

# "The Newsletter"

For MARTLESHAM & BRIGHTWELL  
Sunday 26 July 2026



## A new start in Stowmarket

On **Thursday 3rd September at 7.30pm**, Bishop Joanne will license me as the vicar of Stowmarket. All are welcome to attend the service at the parish church, and I would love it if you could come.

Also, our new address will be:

7 Lockington Road

Stowmarket

IP14 1BQ

Email: [toby@stowmarketparishchurch.co.uk](mailto:toby@stowmarketparishchurch.co.uk)

What would your final words be?

As my time here in Martlesham comes to an end I was thinking about final words. In the bible there are several final discourses recorded. Moses speaks to the Israelites and reminds them of all that God has done and how they should keep living with God. 1 Samuel 23 records David's last words and he speaks of God and how everything he achieved is through God. And Jesus prays for his disciples and followers in his final discourse.

I'm not trying to put myself on a level with any of these. I'm more at the level of Humphrey Bogart who apparently ended with the words 'I should never have switched from Scotch to Martinis'. Wise words indeed.

But as I look back over my time here what I can say is that I have seen the faithfulness of God. I have seen God at work in my life and in the lives of those I encountered. So perhaps more like the biblical heroes, I would like my last words here to be about keeping going with God. God is great and we can do no better than to follow him.

So, for my last newsletter front page I end with the words of Jesus in Matthew 22:37-40

*Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbour as yourself." All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*

**Toby**

## Sunday 26 July

**10:00 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's**

**6:30 pm - Evensong - St John's**

## Monday 27 July

**8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's**

## Sunday 2 August

**10:30 am - Benefice Holy Communion and  
Bring & Share Lunch - St Michael's**

**6:30 pm United Service**

**- Little Bealings All Saints**

## Monday 3 August

**8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's**

## Tuesday 4 August

**7:00 pm - Prayer Meeting - Runway**

## Sunday 9 August

**10:00 am - Holy Communion & Baptism -  
St Michael's**

**6:30 pm - Evensong - St John's**

## Monday 10 August

**8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's**

## Wednesday 12 August

**10:00 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's**

## Sunday 16 August

**10:00 am - Morning Worship - St Michael's**

**11:00 am - Holy Communion - St Mary's**

Further service information for the rest of August and early September is on the next page

## Newsletter - Summer break

This is our last issue for now while we take a break over the summer. Our next issue will be in **September**. Consequently, the remaining services for August and into September are shown below,

AND.....

Lots more to read about in this summer bumper special!

Rowan

## Bring and Share Lunch - Sunday 2nd August

A final call for anyone thinking of coming along to the Bring and Share lunch after the Benefice service on Sunday 2nd August. This is our opportunity to say thank you to Toby and family and goodbye as we wish them well in their move to a new home and church in Stowmarket. If you have not yet put your name on the list to attend and would like to come along, please do so on Sunday by filling in your name on the list in the lobby area at St Michael's or email me at [joanne.stuckey@btinternet.com](mailto:joanne.stuckey@btinternet.com). There is also a list to add your name if you are able to bring along a salad or pudding.

**Jo Stuckey**

## Our next day of prayer and fasting is coming up on the 4th of

**August**. As it will be just after Toby's final service with us, we are going to intentionally spend the day praying for the process of appointing a new vicar, for the PCC and those involved in the process, for Arch Deacon Rich as he helps guides us through the coming months, and for the person God is already working in who will be our next vicar. Praying also for the Benefice and all the practical things that need to happen, rota's being filled, jobs to be done etc.

I'm going to break the day down into 30-minute time slots, starting at 8am, going through to 7pm when we will have the normal prayer meeting in the runway cafe (all are invited and encouraged to come). If you are able, please 'book' a 30-minute slot in which you would be willing to take on the responsibility of praying. This of course can just be done at home or out walking or whatever suits.

If you are willing, please email me ([rob@martleshamcofe.org.uk](mailto:rob@martleshamcofe.org.uk)) simply saying what 30-minute slot you will be willing to take on, if we end up with several people at the same time - so be it! Prayer is absolutely vital in the process, so please do be generous with your time. Thank you.

**Rob**

## Request for help

As Toby and Micah leave us it would be really helpful to have a few more volunteers to help with the laptop and with the sound system for the services at St Michael's. There are 2 Sundays in August and 2 more in September where we need another volunteer. If this is something you could help with please talk to Chris Howard or Christine. Full training can be provided and we would be very grateful for any help you can give us.

**Christine**

### Sunday 23 August

10:00 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's

6:30 pm - Evensong - St John's

### Monday 24 August

8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's

### Wednesday 26 August

10:00 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's

### Sunday 30 August

**No service at St Michael's, Benefice Service at St Mary's**

11:00 am - Holy Communion - St Mary's

### Monday 31 August

**No Morning Prayer this week**

### Sunday 6 Sept

9:30 am - Breakfast Church\* - St Michael's

11:00 am - Holy Communion - St Mary's

### Monday 7 Sept

8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's

### Wednesday 9 Sept

10:00 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's

\* Session 6 (Jesus, The Story of Rescue) in 'The Bible Course'

### Cream tea in the Runway

Tickets will go on sale this Friday for our Summer Cream Tea in the Runway being held on **Wednesday 26th August, 2pm - 4pm**. This has become a regular fixture in the Runway Summer Diary and is a lovely way to while away an afternoon with good food and good company. Tickets can be purchased in the Runway Tuesday - Saturday between 9am - 12pm. We look forward to welcoming you.

**Jo Stuckey**

### Cream Teas Afternoon

It is that time of the year for Pam and Roger to invite you to their annual Cream Teas Afternoon. It will take place as usual on **Bank Holiday Monday, 31st August, at 18 Forest Lane, IP5 3ST**. Please arrive any time **between 2.30 pm and 5.00 pm** and enjoy tea, scones and cake along with pleasant company and conversation. Any donations will go to St Elizabeth Hospice.

**Roger and Pam Goffee**



### Sunday School

This year in Sunday School we have been learning about The Fruits of the Spirit as listed in Galatians 5:22.

Every month we've used a song to help us remember all the fruits, and we shared it with the congregation at St Michael's on Sunday. Here is the link if you'd like to have a listen at home – but be warned, it gets stuck in your head!

<https://youtu.be/Rezg4jYFoj0?si=FoDShNUaBLMvBmPi>

**Emma**



Suffolk Historic Churches Trust make grants and our churches have benefited from these in the past. One major way that the Trust raises funds is by running the annual Ride and Stride event which this year is on **Saturday September 12th**.

Many churches in Suffolk and neighboring counties will be **open from 9am to 5pm that day** and people will be sponsored to walk or cycle to as many of them as they can. This makes a great day out for all who take part. Sponsor money is split between the Trust and the place of worship nominated by the participant.

I am again looking for people able to provide a welcome at both St Mary's and St Michael's for time slots during the day, recorders can sponsored as well as riders. I also encourage anyone able to walk or cycle to have a go as it really is a fun experience as you meet others, and have a look in places you might not otherwise have visited. The route can be as long or short as you choose and suggestions are available.

However you want to take part do please contact me.

**Paul Jordan**  
**07745889022**

### The Monthly 'Man go to Pub' Evening

Men of the Benefice (and surrounding area!) As the newsletter is taking a break for the summer, there are two dates for your diary! On the **27th of July and the 24th of August**, you are invited to come along to the Douglas Bader for 7.30pm. For a drink of something, general merriment and low brow man talk! Or, in other words, come and have a pint and chew the fat for a bit. This is an open invitation - please do feel invited!

**Rob**

## Prayer Diary for July

Please include the following in your daily prayers and pray daily for peace.



This week.....

26 that we may spread the good news of Jesus' love for all

27 for those facing difficult choices in life

28 give thanks for the mobile library coming today

29 for the residents of Mayfields

30 give thanks for those who care for us

31 for all at the Runway today

### Jeremy Walsh

Very many thanks to all of you for your prayers, sympathy, kindness and practical help over the past few weeks. They conveyed your affection for Jeremy, and indeed, for me and the family and we are very grateful for them.

**Cynthia Walsh**

### Friends on Friday - Summer break

We will be taking a break over the summer. Our last session will be on **Friday 31st July** and we will start again on **Friday 11th September**.

**John and Ruth Mellen**

### FIND box is on the move

Thank you for all the kind donations over the years. As we are moving on, the FIND donations box will relocate to 30 Demesne Gardens from August.

Thanks

**Toby**

## Prayer Diary for August

Please include the following in your daily prayers and pray daily for peace.

- 1 for lifeguards ensuring safety at our beaches
- 2 for Toby and family at his farewell service today
- 3 for public transport workers
- 4 for staff of East Anglian Air Ambulance
- 5 the residents of Mayfield Lane
- 6 give thanks that we enjoy fresh water from our taps
- 7 for those feeling lonely
- 8 for parents who are finding life difficult
- 9 that we may grow in faith and fellowship
- 10 for workers in the tourist industry
- 11 for all with poor vision or hearing
- 12 the residents of Mill Field
- 13 give thanks for joy-filled moments
- 14 for Ipswich Families in Need volunteers and clients
- 15 for shop workers
- 16 that we may hear God speak to us through our worship today
- 17 for children with anxiety
- 18 those working to protect the environment
- 19 the residents of Mill Lane
- 20 couples preparing for marriage
- 21 for journalists and fact checking services
- 22 give thanks for our local sports facilities
- 23 that God's peace may rest with everyone today
- 24 those working in mental health services
- 25 those making deliveries to our homes
- 26 the residents of Netherwood Court
- 27 for planning department staff
- 28 give thanks for those growing and harvesting our food
- 29 for preachers and Sunday School leaders
- 30 for our benefice service at St Mary's today
- 31 for relaxation and fun on the bank holiday

### God Enjoyed

Thou incomprehensible but prayer-hearing God  
Known, but beyond knowledge,  
revealed, but unrevealed,  
    my wants and welfare draw me to thee,  
    for thou hast never said, 'Seek ye me in vain'.  
To thee I come in my difficulties, necessities, distresses;  
    possess me with thyself,  
        with a spirit of grace and supplication,  
        with a prayerful attitude of mind,  
        with access into warmth of fellowship,  
so that in the ordinary concerns of life  
    my thoughts and desires may rise to thee,  
and in habitual devotion I may find resource that will  
    soothe my sorrows, sanctify my successes,  
    and qualify me in all ways for dealings with my fellow men.

I bless thee that thou hast made me capable  
    of knowing thee, the author of all being,  
    of resembling thee, the perfection of all excellency,  
    of enjoying thee, the source of all happiness.

O God, attend me in every part of my arduous and trying  
pilgrimage;

    I need the same counsel, defence, comfort I found at my  
beginning.

Let my religion be more obvious to my conscience,  
                                more perceptible to those around.

While Jesus is representing me in heaven, may I reflect him on  
earth,  
while he pleads my cause, may I show forth his praise.

Continue the gentleness of thy goodness towards me,  
And whether I wake or sleep, let thy presence go with me,  
    thy blessing attends me.

Thou hast led me on and I have found thy promises true,  
I have been sorrowful, but thou hast been my help,  
    fearful, but thou has delivered me,  
    despairing, but thou hast lifted me up.

Thy vows are ever upon me,  
    And I praise thee, O God.

*Excerpted from The Valley of Vision, edited by Arthur Bennett.  
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**PARISH MINISTER:** The Revd Toby Tate (Rest day: Friday)

Tel: 01473 612659, Email: [toby@martleshamcofe.org.uk](mailto:toby@martleshamcofe.org.uk)

**Until August 2nd, then queries should be directed to Christine or Rob, below**

**ASSOCIATE PRIEST:** The Revd Christine Pinder (Working days: Sun, Wed, Thurs)

Tel: 07555 748345, Email: [christine.pinder@btinternet.com](mailto:christine.pinder@btinternet.com)

**CURATE:** Revd Rob Allinson, Curate (Rest day: Friday)

Tel: 07539 463312, Email: [rob@martleshamcofe.org.uk](mailto:rob@martleshamcofe.org.uk)

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**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Rowan Limb:

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*"Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is  
God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ  
Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right  
hand of God and is also interceding for us."*

**Romans 8:33-34 (NIV)**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068833925952>

<https://www.youtube.com/@martleshambenefice>