

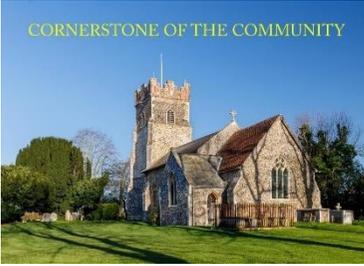
THE LANTERN

NEWS OF THE PARISH OF ST ANDREW'S BREDFIELD



MARCH 2026

CORNERSTONE OF THE COMMUNITY



FROM ST ANDREW'S MINISTRY TEAM

Caring for God's Creation

As we look around our beautiful village, we see a wonderful reminder of creation as everything bursts into life around the countryside – and it is easy to see why Christians speak of creation as God's gift. The Bible reminds us that "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it." We are not owners but caretakers, entrusted with the world that God made.

From the very beginning, God called us to care for creation. That phrase speaks not of domination, but of stewardship - a call to care and nurture. In looking after the world, we show our gratitude to the Creator and honour the delicate balance of life that sustains us all. We are also prompted to think about the environment, the wet weather that we have experienced, and our changing climate as the results of global warming are seen around the world. Storms, droughts, global warming, pollution, and resources are regular headline news.

In 2017, ahead of a trip to the storm-ravaged Caribbean and pointing towards the scientific evidence warning of increased extreme weather events, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres urged all countries to implement the Paris Agreement on climate change 'with greater ambition'. He said, "we know that the world has the tools, the technologies and the wealth to address climate change, but we must show more determination in moving towards a green, clean, sustainable energy future."

With 8.3 billion people, the world is not an infinite resource. We need to care for it and share the resources it contains so that everyone has the opportunity to live life to the full. As Ecclesiastes famously says "Eat, drink

and be merry, for tomorrow you may die” (Ecclesiastes 1:12-2:26) which today might be put ‘Fly, drive and consume, for tomorrow you may die.’ The actions we take including what we consume, what we waste, and how we travel have an impact on the planet. It is sometimes easier not to think about the consequences, but if we do take simple practical actions then we can ensure that the earth is protected for future generations.

Caring for God’s creation doesn’t always mean grand gestures. Sometimes it’s the small, daily choices that make the biggest difference:

- Planting for pollinators – A patch of wildflowers or herbs helps bees and butterflies thrive.
- Reducing waste – Choosing to reuse and recycle reflects a spirit of thankfulness rather than wastefulness.
- Saving energy – Turning off lights, insulating homes, or walking instead of driving can all make an impact.
- Supporting local produce – Eating what’s grown nearby helps sustain the land and the community that tends it.

St Andrew’s wants to be a church that cares. Many churches are exploring practical ways to live out their environmental calling through “Eco Church” awards, sustainable churchyard management, and other ways of celebrating and caring for the creation, and St Andrew’s is well on the way to achieving a Bronze Award. These actions connect our worship with the world around us, reminding us that creation care is not an optional extra, but a core part of Christian life.

Cherishing the Earth

Do come along on Saturday 21st March to a day conference being hosted by St John’s Woodbridge titled ‘Cherishing the Earth’. The purpose of this day is to facilitate and encourage church and community to work together to care for the environment. We will be joined by Dr Martin Hodson who is a plant scientist and environmental biologist working at both universities in Oxford, Rev Margot Hodson who is an Anglican priest and Director of Theology and Education at the John Ray Initiative (connecting environment, science and Christianity), as well as The Rt Honourable Lord Deben, John Gummer, who will be making an address. There will be presentations, discussions,

workshops / seminars and networking with local organisations including The Deben Climate Centre, Transition Woodbridge and more.

Martin and Margot Hodson will also be speaking at the 9.15am service on Sunday 22nd March at St Andrew's Bredfield.

Do also join us at St Andrew's

- On Sundays
- Making posies outside the village hall on the Saturday before Mothering Sunday, on 14th March 10.00-12.00
- On Mothering Sunday itself on Sunday 15th March 10.00
- Palm Sunday on Sunday 29th March, meeting in the village hall car park for the traditional procession at 10.00, and
- For Coffee and Cake in the Church Room on Wednesdays 11th and 25th March, 10.00-12.00.

You might also like, during Lent, to pray a prayer for Creation:

Creator God,

We thank You for the wonder of the world You have made.

Teach us to cherish what You have entrusted to us,

To walk lightly on the earth,

And to share its blessings with all living things. Amen.

Together in Bredfield, let's make a difference as we cherish and care for earth, and respond with love, wisdom, and hope - so that generations to come may see and rejoice in the beauty of God's world. What small act can you do?

With my love, prayers and every blessing,

Charles Trefusis

Rector

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 11th and Wednesday 25th March, 10am to 12 pm
Wednesday 8th and Wednesday 22nd April, 10am to 12 pm

POSY MAKING FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY

On **Saturday, March 14th, 10.00-12.00** St. Andrew's Lightwave Group will, once again, be stationed in the Village Hall car park where you can come and make posies for your mothers, grandmothers and friends ready for Mothering Sunday on the following day. Flowers and other posy-making accessories will be provided. Please come along and make use of this service. All are welcome.



Steve Stammers



Cherishing the Earth Day Conference

Church and Community
working together to care for the environment

Saturday 21st March 2026 9.30am to 4pm
St John's Church, Woodbridge

9.00am: Doors open

Presentations, discussion, workshops/seminars,
panel, plus networking with local organisations.
Address by The Rt Hon Lord Deben, John Gummer



Dr Martin Hodson

Revd Margot Hodson



Dr Martin Hodson is a plant scientist and environmental biologist, working at both universities in Oxford. Revd Margot Hodson, an Anglican priest, is Director of Theology and Education for JRI.*

Lord Deben was Chairman of the
UK's independent Climate Change Committee.

*The John Ray Initiative - connecting Environment, Science and Christianity

Cost £5 to cover refreshments and expenses

Tea & coffee available
Please bring your own lunch

To book your place scan the QR
code, follow the link,
or pay on the door



<https://stjohnswoodbridge.churchsuite.com/events/nyltg20>

St John's Woodbridge St John's Hill IP12 1HS

info@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk

01394 383162 www.stjohnschurch.co.uk

Reg Charity 1128699



Artwork by Florence Seargeant

POP-UP BAR

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH
6.00 – 10.00PM

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

JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP!

When: Saturday, 28th March

Time: Meet at 9.30am

Where: St Andrew's Church Room

Refreshments will be served from about 11.00am after the clean-up.

Everyone is welcome!

Litter picking gear and bags will be provided, but please feel free to bring your own. Stout gloves, Hi Vis clothing, and wellies are strongly advised for your safety and comfort.

For more details, contact Paul Cannard on 01473 737707

PLANT STALL: TOWARDS ST ANDREW'S CHURCH BUILDING MAINTENANCE

We are starting up the **roadside stall**, from the **start of March**, at Thorney Grove, The Street.

We have already been donated some plants, and others which we have over wintered from last year, for which we are most grateful. We will be adding other odds and ends as they are divided or are ready from seed.

Other contributions are most welcome, labelled and with suggested price. If you do need some pots we do have some spare ones, but they will need to be cleaned.

Please support the Stall if possible and spread the love of your gardens.



Thank you for your time *Ann and Steve*

SAVE THE DATE

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. Those on the Church Electoral Roll are eligible to vote at the APCM (please contact John McCarthy on 01473 737276 as soon as possible if you wish to be added).

NEWS FROM BREDFIELD

ST ANDREW'S PRAYER AREA AND DISPLAY

This reflects our present theme of Revelation, the last book in the Bible, written from the Island of Patmos, by Paul, to various Christian communities known to him. On the Display Board I have attempted to use AI to represent some of the themes we have been learning about, in the readings studied. The readings are complex, so some pictures are of necessity simplified.



Lindsay will be adding her usual amazing models - first, to represent Revelation and second, an interlinking model to represent the Last Supper (Easter).

Do pop into the Church and have a look.

Ann Stammers

CANDLEMASS

On the wet afternoon of 1st February, between 25-30 people gathered in Bredfield church room to celebrate Candlemas. Candlemas was traditionally the day on which the church candles for the year ahead were blessed and is the feast day commemorating the presentation of Jesus by his parents in the Temple, forty days after his birth on Christmas Day.

We celebrated it with a party organised by Bredfield Lightwave group, centred around making and decorating candles and Christingles, followed by a short service of worship in the church.

We used flat coloured beeswax squares to make candles of various shapes and heights. This involves slow and steady rolling to keep the wick in place and to stop the beeswax cracking. There were also short fat white candles to decorate with special painting pens. This also involved keeping a steady hand and some lovely decorations were produced. The Christingles we made were based on oranges (to signify the world) stuck with dried fruit and sweets on cocktail sticks as symbols of God's creations. A red ribbon round the orange indicates the love and blood of Christ. This was all then topped with a candle to symbolise Jesus, the light of the world. A plentiful supply of cakes, sausage rolls and other goodies kept up our strength!

We then went into the church for a short service led by Sally Gaze during which Katie and Simeon acted out a short dramatization of the presentation of Jesus in the temple. In a darkened church, holding our lighted Christingles, Sally then led us in reflections on the meaning of the feast day.

A fun and thoughtful day for all those involved.



Christine Johnson

Why run a marathon?

Well, according to Al 'people run a marathon for a variety of deeply personal and transformative reasons encompassing physical, mental, emotional, and social benefits.'

For me the answer is simple, namely, to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. And because someone asked me at the Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Village Hall 'when are you running your next marathon?' It's been almost five years since my last one, so I must admit to an element of wondering whether I was still capable of running 26 miles and 385 yards – there's only one way of finding out!

If you are curious about how my training is going ahead of the main event in April, I'm posting updates on the following page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/roger-ackerley-6> Or, you can read more about it in a future edition of The Lantern.....

Roger

100 CLUB WINNERS February 2026

1st Prize	No.69 G Taylor
2nd Prize	No. 13 T Bence

BREDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL REPORT MARCH 2026

Traffic Calming

Bredfield traffic calming measures – white lines and fencing on the Dallinghoo Road and 30mph road roundels on Ufford and Woodbridge Road are now complete.

Hopefully these measures will reduce instances of speeding through the village.

A12 Junction

The Parish Council have complained to Cadent about the unexpected and unpublicised right turn restriction at the A12 junction – but have had a limited response.

As the restriction was imposed for safety reasons Suffolk Highways weren't notified in advance. We will continue to pursue this matter.

We also hope to use the safety aspect of the restriction as a justification for longer term improvements to the junction.

Potholes

Anyone can report a pothole – it's simple to do.

Road defects greater than 2 inches deep and 8 inches wide should be reported on the Suffolk Highways website at

<https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk/en-gb>.

Particularly important given the additional traffic using Ufford Road.

The site has a map showing defects which have already been reported but yet to be fixed.

Highways should repair potholes greater than 3 inches deep within 20 days, other potholes in 8 weeks – on A roads this may be sooner.

Are roads getting worse?

There are 4,233 miles of road in Suffolk, 3,330 miles of which are minor roads, lanes and cul-de-sacs. The average life expectancy of a road surface is between 10 and 25 years depending on usage.

Between 2017 and 2021 Suffolk highways were resurfacing more than 250 miles of a road a year which matched road life expectation.

In 2025/6 Highways aim to resurface less than 100 miles of road – which means they’re now expecting the road surface to last over 40 years.

Lion Link Consultation

Lion Link, in a nutshell, is a National Grid project to build on-shore infrastructure at Walberswick and Saxmundham to support a Dutch windfarm. This is separate to the National Grid Project, Sea Link, which is proposing to build on-shore infrastructure at Thorpeness to channel electricity to London.

Both projects mean more traffic on the A12.

Further information and the public consultation feedback forms on Lion Link can be found here:

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/national-grid-ventures/lionlink/have-your-say>

Bredfield Jubilee Meadow and Orchard

Currently the BJMO, as a Parish Council committee, must follow standard Local Government rules relating to publicising meetings and publishing minutes (open government), authorisation of expenditure (Local Government Finance) and on the treatment of donations.

These restrictions do not sit well with the day to day running of the BJMO.

We are looking at ways to simplify this.

One possible solution is to create a small charity.

If you are interested in helping or have ideas about how we can make this work better please contact the Parish Clerk.

Parish Meeting

Not to be confused with a Parish Council meeting!

The purpose of the Parish Meeting is to give local organisations (including the Parish Council) an opportunity to let local residents know what they have been doing over the past year for the greater good.

The meeting is also an opportunity for electors to have a say on anything they consider valuable to the people of the Parish.

The 2026 Parish Meeting will be held in the village hall on 24th April at 6pm (before the Pop-Up pub). If you’d like to make a presentation at the meeting please let the Parish Clerk know.

Next Meeting

The next full Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Monday 30th March at 7:30 in the village hall.

Please contact the Parish Clerk by the 16th March if you would like to raise an issue for the Parish Council to discuss / resolve. Alternatively, members of the public have the opportunity to raise items with at the start of each meeting.

Nik Bestow

NATURE NOTES

In this month's Nature Notes we're going to look closer at thorns: their religious interpretation; their dangers; their use; their place in nature; and their biology. I should warn you; thorns are a 'thorny' subject!

If you've been outdoors recently - trimming rose bushes, or walking too close to a Blackthorn bush - you may have been scratched or pierced by a thorn. If so, you are likely to have cursed, explicitly or to yourself.

Cursed views about thorns are rooted in Christianity, where they were seen as a physical sign of the Fall. For his sins, Adam is told: "cursed is the ground because of you thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you" (*Genesis 3: 17-18*). The crown of thorns placed on Jesus's head at his crucifixion was explicit mockery, but Christians – heeding the words from Genesis – have viewed it as symbolic of the human sins for which he died. Thorns said to be relics from Christ's crown – such as the one recently returned to Notre Dame – are venerated (though John Calvin deferred on this). Whether cursed or venerated, our view of thorns has a long and mixed history.

If other animals can be said to have 'views' on thorns, these will also be mixed. Many larger mammals will stay well clear of thorny plants and trees. Indeed, several plants and trees have evolved thorns as a protective device against browsers. Humans have long planted thorny hedges around their fields and property, to keep out herbivores, predators and even burglars. By

contrast, many smaller animals, including birds, use thorny bushes as a haven. In the African-American folktale, Brer Rabbit fooled the Fox into throwing him into the briar patch, where he knew he would be safe and from where he could easily escape. In America, the Cactus Wren lives and feeds deep within cacti, like Cholla, that could severely damage any reptile or mammal, including us. Closer to home, Blackbirds and Thrushes seem quite happy to forage amongst *Pyracantha* or Hawthorn.

Let us turn to the biology of thorns. If you are pricked by a Hawthorn or Rose bush, the pain may feel the same, but the biology of the two differs. Strictly speaking, Roses have 'prickles' that are sharp extrusions from the outer layer of the plant's stem, and occur in a random fashion. 'Thorns' are modified branches or stems and they occur in a more particular and systematic manner. To complicate matters, if you have been scratched by Holly or Mahonia, this will be caused by 'spines' on the leaves of the tree, something different from thorns.

Thorns



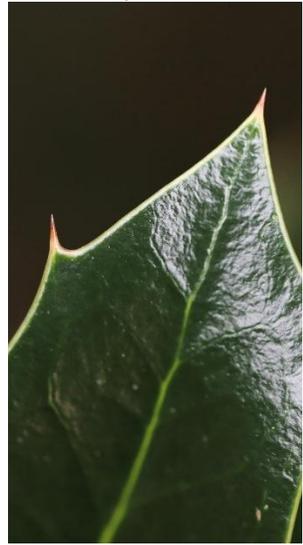
Pyracantha

Prickles



Rose

Spines



Holly

If you've got the patience to go even further with this biology, we can identify differences between the thorns of Hawthorn and Blackthorn. The thorns of the Blackthorn (*see left hand image below*) are usually more than 2cm long, held more-or-less at right angles to the main branch, and often have buds along their length. These thorns prove the most hazardous and painful for gardeners! The thorns of the Hawthorn (*see right-hand image below*) are usually shorter. They start to emerge from the same point on the branch as buds, begin to grow leaves, but then develop a hard pointed thorn at the end (which, itself, does not have buds or leaves along its length).



Blackthorn



Hawthorn

Now you can look at thorns in a different way. But best not get too close.

Stewart Belfield
All photos by the author

<https://bredfieldwfv.org.uk>



SEASONAL RECIPE FROM THE VILLAGE SHOP

“Eat leeks in March, and wild garlic in May, and all the year after physicians may play.” Leeks have a long history, grown by the ancient Egyptians and considered a symbol of eternal life, then by Greeks and Romans - who inadvertently brought them to Wales. The Anglo-Saxons were keen on riddles, and there is a well-known one full of innuendo, to which the answer is a leek!

This recipe is quite unusual, but quick and easy.

LEEK AND MUSHROOM CROUSTADE

100g brown breadcrumbs

100g flaked almonds

100g ground almonds

1 small onion, grated

100g butter

300g leeks, sliced

300g mushrooms, sliced

200ml Greek yoghurt

Pinch of nutmeg



Mix together the breadcrumbs, almonds, onion and melted butter. The mixture should bind together and be slightly crumbly. Press into a greased 20cm flan dish and bake in the oven at 180C for 20 minutes until crisp and golden.

Fry the mushrooms and leeks in oil or butter for no more than 10minutes.

Spread the mushrooms and leeks on top of the croustade.

Swirl the yoghurt over the dish and sprinkle with a little nutmeg. Heat through in the oven for 5-10 minutes.

Lovely with tender bright green kale, or broccoli.

Enjoy the arrival of Spring!

Kate Pirkis

USEFUL INFORMATION

St Andrew's, Bredfield

Rector: Rev Charles Trefusis Churchwarden: Stephen Stammers

For all enquiries regarding St Andrew's, contact Steve Stammers on:

steve_standrews@btinternet.com or 07704 856005

St John's church office on 01394 383162 or info@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk

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 26th March 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 APRIL LANTERN to Alison Cannard at lantern.bredfield@gmail.com , 01473 737707 by 10th MARCH.

MARCH/APRIL SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S

Sunday 1 st March	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sunday 8 th March	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 15 th March MOTHERING SUNDAY	Service of the Word	<u>10.00am</u>
Sunday 22 nd March	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 29 th March PALM SUNDAY <i>Starting at Village Hall</i>	Palm Sunday Procession followed by Palm Sunday Celebration	<u>10.00am</u>
Thursday 2 nd April MAUNDY THURSDAY	TBA	
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	9.15am

DIARY DATES AT A GLANCE

Wednesday 11 th March	Coffee and Cake morning
Saturday 14 th March	Posy-making
Saturday 21 st March	Cherishing the Earth conference
Wednesday 25 th March	Coffee and Cake morning
Thursday 26 th March	Mobile Library
Friday 27 th March	Pop-up bar
Saturday 28 th March	Litter-pick