

MID-LOES BENEFICE MAGAZINE

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

November 2025



Benefice Holy Communion

Ashfield - 10am

Sunday 2nd November

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
DECEMBER 2025 - JANUARY 2026 ISSUE is
SUNDAY 16th NOVEMBER

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

NOVEMBER 2025

From The Rectory . . .

Recently, I had the privilege of leading a Memorial Service for the late Tom Rothery of Earl Soham, who served with the Duke of Wellington Regiment, seeing active service in Korea. The service had representatives from the Royal British Legion attending, acting as Standard Bearers, from both local and county levels, which caught my attention, and I found myself asking questions about their role in providing support to serving personnel, veterans and their families. In turn, I discussed their role with my two younger children who are staying with me for half-term, and I immediately realised that I have a duty to keep the Act of Remembrance alive for my children, providing a legacy for them, ensuring that the memories that we have of the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life, are kept alive... perhaps a legacy that we all have a duty to share with the generations to come?

In view of this, I have 'borrowed' some text that provides a simple, but important overview of Remembrance Sunday and the role of the Poppy that we wear proudly each year.

What is Remembrance Sunday?

Remembrance Sunday is a national opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life, most notably, the Armed Forces and their families in Britain and the Commonwealth, our emergency services and all those who have lost their lives as a result of conflict or terrorism.

An annual National Service of Remembrance at The Cenotaph in Whitehall on the second Sunday in November is mirrored in communities all over the UK and the Commonwealth. They provide a focus to remind us about all those who have served their country and made a sacrifice.

What does the Poppy Mean?

The poppy is a symbol of Remembrance for all who have lost their lives on active service, from the beginning of the First World War right up to the present day and includes innocent civilians who have died in conflicts and acts of terrorism. While the wearing of a poppy is primarily an overt show of support for the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces, veterans and emergency services, it also honours the

wider contribution of civil society including the uniformed and youth services that contribute to national peace and security.

How did a paper poppy become part of our national culture of Remembrance?

In the spring of 1915, shortly after losing a friend in Ypres, a Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, wrote his famous poem “*In Flanders Fields*” after seeing poppies growing in battle-scarred fields.

*In Flanders' fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders' fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high,
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders' Fields.*

“*In Flanders Fields*” inspired Moina Michael, an American, to campaign for the poppy to be adopted as an official symbol in memory of those who had fallen in the World War 1. In 1921, Earl Haig, founder of the British Legion, agreed to adopt the poppy as the emblem of Remembrance. That same year, 9 million poppies were sold in the UK.

What happens to the funds raised by the British Legion's sales of poppies?

All of the money raised from the sale of poppies goes towards providing support to serving personnel, veterans and their families with particular emphasis on funding charities that support those with physical disabilities and mental health issues arising from their service.

Please buy a poppy this year, wear it with pride and, in so doing, support the British Legion and the fantastic work it does to help those damaged by their service in conflict zones.

...Lest we Forget

*Permission was sought to use this article
written by Phil Russell MBE, for Vantage Publishing.
www.britishlegion.org.uk*



ASHFIELD NOTES

PHILIP GRIMSEY, 1966-2025, RIP, THANK YOU

It was with great shock and sadness that I learned of my brother's tragic death as the result of an horrendous accident on the family farm at Orford whilst abroad at the beginning of September.

Philip along with my sisters and I spent his childhood at Monk Soham. Our parents having moved from Low Farm [Ashfield] the short distance across the fields to Woodcroft Hall [Monk Soham] in 1964. Upon leaving Debenham Modern School in 1982 having passed his tractor driving test at 16 year's old he started making regular trips to and from Orford moving the farm equipment there to a larger farm that my Father had bought. [This farm had belonged to my Great Grandfather between the wars so the opportunity to buy it was one my Father relished]. Once the move was complete my brother along with the other staff employed set about getting the farm into good shape as it was somewhat rundown in 1982. Over the ensuing 43 years my brother worked tirelessly farming to the high standards expected by my late Father. On a number of occasions the farm won the 'Best Kept Farm' in Suffolk awards, something that doesn't happen without hard work and attention to detail!

Whilst there are few people now in Ashfield who will remember Philip I have drawn much comfort from all of the kind messages I have received over the last few weeks and on both my and the family's behalf I would like to thank you all for thinking of us at this very difficult time.

Robert

CHURCHYARD - BEECH TREE

The large beech tree in the churchyard which was earlier this year deemed to be in terminal decline has now been felled thus removing the danger to our neighbours and the church itself. At the time of writing this it all remains in the churchyard awaiting clearance. We are hoping that it will be possible to sell the lower part of the trunk for milling timber to recoup at least some of the significant expense incurred in taking the tree down. Because of its position the tree had to be brought down branch by branch, drop felling wasn't an option. In due course steps will be taken to remove the smaller timber for firewood. If you would be interested in some firewood in exchange for a donation to church funds please let Jane or myself know. There is also a quantity of woodchip available although it probably should be left stacked for a few months before use. If anyone would like to make a donation to church funds to help offset the costs incurred please use the code below or give them to Jane or myself.

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 11th and 25th November,
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

BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION & LIGHT LUNCH

Thursday 13th November 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

**Please note that the next issue of the
Benefice Magazine will be a double issue -
Dec 2025 - Jan 2026.
Copy Deadline is Sunday 16th November**

ASHFIELD NOTES continued

REMEMBRANCE 2025

Ashfield will remember its war dead as part of the Evening Prayer service on Sunday 9th November. The service commences at 6.30pm. If you would like to join us just for the Act of Remembrance please be at the back of the church for 7pm.



F.I.N.D. FOODBANK DONATIONS

Thank you to everyone who continues to put donations into the FIND box in the church. Donations over the summer months have dropped off a bit, as we approach the Christmas period the demand from recipients will increase. Please do drop a item or two into the box whenever you can, all will be greatly appreciated.



CAROL SERVICE 2025

Whilst it may seem a while off Christmas will soon be upon us! The principal service for Christmas at St Mary's will be our Carol Service which takes place on **Monday 22nd December, at 7pm**. Ruth and Des have again kindly agreed to play some seasonal tunes both before and after the service. As usual we will be serving seasonal refreshments [mulled wine and mince pies] after the service. Please put the date into your diaries, we look forward to seeing you!



PARISH COUNCIL, UPDATE

I am delighted to report that after a number of years with just four Councillors at a meeting in August three residents came forward to become Councillors which is great news for the village and future of the PC! We welcome Lindsay, Monica and Tom to the Council. The contact details for all of our Councillors can be found on the parish website. If you would prefer to contact the clerk in the first instance the details are printed in the back of the magazine. The next scheduled meeting will take place on Weds. December 10th at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.



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ST PETER'S FLOWER ROTA

1 Nov 25	1 Nov 25	1 Nov 25	1 Nov 25	1 Nov 25
Lesley Fuller	Linda Stratton	Linda Stratton	Bev Gugenheim	Bev Gugenheim

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

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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



CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES continued



ST. PETER'S CHURCH CHARSFIELD NOVEMBER CLEANING ROTA 2025	
8 November	Margaret & Stephanie
22 November	Lucy

ST PETER'S CHURCH ROTA

Date	Readers	Sides person
2nd November 10am Benefice Holy Communion, Ashfield	Benefice Holy Communion Ashfield All welcome	
9th November Remembrance Sunday 10.45am Remembrance Service St Peter's 3pm Remembrance Service Debach	Readers to be arranged	
16th November 4pm Evening Prayer	Antony Margaret	Margaret
23rd November 10am Morning Prayer	Linda Franki	Franki
30th November Advent Sunday 10am Holy Communion	Lesley Mike	Mike

Prayer Requests

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





Christmas Lunch and Magical Entertainment



Do you live in Charsfield?

Are you aged 60 or over?

If the answer to both these questions is YES –

You are invited to a **Seniors Christmas Lunch**
on Saturday 13th December
at 12 noon in Charsfield Village Hall.

(If any partner is over 60, and you aren't yet, you are still very welcome)

£12 per person for a delicious Christmas meal and amazing entertainment.

This year, for one year only, we have the fabulous**Andy Leach**.
He is a comedian and magician who has performed at the Royal Variety Show!

Prepare to be amazed at his close-up table magic
and then enthralled by his stage show after the meal.

To register an interest in attending please e-mail
'seniors@potsford.com' or telephone 07887 440404 (e-mail preferred).
You will then be contacted with further details.

Don't miss out. Book early.

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

All welcome at
Charsfield Village Hall!

Table
Tennis



Contactless
Payment

Friday 7th November
7pm – 10pm

**FAT BAND are back with
Polly Gibbons**

Support Band 'Black Coffee' from Cambridge

Sold Out!
**Charsfield Village Hall
Saturday 22nd November**



Village Carol Service



*Featuring the
Ipswich Hospital Band*

St Peter's Church, Charsfield

*Friday 12th December 2025
7.30pm*

Spiced drinks & light refreshments



(Retiring Collection for St. Peter's Church Fabric Fund)

CHARSFIELD WITH DEBACH NOTES continued

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

There will be a Remembrance service at St. Peter's, Charsfield on Sunday 9th September at 10:45am.



HARVEST SUPPER

Thank you to all who contributed to a very enjoyable Harvest Supper at Charsfield Village Hall, the first one for several years. Thank you to all who



helped with the setting up, catering and clearing up as well as running the raffle. Also, thanks to Peter Holloway for entertaining us so well on the evening. The event raised £480 for church funds which is a great result.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Ipswich Hospital Band will be playing at the Christmas Carol Service on Friday 12th December at 7:30pm at St. Peter's. Everybody welcome!



*The boiler only worked if the
Verger switched it on*

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

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www.achurchnearyou.com

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Friends of St Peter's Cretingham

Sausage & Mash Supper and Quiz

Where?
When?



at The Cretingham Bell

Tuesday 18th November at 7.30pm

Short AGM Raffle

Cost £15 to include membership of the Friends
To book your place please contact Katy Shircliff
07813 609772 or email: kshircliff@hotmail.com

Charity No. 1205705

CRETINGHAM NOTES

HARVEST SUPPER 2025

Thank you to everyone who contributed in so many ways to making this year's Harvest Supper "one of the best"! From the variety and creativity of salads to accompany our tasty sliced ham to the abundance of delicious desserts we could not have asked for a more hearty meal to enjoy together. Thank you to all who helped that possible, but especially to Heather who co-ordinated everything to perfection. £504 was raised during the evening – thank you everyone.



The competition for the Appleby Cup this year was a photographic treasure hunt around the parishes of our benefice featuring each of the eight (plus one) churches alongside lesser well-known views within each of our villages. The cup was won by Kathleen and Brian Martin who identified 22 out of the 25 pictures on display.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

One week on and St Peter's echoed to well-known harvest hymns as we thanked God for his bounty and celebrated a successful harvest at home and abroad. The church windows and every available ledge were filled with the most beautiful flower displays – surrounded by donations of tinned and packet goods. These have all been delivered to the FIND foodbank locally – along with donations from the pupils at Helmingham Primary School – thank you.

HISTORIC CHURCHES RIDE AND STRIDE

To the best of my knowledge, St Peter's has been open every year since the foundation of the sponsored bike ride in 1982. Twenty-twenty-five was no exception and I am very grateful to Heather Runacres, David Defoe, Judith Hale, Carol Brown and Jane Defoe who volunteered to register the riders as they visited the church between 9am and 5pm.

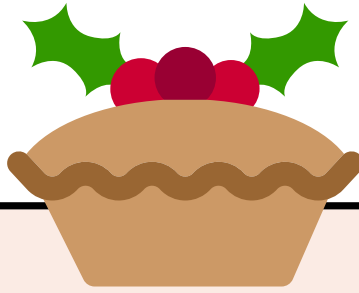


Our grateful thanks also to the many sponsors who supported LARRY BOSMAN who walked his way around half-a-dozen of our local churches. Congratulations Larry – and thank you for raising a total of £260 – half of which is returned by the Trust to St Peter's for our funds. Anyone who would like to take part next year, the date is Saturday 12th September.

FUNDRAISER – RACE NIGHT – back by popular demand!

On Saturday 8th November we are hosting another evening of high drama, excitement and also-rans as we invite you to a Race Night at Brandeston Village Hall – 7pm – first race 7.15. Bring your friends and make up a table to cheer your selected gee-gee around the racetracks of the UK. Guaranteed FUN but (sadly) no guaranteed profit!! Tickets £12 to include a hot supper. Card payment available





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**



CRETINGHAM NOTES continued

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

We meet at 10.50 in St Peter's on Sunday 9th November to remember all who have fallen in the service of their country. Ian Marjoram will be conducting a house-to-house collection and poppies will be available in The Bell in the preceding two weeks.



COFFEE AND CHAT

Our next two dates are: Monday 10th November and Saturday 13th December. We look forward to welcoming you to St Peter's between 10.30 to 12 noon.

DIARY DATES IN DECEMBER

7 th	Benefice Toy Service at Monewden	10am
13 th	Christmas Stall in Church	10am
17 th	Carol Singing in The Bell	7pm
21 st	Carol Service	4pm
25 th	Christmas Day Communion	10am

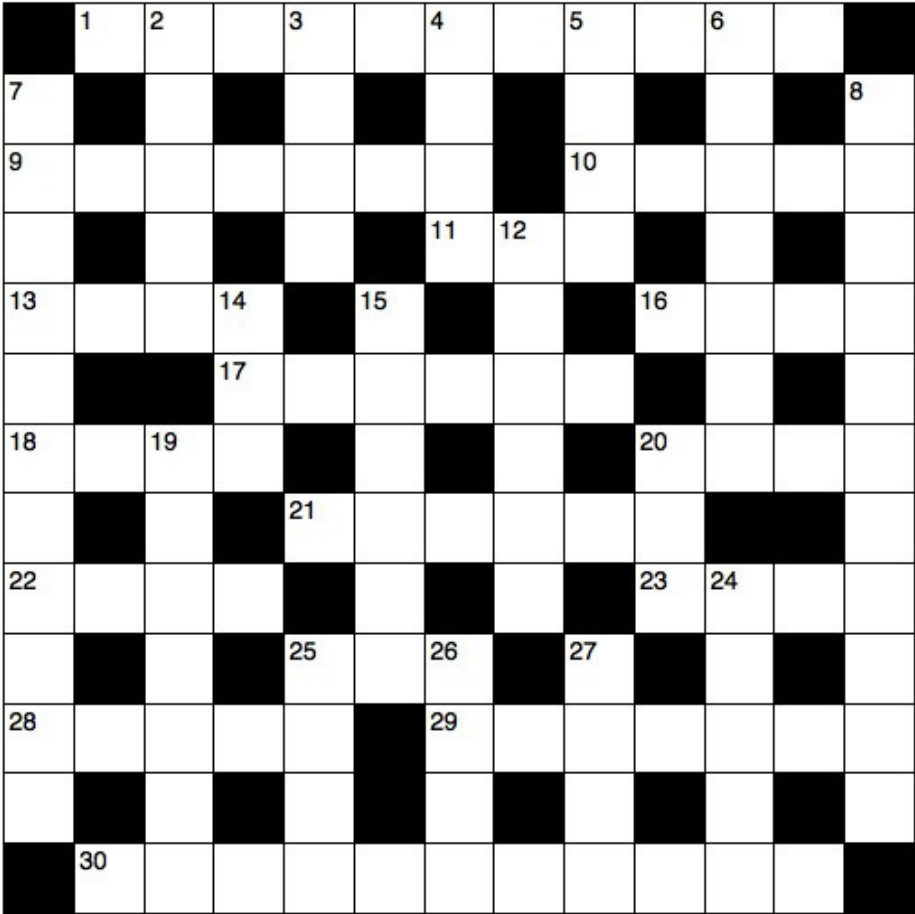


SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

Sunday 2 nd	Benefice Holy Communion	St Mary's Ashfield	10.00am
Sunday 9 th	Remembrance Sunday	St Peter's – led by Churchwarden	10.50am
Sunday 16 th	Holy Communion	St Peter's – led by Revd Gary	10.00am
Sunday 30 th	Morning Prayer	St Peter's – led by Amber Pearce-Wright	10.00am

MICHAEL OLIVER RIP

Jan and Suzie have been overwhelmed by the love and support given to them following Mike's death. We cannot reply to all of the letters and cards, but we will treasure them. Thank you so much.



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Across

- 1 The sixth disciple (Matthew 10:3) (11)
- 9 'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the — — ' (Matthew 6:13) (4,3)
- 10 Love intensely (Song of Songs 1:4) (5)
- 11 From Mt Carmel to Jezreel, Elijah — all the way (1 Kings 18:46) (3)
- 13 One of the Midianite leaders who was captured and killed after Gideon's victory in the valley near Moreh (Judges 7:25) (4)
- 16 Metallic element (4)
- 17 At line (anag.) (6)
- 18 'Cursed is everyone who is — on a tree' (Galatians 3:13) (4)
- 20 Where Samson killed a thousand Philistines with a donkey's jawbone (Judges 15:14) (4)
- 21 He succeeded Moses (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)
- 22 'When he saw him, he took — on him' (Luke 10:33) (4)
- 23 'For — is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction' (Matthew 7:13) (4)
- 25 'The god of this — has blinded the minds of unbelievers' (2 Corinthians 4:4) (3)
- 28 Fear or terror (Psalm 31:22) (5)
- 29 'We, who are many, are one body, for we all — of the one loaf' (1 Corinthians 10:17) (7)
- 30 Assyrian ruler assassinated by his sons while worshipping his god Nisroch (2 Kings 19:37) (11)

Down

- 2 'For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made — ' (1 Corinthians 15:22) (5)
- 3 'After supper he — the cup' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (4)
- 4 The request of a man of Macedonia in Paul's vision: 'Come — to Macedonia and help us' (Acts 16:9) (4)
- 5 He disobeyed his father Judah by refusing to impregnate his dead brother's wife (Genesis 38:9) (4)
- 6 I veto me (anag.) (7)
- 7 Fourth king of Judah (1 Kings 15:24) (11)
- 8 Priest of God Most High, who blessed Abram (Genesis 14:18) (11)
- 12 'I have made you — — for the Gentiles' (Acts 13:47) (1,5)
- 14 Implore (1 Samuel 15:25) (3)
- 15 'Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the — , something sweet' (Judges 14:14) (6)
- 19 'I am the most ignorant of men; I do — — a man's understanding' (Proverbs 30:2) (3,4)
- 20 'Sin shall not be your master, because you are not under — , but under grace' (Romans 6:14) (3)
- 24 Native of, say, Baghdad (5)
- 25 The last word in the Bible (Revelation 22:21) (4)
- 26 Heroic tale (4)
- 27 'Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you — ' (John 8:32) (4)

DECEMBER BENEFICE SERVICE

**Toy Service - Sunday 7th December
at 10am - Monewden**

Remembrance Sunday 2025

Services across the Benefice

Sunday 9th November

Ashfield – 6.30pm

Charsfield – 10.45am

Debach – 3pm

Cretingham – 10.50am

Dallinghoo – 10.45am

Earl Soham – 10.45am

Hoo

combined service at Letheringham

Letheringham – 8.30am

combined service with Hoo

Monewden – 10.45am



Lest we forget

www.britishlegion.org.uk

The Debenham Project Presents

1960s Party!

Friday 21st November - 2-6pm

Debenham Sports & Leisure Centre

Tickets £20 Bar drink included



MUSIC * DANCING * QUIZ * RAFFLE
AFTERNOON TEA * BY POPULAR DEMAND ELVIS! (RANDY OTTELEY)
*** 1960'S DRESS OPTIONAL! ***

Tickets available from

Websters Newsagents & Debenham Sports and Leisure Centre

debenhamproject@gmail.com - 07825 727998





Date	Readings	Psalm
November 2nd Benefice Service	Ephesians 1:11-end Luke 6:20-31	149
November 9th Remembrance Sunday	Romans 8:31-end John 15:9-17	23
November 16th	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19	98
November 23rd	Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43	46
November 30th Advent Sunday	Romans 13: 11-14 Matthew 24:36-44	122

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:

Rev'd Kathleen Martin 01473 737 285

Margaret Salter 01473 737 182

Mary Vellacott 01728 685423

Rev'd Wendy Gourlay 01728 685335



CHURCH SERVICES

Church	November 2nd All Saints White	November 9th Remembrance Sunday Red	November 16th 2nd Before Advent Red	November 23rd Christ the King Red	November 30th Advent Sunday Purple
Ashfield	10am Benefice Holy Communion GB	6.30pm Evening Prayer with Act of Remembrance VB	8.30am Holy Communion KM	X	X
Charsfield with Debach		10.45am Remembrance CW 3pm (Debach) WG	4pm Evening Prayer GB	10am Morning Prayer KM	10am Holy Communion KM
Cretingham		10.50am Remembrance CW	10am Holy Communion GB	X	10am Morning Prayer APW
Dallinghoo		10.45am Remembrance KM	10am All-Age Worship KM	X	10am Holy Communion WG
Earl Soham		10.45am Remembrance GB	10am Holy Communion WG	10am Morning Prayer GB	10am Christingle GB
Hoo		8.30am Remembrance at Letheringham	X	8.30am Holy Communion KM	X
Letheringham		8.30am Remembrance with Hoo GB	X	X	X
Monewden		10.45am Remembrance HC WG	X	10am All-Age Worship APW	6.30pm Evening Prayer GB

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.



DECEMBER BENEFICE SERVICE

All-Age Toy Service

Sunday 7th December at 10am - Monewden

Please note that the Holy Communion Service for this Sunday will take place at Ashfield, 8.30am



DALLINGHOO NOTES

DALLINGHOO COFFEE MORNING

Will be held on Saturday November 1st. It is such a lovely way to meet people living in and around the village. If anyone would like to donate some cakes to sell or a raffle prize please give Jane or Linda a call details of telephone number at the bottom. We have so far raised a total of £480 for church funds.

FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

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. We clean most Fridays usually between 10.00 - 12.00 the last half hour being coffee break

HARVEST SUPPER

What a fantastic night, it was lovely to see so many people enjoying a sociable evening. Thank you to Iain for providing the entertainment in the form of a music quiz. The trolley ladies (Amanda, Dawn and Jane) had a fun time cooking, serving, clearing. Food was plentiful thank you to Derek Spall for the Potatoes, and everyone who brought desserts. Thanks to Linda for the table decorations. We will let you know how much we raised in the coming weeks. Thanks to the PCC and everyone who helped to make the night a success. We look forward to next year.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

November 1st

Coffee Morning and Amanda's Defib presentation will be demonstrating how to use the Defibrillator if it is needed. Knowing how to use the Defib could make the difference of life and death. Pop along the demonstration will be starting at 11.30.

November 29th

Christmas Fayre - 11am - 2pm, we are hoping to have craft stalls, raffle and prize games. We will be serving pulled pork rolls (veggie option available) and festive cakes.

A visit from Santa who will be available for children and the young at heart, my motto is you are never too old to sit on Santa's knee (not actually on but next to). Bring Santa your letters so that he can take them back to the North Pole, where I am sure Santa's little helpers will get to work.

We will be asking for cake and raffle prize donations, if you have something you can offer please get in touch.

Email janedsewell@gmail.com Telephone: Jane 07780 787842

DALLINGHOO NOTES continued

CARPET BOWLS

Come and join us for an evening of carpet bowls, good fun and gentle exercise.
Dallinghoo Village Hall 7.30pm

Wednesday November 5th

Wednesday November 29th

Contact Cliff Green 01473737421 for more details.



DALLINGHOO COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 1st NOVEMBER

During our coffee morning this month, Amanda Parker is kindly running a

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If you would rather access the Benefice Magazine online through the
website, or A Church Near You, rather than receive a printed copy,
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**Please note that the next issue of the
Benefice Magazine will be a double issue -
Dec 2025 - Jan 2026.
Copy Deadline is Sunday 16th November**

DALLINGHOO FIREWORKS



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:

Nov 27th

7:00 pm - Annual Meeting –

Review of the past year, election. Beetle drive

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	
November	Mrs Patterson
December	Mrs Perry-Freese
Any problems Ring Denise - 685234	



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7 for 7.30 pm

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Saturday 13th December 7pm

St Mary's Church, Letheringham IP13 7QY

Admission Free:

Mulled wine and mince pies to be served
at the interval

Donations in aid of the church restoration
fund would be much appreciated

MONNEWDEN NOTES

CHURCH ROTAS

Date	Flowers/Brasses	Church Cleaning	Sidesperson	Coffee
Nov. 2	BENEFICE SERVICE			
Nov. 9	J. Coe	L. Grier	D. Grier	C. Saxby
Nov. 23	A. Hamilton	F. Watts & C. Saxby	L. Grier	L. Grier
Nov. 30			J. Dinwiddy	W. Heath

CHURCH READERS

November 9th Eastwood Family

100 CLUB

Prizes for October: 1 £25 T. Hubbard; 2 £15 Lisa Grier. 3 £10 S. Clarke.

REMEMBRANCE

The Remembrance Day Service at St. Mary's Monewden will be held on November 9th at 10.45 a.m.

FIRS FARM COMMUNION

This month's service will be on Thursday, November 13th, at 12 noon, and will be taken by Revd. Kathleen Martin. Please note there will be no Home Communion meetings at Firs Farm in December or January 2026.

SATURDAY CAFE

Our next **SATURDAY CAFE** will be on Saturday, November 15th 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 for November will be drawn at this event.

WINE TASTING

The annual **WINE TASTING** will be held in the village hall on Friday, November 28th at 7.30 p.m. in aid of Monewden Church Appeal Fund. Good wine, good food and good company, what more could you ask for! As in previous years Jonathan Williamson from Wines of Interest will be talking us through a tasting session delivered in his usual entertaining and informative style. Tickets will be £15, including buffet, and can be obtained from David Grier on 737298 or Brian Martin on 737285.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December 7th: Benefice Toy Service to be held at Monewden. Non Communion service. Major Alan Hill from the Salvation Army will be present.

December 19th: Carol Service at 6.30 p.m., to be followed by Pop Up Pub in the Village Hall.

December 25th: Christmas Day Holy Communion service at 9.30 a.m.

December 28th: The only service in the Benefice will be at Earl Soham.

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12 December
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Crossword Answers

ACROSS:

1. Bartholomew. 9, Evil one.
10, Adore. 11, Ran. 13, Oreb.
16, Zinc. 17, Entail. 18, Hung.
20, Lehi. 21, Joshua. 22, Pity.
23, Wide. 25, Age. 28, Alarm.
29, Partake. 30, Sennacherib.

DOWN:

2, Alive. 3, Took. 4, Over. 5, Onan.
6, Emotive. 7, Jehoshaphat.
8, Melchizedek. 12, A light. 14, Beg.
15, Strong. 19, Not have. 20, Law.
24, Iraqi. 25, Amen. 26, Epic.
27, Free.



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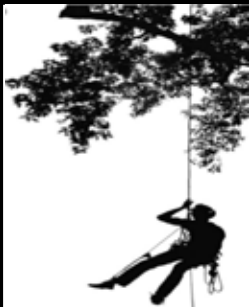
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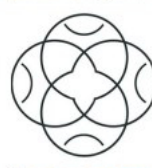


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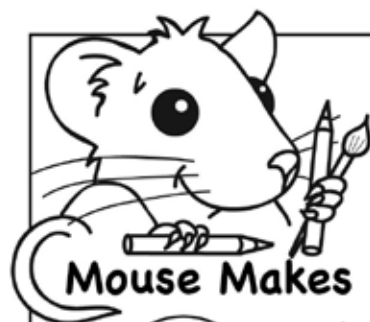
Ashfield	Mrs Sarah Clare E-mail: actpc.clerk@gmail.com Tel: 01449 781671
Charsfield	Viviane Ward E-mail: charsfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com Tel: 07710 187570
Cretingham	Acting Clerk : Caroline Saxby E-mail: cmhparishcouncil@gmail.com
Dallinghoo	Chris Ling E-mail: dallinghoo@outlook.com Tel: 07963305205
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:

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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
"	Village Hall Secretary	Mrs Susie Starke	01728 684 385
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"	Scouts/Cubs/Beavers	1dv.group@suffolkscouts.org.uk	01728 723 712
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"	Carpet Bowls Club	Chris Pratt	07395 918937
	Allotment/Gardeners Association	Mr Tony Carr	07717 302214



LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Advent Sunday this year falls on 30th November.
ADVENT is a time to celebrate the ARRIVAL of Jesus, God's Son, our Saviour. We look forward with HOPE, we give thanks for God's LOVE and the PEACE and JOY we have in Jesus.



Read:
LUKE 2:10-11
Who is 'God's news of great joy' for?



Read:
John 3:16
How did God show He loves us?



Read:
Isaiah 40:5
What shall be revealed?



Read:
Romans 5:1-2
Through who do we have peace with God?

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WHO'S WHO IN THE BENEFICE *(Continued from inside front cover)*

EARL SOHAM

Churchwardens	Dr. John Elmore, Hill Farm, Earl Soham	01728 685 814
Secretary	Mrs. Mavis Kerridge, The Malt House, Earl Soham	01728 685 700
Treasurer	Christopher Pratt, 5 Clarke Drive, Framlingham	07395 918 937

HOO

Churchwardens	Vacancy	
Secretary	Mr Trevor Branton, The Poplars, Pound Hill, Dallinghoo	01473 737 246
Treasurer	Mr Francis Whitbread, Archers Keep, Butts Lane, Debenham. Email fwitbread57@gmail.com	07788 563827

LEATHERINGHAM

Churchwardens	Malcolm Ross, Pips Cottage, Cooks Hill, Letheringham Email malcolmnross@icloud.com	07720 213472
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.
midloesmagazine@gmail.com**

The Deadline for contributions panel
DECEMBER 2025 - JANUARY 2026 ISSUE is
SUNDAY 16th NOVEMBER

Remembrance Sunday 2025

Services across the Benefice

Sunday 9th November

Ashfield – 6.30pm

Charsfield – 10.45am

Debach – 3pm

Cretingham – 10.50am

Dallinghoo – 10.45am

Earl Soham – 10.45am

Hoo

combined service at Letheringham

Letheringham – 8.30am

combined service with Hoo

Monewden – 10.45am



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