*

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
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HOO

Churchwardens	Vacancy	
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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	Vacant	
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.
midloesoffice@gmail.com.**

The Deadline for contributions to the
June 2024 edition is
Sunday 19th May

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

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

Charsfield / Dallinghoo / Ashfield / Cretingham /
Letheringham / Monewden

Sunday 5th May - Charsfield Village Hall - 11.30am

Hoo

Monday May 13th - Hoo Church - 2pm

Earl Soham

Monday 22nd April - St. Mary's Church, Earl Soham - 7pm

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.**