

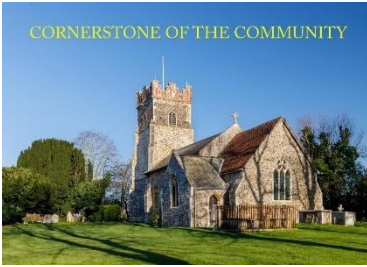
THE LANTERN

NEWS OF THE PARISH OF ST ANDREW'S BREDFIELD



PHOTO STEVE STAMMERS

APRIL 2026



FROM ST ANDREW'S MINISTRY TEAM

EASTER JOY FOR UNCERTAIN TIMES

Let's be honest—these are strange days. International news feels heavy, plans don't always go as expected, and we can feel like the ground beneath us is shifting. And yet, right in the middle of all that, Easter turns up. Not with a bang, but as joy which is far more solid.

Because Easter is not just about new life in springtime – it is about *the* new life. It is the bold and astonishing claim that Jesus Christ, crucified and dead, is risen again. Not as a comforting idea, but as a fact that changes everything. Death does not win. Sin does not win. Fear does not have the last word. Christ is alive – and that means hope is not wishful thinking, but something real and dependable.

You can see the echoes of it all around us. Yes, in the daffodils and the lengthening days—but also in the quiet faithfulness of ordinary people. In the neighbour who checks in. In the kindness that keeps appearing. In the community that refuses to give up on one another. These are not small things. They are signs of resurrection life already at work.

In Bredfield church we'll be celebrating Easter morning with joyful singing, children making Easter gardens and egg hunts. But the joy we are celebrating goes deeper. Not in pretending life is easy, but in knowing that even at its darkest, God has acted—and still acts—to bring life out of death.

Easter joy might look simple, but it is anything but shallow. It is rooted in the deep truth that Christ is risen from death, and that his life is stronger than whatever uncertainty we face.

May you and all who you love have a joy-full Easter in 2026

Sally Gaze

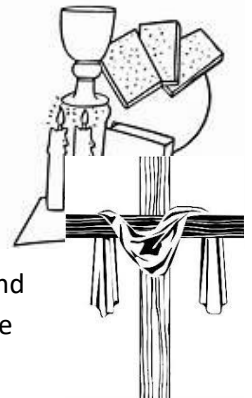
(Rev Canon Sally Gaze lives in Otley and assists with ministry at St Andrew's Bredfield.)



APRIL EVENTS AT YOUR VILLAGE CHURCH

Maundy Meal 2nd April 6.30pm-9ish

Maundy Thursday remembers the last supper of Christ when he said to them that he was giving them a new commandment: "Love one another as I have loved you." The title 'Maundy Thursday' comes from the old English word for commandment. We'll be sharing a meal together and considering that special meal which was based on the Jewish Passover – what sights sounds and smells were there and how do we remember the story today. The meal is at the house of Chris and Sally Gaze. Book your place by ringing Sally on 07446933129



Good Friday 3rd April 2-3pm

Prayer and Reflection in Church at the foot of the cross

Easter Sunday 5th April 10-11am

Celebrate the new life of Easter at St Andrew's Church Bredfield – a joyful communion service for any age with opportunity for children to make an Easter garden and some egg hunting activities in the churchyard at the end.



DIARY DATES

COFFEE AND CAKE

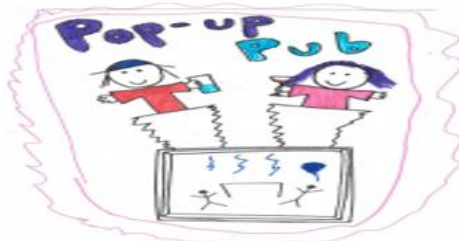


Do come along to **COFFEE AND CAKE** mornings in
St Andrew's Church Room.
We meet on Wednesdays, usually twice a month.
ALL WELCOME!



The next dates are:

Wednesday 8th and Wednesday 22nd April, 10am to 12 pm
Wednesday 13th and Wednesday 27th May, 10am to 12 pm



Artwork by Florence Seargeant

POP-UP BAR

FRIDAY 24TH APRIL
6.00 – 10.00PM

ALL WELCOME
BRING FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND
ENJOY A NIGHT OUT
CARD PAYMENTS ONLY

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

The Annual Revision of the Church Electoral Roll will take place between 29th March and 12th April this year. If you wish to be added to the roll please contact John McCarthy on 01473 737276. In order to be able to vote at the APCM on April 26th your name will need to be on the roll by 12th April.

ST ANDREW'S PCC AGM (APCM) 26TH APRIL

Sunday 26th April at 10.00am in the church. There will be a short Service of the Word at 10.00am, followed immediately by the APCM. All welcome.

SAVE THE DATE

BEAT THE BOUNDS WALK, SATURDAY 9TH MAY starting from Bredfield Village Hall at 2pm. More details to follow in the May edition of the Lantern.

FROM OUR FRIENDS IN DALLINGHOO

Saturday 25th April
2:00 – 4:00 pm

**Plant
and
Cake**


Dallinghoo Village Hall

Car boot pitches available @£10: enquire 01473-737700

IP13 0JX

Sale

In aid of The
Dallinghoo Church
Repair Fund,
Charity No. 803135



NEWS FROM BREDFIELD

THE 'OTHER' BOSTON MARATHON



After more than 10 weeks, the training is almost over. And so, on 12th April I hope to be lining up first thing in the morning at the start of the Boston Marathon.

Not the famous one in the US that began in 1897 and attracts over 30,000 entrants each year; but the much

smaller version starting in the Lincolnshire market town named after St Botolph, and from where Puritan settlers departed for America in the 17th Century. The course passes through local villages and is flat. So, I'm hoping for light winds and definitely no 'beasts from the East'!

I will be raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support which helps people living with cancer across the UK get the support they need and works to transform cancer care for those who will be diagnosed in the future.

If you wish to support this worthy cause there are sponsorship forms in the village shop and St Andrew's church or you can donate online on the following page <https://www.justgiving.com/page/roger-ackerley-6> where you can also read my training updates.

Thank-you for your continuing support and encouragement.

Roger

PLANT STALL TOWARDS CHURCH FABRIC FUNDS

The Plant Stall outside Thorney Grove is starting to fill up as the warmer weather arrives. Thank you to all those who have donated plants. £12 has already been collected as eagle-eyed gardeners pick up a bargain.

If you can help a good cause by donating seedlings, potting up baby offspring, splitting up perennials etc that would be fantastic. Name them if possible and just leave behind the stall. Empty pots are available.

Otherwise, just keep your eyes open for a bargain.



Ann and Steve

NEW BULBS IN THE CHURCHYARD

Some of you will remember the vast number of white bulbs used at the funeral of Tim Pitt-Miller. Tim loved wildlife and the bulbs were donated for use around the grave of Tim and his brother Robin, and in the churchyard. The bounteous number of Snowdrops are in planters next to his grave waiting for the grave to be levelled. We are not sure yet of the viability of the Lily of the Valley, also in planters. The White Grape Hyacinths have at last been planted between the Daffodils along the path. They are a bit stunted this year but with feeding they should provide a welcoming display in future.

If anyone would like to help in future planting of the Snowdrops, that would be greatly appreciated, especially by visiting humans and early Bumblebees.

Just contact Steve or Ann



ST ANDREW'S QUIET DAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2026

An event planned by the amazing and talented Garrie and Jill Griffiths.

Garrie led the day by using Songs, Stories and Prayers he had composed himself. Garrie sang the songs while playing his Guitar and was accompanied beautifully by his wife Jill on her Flute. All we needed to do was chill, listen and enjoy total relaxation.

A day to remember. **We are planning another on 4th July** when all will be welcome. Thank you Garrie and Jill for a very special day.



QUOTES FROM THE QUIET DAY:

From Jill and Garrie themselves:

“So much to ponder during and after the Quiet Day at St Andrew's- we were encouraged in our faith through silence, words and music.”

From others:

“Great. Will definitely come to another one.”

"A real feeling of the presence of God's Peace at the meeting"

“The quiet day was a time to press the pause button and reflect on God's love for us”

“The Quiet day at Bredfield was divided into 3 sections with music, a talk, prayer and a time for reflection in each section. The theme was about developing our faith, which can seem quite small, in an easy, open relationship with Jesus as our friend. Someone to listen to, trust and wait for.”

“Gill and Garrie gave us a delightful day with song, readings, prayers and stories. We look forward to another quiet day in the Summer.



Ann Stammers

MOTHERING SUNDAY 15TH MARCH

Thank you to the very kind Leslie and Lorna Rolph for allowing us to wander at will in their glorious private wood, picking Daffodils planted by Leslie. What a beautiful place.

A huge thank you to the 8 intrepid daffodil pickers who braved the mud on the track and a blustery day to pick so many varieties of stunning blooms.

On the Saturday, six volunteers helped to put up a gazebo at the Carpark and armed with Daffodils, foliage, ribbon and gift cards, busily made up dozens of posies. Visitors to the shop, passers-by and those attending the football matches were encouraged to take a cheerful posy home for loved ones, Mums, Aunts, Grandmothers etc. It was truly lovely to see so many huge smiles.

On Mothering Sunday itself we had a busy service at St. Andrews to give thanks for mothers and all who care for us. Sally Gaze planned and led the service, and we heard about the meaning of Simnel Cakes. Candles were lit for those we wished to thank God for. We had some lovely Hymns and gifts of posies were given to all. Refreshments followed in the Church Room, including home-made Simnel Cake and Tea bread. Altogether a wonderful service.





Ann Stammers

ECO CHURCH

I'm delighted to tell you that St. Andrews has now been successful in attaining the Bronze eco Church Award from A Rocha. This has involved reaching the required standard in five categories – Worship and Teaching, Buildings and Energy, Land and Nature, Community and Global Engagement, Lifestyle. I'm pleased to say we are well on the way to achieving the Silver award. Environmental considerations are routinely part of our regular services, and our buildings now have new energy-efficient heating and lighting systems. We use environmentally friendly cleaning products, and our refreshments are where possible sourced locally or come from ethical sources such as through Fair Trade. Our churchyard is managed with the environment and wildlife in mind, and we are grateful to all those in our community who contribute towards this, either throughout the year or at our annual churchyard clear-up events.

Steve Stammers



CHERISHING THE EARTH DAY CONFERENCE AT ST. JOHNS AND SERVICE AT ST ANDREW'S

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER

The Sessions on 21st March were fascinating. We were so privileged to listen to Martin and Margot Hodson. Martin, a plant scientist and biologist, at University of Oxford, Oxford Brookes University, the John Ray Initiative and A Rocha. Margot, as well being a Priest is Director of Theology and Education for the John Ray Initiative, and was previously the Chaplain of Jesus College Oxford. Between them, and together, they have written many publications and books.

Martin's talk on Science and the Environment pulled many present findings together e.g. biodiversity, climate change, biochemical flows, land use change etc. The WWF Report of 2024 recorded a 73% loss of wild animal populations. Only 4% of mammals on Earth are wild, the rest are humans, livestock and pets!



The talk was full of interconnecting facts and ended with examples of what humans CAN and ARE doing. E.G. Between 2023/ 24 RENEWABLE energy increased considerably in China. Meanwhile, Electrical consumption has been reduced by using the Triple A +++ rating system for electronic goods.

Why have we not cared for this Earth? Selfishness? Greed? Apathy. Wholesale robbing the land of its resources? Lack of education?

HUMANS ARE SOVEREIGNS OF NATURE, NOT JUST PART OF IT.

As Obama said we must HOPE and Fight, not wait for some other person. Be Active, not Passive. Can we all do this, even if in a small way? Margot then gave a talk on **'Why should we look after the Earth and What is holding us**

back?’ Looking after Nature is not just for intrinsic values, our well-being, food provision, future cures for Cancer etc. We need to be more outward looking.

FAITH, COMMUNITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT ARE CONNECTED.

What can we do in Bredfield, in our own homes and gardens, at work?

But most of all TOGETHER. But we are only a small, if special, community.

WE have our wonderful Jubilee Meadow. We now have Bronze Eco Church and Churchyard. We are about to have a litter pick. Do you have other ideas?

Would you like to start something up in our community?

Old spectacle recycling? Seed swops??

Talks from local groups and experts? Encouraging growing of own food?

Recycling group for goods? Offers to repair?

Wildlife Corridors? Hedgehog Highways?

Wildlife monitoring? Sharing of garden fruit and vegetable gluts?

Sharing of tools? Providing land for allotments?

New areas managed for wildlife?

LOCAL ATTEMPTS AT CHANGE in Woodbridge area:

We had stalls and talks representing various groups, Deben Climate Change, (centre for Sustainable Energy), Transition Woodbridge, The Repair Café, Repair Shed, Eco Workshops in schools, Net Zero for Churches, Cupboard Love mobile refill shop. More information will be available in St. Andrews after Easter.

SUNDAY TALK AT ST ANDREWS SERVICE.

We were again blessed to have Martin, a licensed preacher, talk to us, on Sunday. He then stayed for refreshments and spoke to people who were unable to go to the conference. Margot left after our service to speak at St John’s.

FUTURE EVENT: CELEBRATING OUR CARE FOR CREATION DAY on Saturday May 9th at St Edmundsbury Cathedral. A morning of talks, plus a celebration for churches who have achieved an Eco Church Award, plus stalls.

ALL THOSE INTERESTED ARE WELCOME

Ann Stammers

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH

It is always lovely to have fresh flowers in the church. We could do with a few more people on the flower arrangers rota to enable the Altar to have flowers for services. Is there anyone who would be prepared to join the rota?

If so, please contact me:

Rosemary McCarthy
Tel. No. 01473 737276

VILLAGE MAP

As part of the review of the website the parish council will be updating the village map.

If you know of any changes that should be made please email nik.bestow@bredfield-pc.gov.uk .

100 CLUB WINNERS March 2026

1st Prize	No.55 J Taylor
2nd Prize	No. 51 L Buckman

NATURE NOTES

The flowers of late-Winter and early-Spring come in a variety of colours, including the white of Snowdrops and the blue of (perversely called) Green Alkanet. However, the predominant colour, as with the rest of the year, is yellow. As you read this, Daffodils will have been out for some while. Bredfield is blessed with a good show of Daffodils along its grass verges. It is a welcome sight that would brighten up anyone's day.

The scientific name for the Daffodil family is *Narcissus*, and the smaller variety are often referred to by this name. The flowers of Daffodils face downwards, unlike Tulips which open their flowers to the sky. This downward-looking aspect is said to resemble Narcissus, of the Greek myth, who so loved his own image that he stared downwards at his reflection in a pool and was unable to pull himself away - with a fatal result.



All the daffodils you see around Bredfield are the cultivated variety. There are now very few colonies of wild Daffodils in Britain. It was the Victorians who started breeding the cultivated variety from the smaller and more delicate wild variety. They had a bit of a 'craze' for Daffodils, helped along by Wordsworth's famous poem. The 'host of golden daffodils' that Wordsworth wrote about would have been wild Daffodils carpeting the fell valleys of Cumbria. It is a very rare sight nowadays, but must have been a wonderful vista when he saw them. "And my heart with pleasure fills and dances with the daffodils."

Far less-showy, but a no-less beautiful yellow flower of the early Spring, is the Lesser Celandine. It never grows tall and has star-shaped petals, which oddly can range from 7-12 in number. William Wordsworth was also fond of the Lesser Celandine; writing three poems about it. He observed the flower's

habit of opening its petals to receive the sun, but then closing them up when the sun stops shining:

“There is a flower, the Lesser Celandine,
That shrinks, like many more, from cold and rain;
And, at the first moment that the sun may shine,
Bright as the sun itself, ‘tis out again!”



The name ‘Celandine’ is derived from the Greek word ‘*Chilidon*’ meaning Swallow. Both that bird and this flower are heralds of Spring. Because they emerge early in the year, Lesser Celandine are an important source of nectar for queen Bumblebees and other pollinators, as they emerge from their winter hibernation. Lesser Celandine is also known

as ‘Pilewort’, which indicates that it was once considered as a treatment for haemorrhoids. I don’t recommend that you try it!

With its prefix ‘Lesser’, the question is begged ‘What about the Greater Celandine?’ Well, there is such a plant, but curiously it is not related to Lesser Celandine. It belongs to the Poppy family, whereas Lesser Celandine belongs to the Buttercup family. Keep your eyes open for Lesser Celandine in Spring. You can find it growing in the grounds of St Andrew’s Church.

Stewart Belfield
All photos by the author

<https://bredfieldwfv.org.uk>



SEASONAL RECIPE FROM THE VILLAGE SHOP

There can be times in April when it feels cold enough to want a warming soup, even though we all want summer to come. This soup has summery flavours, but is quite substantial.

CHARD AND CORIANDER SOUP

25g butter
2 chopped leeks
3 medium potatoes, peeled and chopped
1 litre vegetable stock
225g chard, chopped - leaving the bigger stalks
2 tblsp chopped coriander
A few spoonfuls of crème fraiche

Melt the butter in a pan and add the leeks and potatoes. Cook for a few minutes.

Add a little stock, then the chard and coriander plus a pinch of salt.

Cook until the chard wilts, then add the rest of the stock.

Bring to the boil and simmer gently for about 10 minutes.

Blend the soup, and reheat to serve, season with pepper if desired.

Swirl in the crème fraiche and serve with crusty bread.

Chard and spinach are very similar to eat, but chard is related to the beetroot family, as is spinach beet, or perpetual spinach, and is a bit stronger in structure and flavour than true spinach. All types are very nutritious, containing Vitamin A and B, and are high in iron and calcium. Chard is available most of the year and can over-winter in the garden.

As spring gets going, the shop will try to procure lovely fresh produce, from all our hard-working suppliers! Thank you for your continuing support.

Kate Pirkis



USEFUL INFORMATION

St Andrew's, Bredfield

Rector: Rev Charles Trefusis: 01394 383162 or info@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk
Churchwarden: Stephen Stammers: steve_standrews@btinternet.com or 07704 856005

For enquiries about baptisms, weddings and funerals, please contact the Rector.
For all other enquiries about St Andrew's, contact the Rector or Churchwarden.
For information about the Benefice of St John's and St Andrew's go to www.stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk

Bredfield Village Shop opening times: Monday – Saturday 9.30-12.30

Mobile Library: Thursday 23rd April 12.05-12.30 Village Hall car park
suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/mobile-library-stop/bredfield-village-hall/

Want to know what's happening in the village? Check out the website

<http://bredfield.onesuffolk.net>

For regular info updates- join our MailChimp email group. Email Anne Henderson - henny@dircon.co.uk and she will add you to the MailChimp list

Want to know about the Village Hall and Bredfield Wildlife Friendly Village – check out <https://www.bredfieldvillagehall.org.uk>
<https://bredfieldwfv.org.uk>

BREDFIELD PRAYER CIRCLE

This is a group of Parishioners united in prayer for the needs of our community. It operates in confidence, does not discuss your requests but simply includes your needs with their private prayer. Please give just a first name and enough details to make your request meaningful to those who will be praying with you. Please contact: Anne Ackerley 01394 384805 or Alison Cannard 01473 737707.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME – St Andrew's

This is a simple and secure online way for churches to receive donations in support of their work and upkeep. It accepts both one-off donations and the setting up of a regular commitment. To make a donation please click on the QR code. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



Please send contributions for the **MAY LANTERN** to Alison Cannard at lantern.bredfield@gmail.com , 01473 737707 by **10th APRIL**.

APRIL/MAY SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S

Friday 3 rd April GOOD FRIDAY	Good Friday Reflections	<u>2.00pm</u>
Sunday 5 th April EASTER SUNDAY	Easter Sunday Celebration	<u>10.00am</u>
Sunday 12 th April	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 19 th April	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 26 th April	Service of the Word Followed by APCM	<u>10.00am</u>
Sunday 3 rd May	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 10 th May	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 17 th May	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 24 th May	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 31 st May	Songs of Praise	<u>3.00pm</u>

DIARY DATES AT A GLANCE

Thursday 2 nd April	Maundy meal
Wednesday 8 th April	Coffee and Cake morning
Sunday 12 th April	Electoral Roll deadline
Wednesday 22 nd April	Coffee and Cake morning
Thursday 23 rd April	Mobile Library
Friday 24 th April	Pop-up bar
Saturday 25 th April	Dallinghoo Plant & Cake Sale