



**1 JULY  
2026**

With prayer & faith in God we seek to engage with the community - *inside* we enrich & equip: *outside* we give & care.



**THIS**





**ST MARY'S CHURCH, EAST BERGHOLT**

**Men's Breakfast at St Mary's - East Bergholt**

Next weekend come and join us for a relaxed breakfast of bacon butties, bottomless brews, cornflakes, and great company.

**Saturday 4 July 2026 - 9:00am**

West End Meeting Room, St Mary's Church, East Bergholt  
Whether you're a regular or coming along for the first time, you'll be very welcome. It's a simple, friendly start to the weekend with good conversation and community.

**🔪 Guest Speaker: Alan Chattell from the River Stour Trust**

Alan will be sharing a fascinating insight into the work of the River Stour Trust – preserving the beautiful historic waterway through Constable Country, running eco-friendly electric boat trips, restoring local locks, and helping protect the unique heritage and environment of the River Stour for future generations .

Reserve your place (so we know how much bacon to cook!):

[stmarysebevents@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysebevents@gmail.com)

Free to attend – donations welcome.

**A great way to slow down, connect, and start the weekend well.**



**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

*Men's Breakfast*

**Saturday 4th July 2026  
at 09:00**

Book via [stmarysebevents@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysebevents@gmail.com)  
to ensure there are enough bacon butties.

**Alan Chattell**  
will be talking about the River Stour Trust  
In the West End meeting room at St Mary's  
(door opposite the war memorial)  
Admission is free with a retiring collection

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

**2pm for 2:30pm start**

# **“Bentley and the Founding of America”**



On the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of American Independence -  
Come along to a St Mary's Church fundraiser in the church: a  
talk given by Mr Tom Hill, one of our Church Wardens, on the  
remarkable links between Bentley and the Founding of America.  
Discover more about the role of our Suffolk forebears in the 17<sup>th</sup>  
century and the settling of the New World.

Ticket price includes refreshments of tea, coffee and cake.  
All proceeds to St Mary's.

**[Tickets £10 from  
bentleychurchevents@gmail.com](mailto:bentleychurchevents@gmail.com)**

*With thanks to Alison Partridge*





# Make and Mingle

*Beverley says; "Our next meeting is on Wednesday 8 July from 1.30pm to 3.30pm."*



# MAKE & MINGLE

*From 1.30pm to 3.30pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Capel St Mary.*

*Beverley says: "This is an opportunity for us to come together for two hours to Make and/or Mingle. "At our first meeting eight of us came together and we had a go at decoupage and some people worked on their own projects. Good conversations over tea and biscuits.*

**Next meeting 8 July at 1.30pm**

Knitting, crochet, sewing, cross stitch, tapestry, decoupage, banner making or anything you enjoy making. Bring your own craft project to do while chatting, share your skills with others and just have fun or come and have a go.

If you are not into craft making just come and enjoy some company.

*Open to all - No charge just a donation towards tea and coffee.*

***REGARDS AND HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! BEVERLEY***





Josephs Dreams



Saturday  
4th July 2025  
3.30pm - 5.30pm

BBQ



Booking necessary at  
[Maggie3@btinternet.com](mailto:Maggie3@btinternet.com)



Where: Capel Methodist Church

Who can come:  
All age families



Kids, don't forget to bring an adult.  
No charge but donations welcome



Crafts, Games  
Bible stories, Songs  
and  
**FREE BBQ**

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*With thanks to Maggie Boswell*

# ***SAMFORD DEANERY GARDEN PARTY***



***Friday 10 July @ 6.00pm at the Rectory, Capel St Mary IP9 2LE***



*Rev Sally says: "bring a plate of food and a bottle please,"*

*"This is extended to anyone who contributes to our churches in the deanery - all are welcome!"*



This is a superb opportunity for our five benefices:

*Capel St Mary & The Wenhams;  
Constable Country;  
North Samford;  
Shoreline; and  
Two Rivers;  
To come together for a summer social event.*

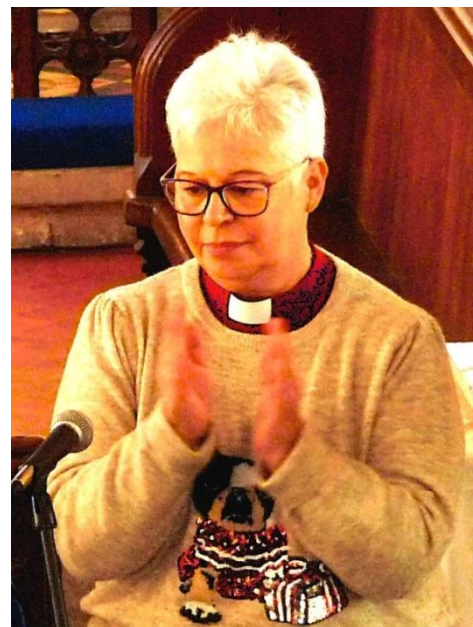






## COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS CAFÉ

At St Mary's Church Hall has its  
next meeting on Monday 20 July @  
2.00pm



### **Rev Sally says:**

*Our compassionate café has become The In-place to share our stories with each other, with people who understand what it means to lose someone you love.*

**There is much chatting, laughter, reminiscing and cake enjoyed by all. The café enables us to help each other - and build a community together.**

***The next Café is on 20 July at 2.00pm. Do come and bring a friend. You will leave feeling better! Rev Sally x***



*ST MARY'S CHURCH, BENTLEY*

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2026**  
**Doors open at 2pm for 2:30pm**

**Jane & Julie**



We are excited to welcome sisters Jane & Julie to St Mary's Church, Bentley. They enjoy performing together playing various instruments including the saxophone, trombone, flute, recorders and the clarinet.

They cover a wide variety of music, with over 700 songs in their repertoire throughout the decades.

Come and join us for a great afternoon of musical entertainment and chat.

Ticket price includes refreshments – All proceeds to St Mary's

**[Tickets £10 from bentleychurchevents@gmail.com](mailto:bentleychurchevents@gmail.com)**

**With thanks to Alison Partridge**



# Burstall Horticultural Society

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## 71st ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW, FETE, CLASSIC VEHICLES & FUN DOG SHOW

To be held in  
The Village Hall IP8 3DR  
and adjoining meadow on

**SATURDAY 1st August 2026**  
**from noon**

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**ROCK 2 POP VISITS  
DOVE CLOSE**

***Come and join us at  
Dove Close (Capel St  
Mary)***



to enjoy a musical evening with



**ROCK 2 POP**

***Listen to: Popular  
rock and Pop covers***



Friday 21 August 7.00pm start

Free Entry and there will be refreshments and a raffle.  
please call Carolyn on 01473 310032

For more info





The Friends of St Mary's  
Registered Charity Number 286971

**DONATIONS  
URGENTLY  
WANTED!**



***Sue and Julie say:***

St Mary's Church is organising a ***Fashion Show*** in September (date to be confirmed) of pre-loved clothing, accessories, shoes and handbags and would appreciate any donations of good quality items you no longer wear. Male, Female or Teens.

Either drop of in church hallway or call:

Sue 07773042910 or Julie 07539249234 to arrange pick up.

Many thanks in advance, Sue Dale and Julie Wardley





**Pre Loved  
Clothes**

**Accessories  
Bags &  
Shoes**

# **FASHION SHOW**

**Friday 11th September**

**7.30 PM**

**St Mary's church Capel St Mary**

**Tickets: £5** Include a glass of Prosecco on arrival...

**Tickets from: Sue 07773042910 or Julie 07539249234**

# Together we are listening: *What is it all about?*

TOGETHER  
*we are listening*

Living God,

Speak to your Church in this season of listening and deepen our life in Christ.

As we give thanks for the growth you have begun, open our hearts to your voice and lead us by your Spirit into the future you prepare.

Amen.

**Breath prayer**

Living God, open our hearts to your voice.

Attuning our hearts to God's voice as we listen, discern, and step into the future together.



Growing in God

TOGETHER WE ARE



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
SUFFOLK

## Bishop Joanne explains:

TOGETHER  
*we are listening*



"Since arriving in Suffolk, I've been struck by how deeply the Growing in God vision is embedded across our Diocese.

As your Bishop, I have a valuable opportunity to pause, to listen afresh to you, and to hear with you what God is saying, and to be attentive to what is happening in the life of our communities.

Together We are Listening is an invitation to everyone in the Diocese to engage in a rhythm of prayer throughout the process of listening and discernment that will shape our future strategy.

I warmly invite you to take part and to respond to some key questions so that we can better understand where we are as a Church now - our gifts, our resources, our challenges, and the opportunities ahead."

+ Joanne

As you pray, pause, and pay attention, you may sense:

- a word or phrase
- a picture or image
- a nudge or prompting
- a word of Scripture that stands out
- a theme that keeps returning
- a hope, concern, or question
- something God is already growing

What might God be drawing to our attention - individually or together as a Diocese?

For more information and to take part:

Scan the QR code or visit:  
[www.cofesuffolk.org/  
together-we-are-listening](http://www.cofesuffolk.org/together-we-are-listening)



## JOIN US AT ONE OF OUR PRAYER EVENTS

Monday 6 July | St Margaret's Church, Leiston  
7.00pm – 9.00pm led by Archdeacon Rich

Monday 13 July | St Peter's Church, Cockfield  
7.00pm – 9.00pm led by Archdeacon David

Tuesday 28 July | St Margaret's Church, Ipswich  
7.00pm – 9.00pm led by Archdeacon Sam

Saturday 18 July | Online  
11.00am – 1.00pm led by the Revd Canon Sharron Coburn

Join us and  
take part in  
our survey



## HOW WE LISTEN

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- Asking where God is leading
- Seeking to hear from the whole people of God — across parishes, chaplaincies, schools, fresh Expressions, rural and urban contexts
- Knocking on new doors and daring to ask, "What if?"
- Praying personally and corporately
- Dwelling in Scripture
- Gathering at the Eucharist
- Listening deeply to one another
- Noticing signs of fruitfulness and opportunity
- Making space for quieter voices and emerging leaders
- Honouring the diverse experiences and callings within our Diocese
- Testing all things prayerfully in the light of Scripture, and with the wisdom of tradition, reason, and experience.

This is not a top-down process. It is a shared act of discernment, shaped by the breadth and richness of our Diocesan family.

Within the shared life of the Diocese, Bishops, clergy, and lay people alike are called to listen prayerfully together for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

# WHERE WILL WE LISTEN?

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We hope this can integrate within the existing rhythms of prayer and activities of your parish, benefice or ministry.

For instance, you could consider:

- You may be holding PCC meetings, prayer meetings or other regular activities which could be used as a listening event
- You could ask your regular church user groups, such as a youth club, lunch club or Messy Church group to share their thoughts with you
- Hold a prayer listening meeting with your congregation during or after a Sunday service.
- Post the congregation survey link on your socials.

Use existing meetings and events to pray

## SUFFOLK LISTENING PRAYER

Living God,  
Speak to your Church in this  
season of listening and  
deepen our life in Christ.

As we give thanks for the growth  
you have begun,  
open our hearts to your voice  
and lead us by your Spirit into the  
future you prepare.

Amen.

TOGETHER  
*we are listening*

### **Breath prayer**

Living God, open our hearts  
to your voice.

# **CONTACT NUMBERS FOR BENEFICE MINISTERS**

Priest in Charge                      *Rev Sally Letman*                      311505

Church wardens

*@ St Mary's*                              *Mel Sutcliffe*                              310967

*Valerie Franklin*                      314179

*@ St John's*                              *John Cresswell*                              311975

*Diana Hunt*                              310441

Pastoral care

*@ St Mary's*                              *Rev Sally, Mo Hill and her team*

PCC Secretary

*@ St Mary's*                              *Jenny Hickley*                              310991

Hall bookings

*@ St Mary's*                              *Valerie Franklin*                              314179

Check out our website: [www.capelstmarychurch.org.uk](http://www.capelstmarychurch.org.uk)





## **EDITOR'S NOTE**

The Link Newsletter shall continue to be published electronically on a fortnightly basis - please let me know of any news or views you may have for inclusion in the magazine.

Please be sure to forward any items for news to the editor at:

[briancrogerson@btinternet.com](mailto:briancrogerson@btinternet.com)

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Kindly note that editorial and production attempts to reflect accurately all submissions; however apologies are readily offered for any errors in transmission.

All features & news items & opinions in The Link are introduced & published by the Editor and only the church service, readings and reflection and prayers are submitted & authorised by the Priest in Charge and the PCC officers unless otherwise highlighted in the text.



