

# NEWS for the PEWS

## The Weekly News Letter for the Earsham Benefice



We warmly welcome you to our church today.

If you are a visitor or newcomer to our church, please sit anywhere, enjoy the worship and stay for coffee which is usually after the service.

Our Benefice vision is for people to come to faith in Christ and for us all to grow in faith and discipleship so that together we offer whole-hearted worship to Christ.

We serve the communities of

Alburgh, Broome, Denton, Ditchingham, Earsham & Hedenham

[www.earshambenefice.org.uk](http://www.earshambenefice.org.uk)

**THIS WEEK: Easter Day**



**31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

**WHITE**

**Alburgh 10.00am ~ Holy Communion Service**

**Broome 10.00am ~ Holy Communion Service**

**Denton 9.30am ~ Holy Communion Service**

**Ditchingham 10.00am ~ Holy Communion Service**

**Earsham 10:30am ~ Fresh Expression Cafe Service**

**Hedenham 11.00am ~ Holy Communion Service**

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1 Corinthians 15: 1–11

Mark 16: 1 – 8

Easter

### The Collect

**Lord of all life and power,  
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son  
overcame the old order of sin and death  
to make all things new in him:  
grant that we, being dead to sin  
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,  
may reign with him in glory;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be praise and honour, glory and might,  
now and in all eternity. Amen**

**NEXT WEEK: 2<sup>nd</sup> of Easter**

**7<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**WHITE**

**Alburgh 9.00am ~ Holy Communion Service BCP**

**Denton 9.30am/10.00am ~ Family Service at St. Mary's**

**Ditchingham 10.00am ~ Holy Communion Service**

**Earsham 10:30am ~ Fresh Expression Cafe Service**

**Hedenham 6.00pm ~ Evensong Service**

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Acts 4 32–35

John 20: 24 – 31

Unbelieving Thomas

**FOLLOWING WEEK: 3<sup>rd</sup> of Easter**

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**WHITE**

**Alburgh 10.00am ~ Holy Communion Service**

**Broome 10.00am ~ Morning Service**

**Denton 9.30am/10.00am ~ Holy Communion Service at Chapel**

**Earsham 9.00am/10:30am ~ Holy Communion Service/ Fresh Expression Cafe Service**

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Acts 3 12–19

Luke 24: 36 – 48

Jesus appears to disciples

**The Earsham Benefice**  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
**7.30pm: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024**  
**Held at Ditchingham Primary School**  
**Agenda**

7.30pm

**WORSHIP**

**RESULTS OF THE VESTRY MEETINGS 2024 – followed by ...**  
**Commissioning of the elected Churchwardens**

**APCM TOGETHER**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last year's meeting
3. Matters arising from Minutes
4. Rector's Report – Questions
5. Synod report (*one person representing the parishes*)
6. School's Worker Report
7. Safeguarding
8. Notices

**IN PARISH GROUPS**

**Led by Lay Chair**

**(these meetings are strictly for the receiving of reports and for AGM business.)**

9. Members present/apologies for absence
10. Approval of Minutes of last year's meeting
11. Wardens' report
12. Treasurer's Report & approval of accounts
13. Fabric Officer's report (if not already covered)
14. Any other reports from Church organisations
15. Any changes to constitution for PPC 2024
16. Election of Deanery Synod Representatives  
**(Synod Reps elected for 3yr term till 30.06.2026)**
17. Election to the PCC (nominations may still be received at this meeting  
(up to 6 PCC members), but each nominee must be proposed & seconded)
18. Raised matters. *Issues can be raised from the floor that will then go to the next full PCC meeting for discussion.*

**BRIEF MEETING OF NEW PCC**

*or elections only (any others may stay for this or come into the hall for refreshments)*

19. Elections: *Lay Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Electoral Roll Officer, Fabric Officer, Gift Aid Secretary (if applicable), Standing Committee, Safeguarding Officer.*
20. Appointment of Co-opted members to PCC
21. Date of first PCC meeting
22. Close in prayer

**SECRETARIES, PLEASE NOTE**

The Form showing the result of your elections, the names of those who have retired from responsibilities and the date of your next PCC meeting must be given to Sally a.s.a.p and you are asked to send off the form to Jennifer Vere ([jennyvere@btinternet.com](mailto:jennyvere@btinternet.com)) as soon as possible. Please visit the Church Office for any help needed.

# SPRING QUIZ



Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April

Alburgh Village Hall

Tickets £10 to include a Ploughman's supper

From Sandra - 01986 788732

Doors open 6.15 for a 7 pm start

Raffle \* Prizes for winning table \* Bar

In aid of All Saints Church Alburgh

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April  
2024: 7.30pm  
at Ditchingham  
Primary Academy

## Church Thoughts – On fear(s) and Easter

What is it you most fear? No doubt there are fashions in fears, and trends to our terrors. A recent newspaper survey found that in the UK the top ten phobias are: Heights (Acrophobia), Public speaking (Glossophobia), Snakes (Ophidiophobia), Flying (Aerophobia), Spiders (Arachnophobia), Crowds/Being outside (Agoraphobia), Clowns (Coulrophobia), Enclosed spaces (Claustrophobia), Mice and rats (Musophobia), The dark (Nyctophobia). The human mind seems to have an incredible capacity for fear. Sometimes this serves a useful purpose. It is healthy, for example, for small children to have a certain fear of fire. But dysfunctional fears can paralyse and inhibit us.

Perhaps our ultimate fear is that of death (maybe emotionally or socially conceived) or images of it. Woody Allen once commented: "I'm not afraid of dying. I just don't want to be there when it happens." The Bible speaks of *"those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death."* (Hebrews 2:15) And of course, the Bible's account is that when we die, we will meet our Maker. When people meet God in the Bible, they are typically terrified because they realise that God is holy and that they are sinners, and therefore they fear his judgement.

Yet the most frequent commandment in the Bible is *"Do not be afraid"*. How can this be? This week we celebrate Easter. It is Easter which answers this fear of death and of the judgment of God. Jesus Christ is risen! He has defeated death; death has lost its sting, its power to hurt us, because of Jesus' victory. Death has become a servant who ushers us into the nearer presence of Jesus. And Jesus, we know, welcomes repentant sinners with gladness and joy. For the believer, meeting him will be a delight, as has already paid in full the price for our sins.

Whether that fully prepares you to fly to a meeting with a clown, carrying a rat, a snake and a spider, at night, in an open or enclosed space, at great height, where you must give a speech to an enormous crowd is another question. But perhaps it begins to help to deal with our most fundamental fear and maybe to begin to get these other fears more in their place. The Bible would say fear God (that is, hold him in awe and reverence, respect him, not cringe in terror before him) and there is nothing else we need really, ultimately fear.

A happy and confident Easter to you all!

## Benefice Contact Details

|                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Rector: The Reverend Christopher Hutton</b> (Usual Day off Monday)<br>The Rectory, School Road, Earsham, Bungay NR35 2TF                                               |                                                                                     | <b>01986 895423</b><br>email: <a href="mailto:chrishutton@hotmail.com">chrishutton@hotmail.com</a>             |
| <b>Benefice Administrator / Rector's PA:</b> Mrs Sally Thomson (Tuesday & Friday - 10am – 2.00pm)<br>Benefice Office, The Rectory, School Road, Earsham, Bungay, NR35 2TF |                                                                                     | <b>01986 894494</b><br>email: <a href="mailto:office@earshambenefice.org.uk">office@earshambenefice.org.uk</a> |
| <b>Curate</b> (Usual Day off Friday)<br>The Revd. James Shelton                                                                                                           |                                                                                     | email: <a href="mailto:revdjshelton@outlook.com">revdjshelton@outlook.com</a><br><b>07949 979717</b>           |
| <b>Retired Priests/Ministers</b>                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                |
| The Revd. Reg Kirkpatrick                                                                                                                                                 | email: <a href="mailto:revregkirk@gmail.com">revregkirk@gmail.com</a>               | <b>01986 893645</b>                                                                                            |
| The Revd. Sue Cramp                                                                                                                                                       | email: <a href="mailto:suecramp@outlook.com">suecramp@outlook.com</a>               | <b>07747734058</b>                                                                                             |
| The Revd. Barry Cramp                                                                                                                                                     | email: <a href="mailto:barrylcramp@outlook.com">barrylcramp@outlook.com</a>         | <b>07419176024</b>                                                                                             |
| The Revd. Kenneth Thom (URC)                                                                                                                                              | email: <a href="mailto:kennethrthom@btinternet.com">kennethrthom@btinternet.com</a> | <b>01986 511032</b>                                                                                            |
| <b>Assisting Members</b>                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                |
| Chris Whipps (Lay Minister)                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                     | <b>01986 788360</b>                                                                                            |
| Diana Smith (Ret'd Lay Minister)                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                     | <b>01986 897052</b>                                                                                            |
| Phil & Chris Edwards (P.T.O Lay Ministers)                                                                                                                                |                                                                                     | <b>07951 922280</b>                                                                                            |
| Lucy Hildreth (AWA Alburgh)                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                     | <b>01986 788408</b>                                                                                            |
| Gill Hipwell (AWA Denton)                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                     | <b>01986 788188</b>                                                                                            |
| Jo Somerfield (Prayer)                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                     | <b>01986 895617</b>                                                                                            |
| <b>Schools Chaplain</b>                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                |
| Caroline Hutton                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                     | <b>01986 895423</b>                                                                                            |
| <b>Denton: Local Ecumenical Partnership</b> part of the Waveney Valley Ecumenical Partnership                                                                             |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                |
| The Rev'd Bruno Boldrini                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                     | email: <a href="mailto:rev.bruno1969@gmail.com">rev.bruno1969@gmail.com</a><br><b>01986 469875</b>             |

## Dates for the Diary

**04.04.24: Funeral Service at St. Michael's, Broome 1.00pm re: Susan M. Perry RK/PT/JC/SH**

**08.04.24: Funeral Service at St. Mary's, Ditchingham 11.00am re: Roy E. Davey – followed by burial at Ditchingham Cemetery RK**

## EFEBS (Earsham Fresh Expression Bible Study)

A mostly weekly Bible Study on a **Wednesday 10am-11.30am** in Earsham Church Rooms.

Starting back from 10<sup>th</sup> January, this term we will be studying "How to be unsuccessful"

During Lent they will be pausing this to do the Lent Course

All Welcome to join. Contact Phil or Chris Edwards for more info.

## Benefice Prayer Meeting

Do join us for our weekly prayer meeting at **6pm** every **Friday**, in the Earsham Church Rooms for 30 minutes.

If you feel uncomfortable praying out loud, you do not have to, but can sit and pray in silence.

Contact Jo for more information.

## Craft Group

**Craft Group have taken the decision to not meet during the winter, but hope to recommence in the Spring.**

If you need further information please contact: Brenda 01986 892600 for more info.

## Keeping in Touch

If you miss picking up the News for the Pews at Church the latest copy can be downloaded each week from [www.earshambenefice.org.uk](http://www.earshambenefice.org.uk). For up to date information like us on Facebook – search Earsham Benefice or look out for the regular Benefice e-mails. If you don't receive these please e-mail the office with your details.

If you are running an event, please e-mail the Office so that it can be included in the N4P.