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LAY READER	Martin Crane	07824 835493
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	John Bradfield	01728 724481
	Carol Cooke	01728 747625
	Jane Slade	01728 723707
ORGANIST	Graeme Hall	01728 746371
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Lesley Bensley email: lesleybensley@gmail.com		07901 882464

### Contacting Rev. Ann

Rev'd Ann serves on a 0.5 basis, and her normal working days are Saturday to Tuesday inclusive.

Outside of those days please leave an answerphone message or email which she will attend to as soon as possible, or in an emergency please contact one of the Benefice Elders or Churchwardens.

Orebeck Benefice: Churchwardens			
Brandeston	All Saints	Mary Baker	01728 685807
		Chris McArthur	01473 737553
Kettleburgh	St Andrews	John Bater	01728 723532
		Persephone Booth	01728 723502
Easton	All Saints	Jane Woodbury-Eggins	01728 746667
Parham	St Mary's	John Bradfield	01728 724481
		John Adams	07789 746910
Marlesford	St Andrews	Nan Waterfall	01728 747038
Campsea Ashe	St John the Baptist	Glenys Fear	01728 747177
Hacheston	All Saints		

### Orebeck Benefice

**News** replaces "A Slice of Suffolk" magazine while we wait for a volunteer editor to join the team.

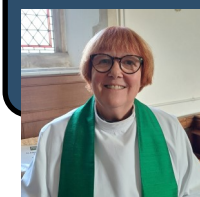
The Benefice News will be emailed monthly to all who request it, and print copies will be available at each church.

Please send items for inclusion by the 20th of each month to :

peter.marett@hotmail.co.uk

# Orebeck Benefice News

February 2024



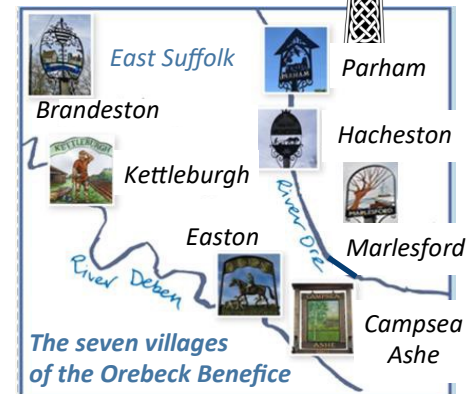
## A Word from Rev'd. Ann

In the church calendar, February brings the end of the Christmas/Epiphany season with the celebration of Candlemas on the 4th. Ten days later the season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. If you are mathematically minded you will have worked out that Ash Wednesday this year falls on the same day as Valentine's. The two seem to be poles apart—while many people will be having a romantic meal with their loved one, somewhat fewer of us will be acknowledging our sinful natures and receiving a sign of the cross in ash, remembering 'that from the dust we were made and to the dust we shall return'.

But, both Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday are about love. Valentine's Day celebrates romantic love and that is no bad thing. Romance is exciting and gives us butterflies in our stomachs - in a good way! However, what we acknowledge on Ash Wednesday is that love, real love, is both demanding and carries with it a real cost. Love and loss are inextricably intertwined. And yet, the highest cost of love was paid on our behalf by Jesus.

As we go through Lent we contemplate our own shortcomings and ask forgiveness for them. This is a necessity of love, both our love for God, but also our love for one another. Real love demands the giving up of our self to another and that is both hard and the most wonderful thing we can ever do, and this is exactly where Lent will lead us— to Jesus' giving up of himself for us.

So we can celebrate Valentine's Day, but also remind ourselves that real love is harder, deeper and far more life-giving than any amount of chocolate, roses and champagne can convey.



Beginning on Monday 19th February for six weeks, we will be running a Lent Course when we will be reading the whole of Mark's Gospel. The sessions will run from **2.30 – 4.00 pm on Monday afternoons at Hacheston Village Hall**. Refreshments will, of course, be provided.

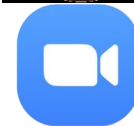
The idea is to hear, over a period of six sessions, the whole Gospel being read aloud. There is no expectation other than you come along and listen and afterwards share some reflections if you wish, or just experience Mark's Gospel as a whole narrative, which is something we rarely do. Some historical and theological background will be provided each week, but the only thing you need to do is hear the gospel, 'the good news' of Mark in its entirety.

Benefice Calendar: February 2024		
31	Wed	4 pm Compline at Marlesford
1	Thu	
2	Fri	
3	Sat	
4	Sun	<b>Candlemas</b> → <b>Sunday 4th February</b> 10 am Benefice Holy Communion (CW) at <b>Brandeston</b>
5	Mon	4 pm Prayer at Brandeston
6	Tue	
7	Wed	4 pm Compline at Marlesford
8	Thu	
9	Fri	
10	Sat	
11	Sun	<b>Sunday before Lent</b> → <b>Sunday 11th February</b> 9.30 am Big Breakfast at <b>Brandeston Village Hall</b> 9.30 am Morning Worship at <b>Campsea Ashe – Station House</b> 11 am Morning Prayer at <b>Easton</b> 11 am Morning Prayer at <b>Parham with Hacheston</b> 4.30 pm Holy Communion at <b>Marlesford</b>
12	Mon	4 pm Prayer at Brandeston
13	Tue	
14	Wed	4 pm Compline at Marlesford <b>7 pm Ash Wednesday service at Hacheston</b>
15	Thu	
16	Fri	
17	Sat	
18	Sun	<b>1st Sunday of Lent</b> → <b>Sunday 18th February</b> 9.30 am <b>Zoom Service* *</b> 9.30 am Holy Communion at <b>Marlesford</b> 11 am Morning Worship at <b>Kettleburgh</b> 6 pm Evening Prayer at <b>Parham</b>
19	Mon	2.30-4 pm Lent Course***
20	Tue	Coffee with Rev'd Ann at Station House

Benefice Calendar: February 2024		
21	Wed	4 pm Compline at Marlesford
22	Thu	
23	Fri	
24	Sat	
25	Sun	<b>2nd Sunday of Lent</b> → <b>Sunday 25th February</b> 9.30 Morning Worship at <b>Brandeston</b> 9.30 Holy Communion (CW) at <b>Campsea Ashe</b> (church) 11.00 Holy Communion (CW) at <b>Easton</b> 11 am Holy Communion at <b>Hacheston with Parham</b> 6.30 pm Evening prayer at <b>Kettleburgh</b>
26	Mon	2.30-4 pm Lent Course***
27	Tue	
28	Wed	4 pm Compline at Marlesford 7 pm Book Circle at Station House
29	Thu	
1	Fri	
2	Sat	



\*Meet Rev'd. Ann for coffee at The Station House, **Campsea Ashe** on the third Tuesday of every month between 10.30 am and noon. Parking is available at the station or at Clark & Simpson's auction house.



\*\* To receive a link to the **Zoom service**, contact Bill - bill78@btinternet.com



\*\*\*The Lent Course—the reading of Mark's Gospel—is from 2.30 to 4 pm at Hacheston Village Hall. Refreshments provided.



The **Christian Book Circle** (Inter-denominational discussion group) meets at 7pm on the 4th Wednesday of every month at the Easterling Room in The Station House, Campsea Ashe. Bring a flask as the café is closed during the evening. All welcome.