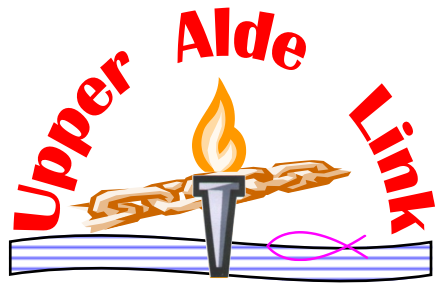


June July  
2026



# The Calling of Matthew

Church News and Views for the Parishes  
of  
Badingham Bruisyard Cransford Dennington Rendham & Sweffling

## JUNE SUNDAY SERVICES

<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity  Green	8am BCP- St Mary's Dennington 9.30am BCP Communion – St Mary's Sweffling 9.30 am Morning Prayer – St Peter's Bruisyard 11am Holy Communion – St John's Badingham
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity  Green	9.30am BCP Communion – St Peter's Cransford 9.30am Morning Prayer – St Michael's Rendham 11am Holy Communion – St Mary's Dennington 3pm Churchyard Service - St Mary's Sweffling
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Trinity  Green	9.30am BCP Communion – St Peter's Bruisyard 9.30am Morning Prayer – St Mary's Sweffling 11am Holy Communion – St John's Badingham
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity Green	9.30 am BCP Communion – St Michael's Rendham 9.30 am Morning Prayer – St Peter's Cransford 11am Holy Communion – St Mary's Dennington

## JULY 2026 SUNDAY SERVICES

<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity Green	8am BCP Communion - St Mary's Dennington 9.30am BCP Communion – St Mary's Sweffling 9.30am Morning Prayer – St Peter's Bruisyard 11am Holy Communion – St John's Badingham
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity  Green	9.30am BCP Communion – St Peter's Cransford 9.30 Morning Prayer – St Michael's Rendham 11am Holy Communion – St Mary's Dennington
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity Green	9.30 am BCP Communion - St Peter's Bruisyard 9.30am Morning Prayer – St Mary's Sweffling 11am Holy Communion St John's Badingham
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity Green	9.30am Holy Communion - St Michael's Rendham 9.30am Morning Prayer – St Peter's Cransford 11am Holy Communion - St Mary's Dennington

**Articles for publication should be with the editor by the 15th of the preceding month.**

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# June July 2026

From the Rector

07469 718695

We are fast approaching the longest day of the year, when the sun reaches its highest point in the sky. The summer solstice occurs on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026 at 9.24am, the sun will have reached its highest point in the sky and officially this will be the first day of summer. I am very grateful for the longer days; there is more time to appreciate creation all around me, to watch the sun going down and the light evenings gives more opportunity to tend to the very large rectory garden.

The days will then shorten by roughly 3 minutes a day, at first we hardly notice the evenings drawing in. This is surprising really as we are creatures of habit and yet we adapt to living in varying shades of light and dark. When you think of it we live very differently depending on the time of year, in the summer months we might head for the beach after a day's work or we might fire up the BBQ and eat supper in the garden. In the winter months the curtains are closed by 4pm, going out can feel like quite an effort, staying cosy indoors seems more attractive. Is it any wonder that some people find the contrast between light and dark too much to cope with and suffer seasonal stress disorder?

Jesus is the Light of the World, through him all things were made.....in him was life and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it. These familiar words from the Gospel of John are read at our Christmas services. In the darkness of winter the metaphor of the light of Christ shining in the darkness is easier to relate to.

So how are you reminded of the Light of the World shining in the darkness when you are enjoying the long light days of June, I wonder.

John's Gospel reminds us that in the beginning was the Word and that through him all things were made. The book of Genesis takes us back to the beginning when God created the heavens and earth, the earth was formless and empty, the darkness was over the surface and the Spirit of God was hovering over the water and God said let there be light and there was light.

As spring begins to turn to summer the growing season accelerates, grass quickly grows, plants flourish and bloom, birds are singing and sunny days lift the spirit and all seems good. Creation itself reminds us that we

are all part of God's created order, made in his image we are to be the love and light of Christ in a world that desperately needs it.

Care for God's creation is part of the Christian life. We honour the Creator when we care for creation. We show love to our neighbours when we care about the places in which we live and we work for justice when we seek to tackle climate change and halt the loss of nature. Our churchyards are valuable green spaces in our communities and they give opportunity to put our faith into action and to be responsible stewards of God's good earth.

June 6<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> is Churches Count on Nature, a week to pay particular attention to plants and insects of particular interest and to record what you have seen. To celebrate and give thanks for the nature found in our churchyards Sweffling are holding an outdoor Churchyard Service and tea on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm.

It is great to know our churchyards will be part of our mission and ministry this summer: Badingham celebrates midsummer on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June with a fun afternoon which will highlight how the churchyard is being managed to benefit wildlife. There will be opportunity to see how the community gardens are flourishing, and you can marvel at the amazing bug house with five star accommodation created by children.

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm you can enjoy a strawberry tea in Bruisyard Churchyard, with lovely views of the Suffolk countryside.

Plans are underway for Messy mornings in August and once again we will be using our churchyards for various trails and bug hunting.

To show our commitment to caring for God's creation some churches have expressed interest in becoming Eco Churches and it is hoped to begin applying for bronze awards.

Lots of opportunities to enjoy God's wonderful world this summer – remember to make the most of the long days while you can, as each day the light fades earlier by three minutes.

Revd Claire.

## Newly elected Churchwardens:

Badingham – Victor Warne  
Bruisyard – Sally Wilton and Rupert Wallis  
Cransford – Lucy McDowell and Patrick Grieve  
Dennington – Robert Rous and Veronica Maberly  
Rendham – Frances Hill  
Sweffling – Amanda Daniel and John Tesh

Please pray for the wardens as they prepare to be sworn in at the Archdeacon's Deanery Visitation. The service will be at 7pm on the 9th June at Dennington. It would be great for the wardens to have lots of people from the benefice supporting them, as well as being there to welcome the rest of the Loes Deanery

## Bruisyard News

A Bangers and Mash evening supper was held at the village hall on 25th of April, it was much enjoyed by all those present and many thanks to all those who worked so hard to make the evening successful, and half the proceeds were donated to St Peter's amounting to £ 124 .

St Peter's are holding a Strawberry tea afternoon on Saturday 27th of June between 3-5pm , all are very welcome to meet together and enjoy a visit to the church and churchyard.

Rupert and Sally.



## Cransford News

The rain it raineth on the just  
And on the unjust fella  
But mainly on the just, because  
The unjust has the just's umbrella.

We desperately needed rain with the fields looking parched, but now enough has fallen to really get into the plough, and everywhere is looking green. Walking yesterday I saw the daffodils and primroses were over, but forgetmenots, buttercups and daisies mean that summer is around the corner.

At St Peter's, we have had timber bracings put on the beam in the bell cage, so it is safe, but the permanent replacement oak beam will require about £ 20,000. We have about half that in our savings, but even with grants from the Historic

Patrick

## **Badingham**

BADINGHAM CHURCHYARD BIODIVERSITY AND QUIET SPACES PLAN. A new system is being developed for managing the green space in the Churchyard, in conjunction with Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Volunteer grass cutters. This will involve different frequencies of cutting in order to support biodiversity whilst still recognising the Churchyard as a place of memory and worship. Some areas will only be managed on a two year cycle, then scythed which should allow different types of native flowers to flourish. A plan identifying different areas will be on display in the Porch/ Bookshop. Hopefully this will make the Churchyard a lovely green space to visit. Could we ask that no garden waste from outside is deposited in the Churchyard and that visitors to Graves kindly take all their waste home. This will hopefully minimise the volume of Waste that has to be burnt. It would also help us cut around the Graves if you could kindly ensure that all items placed on the Graves are inside the plot space as this will avoid damaging them or the mower. Thank you. If anyone would like to join the Maintenance group and help with developing this plan you would be most welcome to join in. St. John's PCC.

“BOOKS AND BELLS” Thank you to everyone who supported our Book Sale in the Churchyard in April. We made £507 which was a great result. The Village was filled with the sound of the Church bells for just under three hours as our visiting Bellringers completed their challenge of ringing a Full Peal. We were so pleased to host them. We are always pleased to receive donations of your unwanted Books- just drop them off in the Bookshop. We can collect larger amounts locally. Please ring 01728 638078. Thank you again to everyone who continues to support our fundraising for our beautiful historic Church.

Patricia

**MIDSUMMER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS**  
**SATURDAY JUNE 20<sup>st</sup> 2.30 – 4pm**  
**IN BADINGHAM CHURCH YARD**

**LOTS OF FUN AND LOTS TO DO**

JOIN US FOR AFTERNOON TEA: VISIT THE BEER TENT TO  
LOOK AT THE TIMELINE AND TRY THE REAL ALE  
VARIOUS GAMES TO HAVE A GO AT: CIRCUS TRICKS TO  
TRY: SUGAR MICE AND CANDY FLOSS.  
VISIT THE COMMUNITY GARDENS AND THE BUG HOUSE  
THE CHURCH NAVE WILL BE OPEN AND MANNED FOR  
YOU TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE REPAIRS  
THE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CHURCHYARD WILL  
BE DISPLAYED IN THE BOOK SHOP FOR YOU TO VIEW.

ENJOY THE MUSIC OF **STEVE KEEBLE** WHO WILL BE  
PLAYING FOR US.

Charge is for the beer, everything else will be free but there will be donation  
buckets for the repairs to the church roof

***We do hope you will come along and enjoy this event  
with us.***

**COFFEE AND BACON ROLL MORNINGS** will take a break through  
the summer and hopefully begin again in the autumn.

In March we made a profit of £58.50 and in April, for only the 2<sup>nd</sup> time I  
think, we cooked 150 rashers of bacon, filled 50 rolls (and served a couple  
of croissants) and sold out completely giving us a profit of £152.50. All  
the profits are for the roof repairs.

**A big thank you to the volunteers who come and help us  
each time and a specially big thank you to all of you for  
coming along to support us and, we hope, enjoy time with  
our lovely Badingham Community.**

**ANGEL ROOFS** – It was great to see the village hall full to hear a

fascinating talk on the angels in the roofs of Suffolk's churches, and especially the angels in Badingham church, having first enjoyed a tasty buffet.

The event contributed profit of £445.30 to the roof repairs.

Our sincere thanks to Dr Sarah Cassell for her time and enthusiasm in sharing her knowledge with us. Thank you to all who helped to prepare and clear away afterwards and to all of you who came.

**EASTER PILGRIMS AND CHURCHYARD EASTER ACTIVITY** - We were so pleased to be able to welcome for their coffee break The Essex Leg of pilgrims on their pilgrimage to Walsingham, where they would be joined by hundreds of other pilgrims from all over the country on Good Friday and where they would celebrate together The Resurrection on Easter Sunday. The Pilgrims were slightly later arriving than anticipated and their visit overlapped with the activity session we were holding for younger people, but it was all great fun. The Pilgrims left fortified for the next bit of their journey to Laxfield where they would enjoy lunch and Easter gardens for the church and to take home were created by the youngsters who came as well as an amazing Bug House, which is now permanently in the far corner of the church yard, if you haven't visited it yet and added to the comfort of the accommodation there for bugs you should try to do so.

Thank you everyone who helped with either of these events.

### **BADINGHAM CHURCH ROOF REPAIRS**

For various reasons, (the number of documents and paperwork that needed to be prepared and a change of personnel with National Heritage Lottery) our mid-term review with Heritage had to be moved to the end of June and will take place in the village hall after a visit to the church. This meant that we were unable to submit our Delivery Phase application in May as we had hoped. If everything is in order by the review we will hope to submit our application for the delivery phase at the beginning of



August. It has been a long and rocky road and taken a huge amount of work to get this far; we need your thoughts and prayers that our mid-term review is successful.

With advice from Suffolk Wildlife Trust and as part of the activity plan for our application a new management plan is being implemented in the church yard. Patricia is writing about this in more detail.

We continue to be grateful to The National Lottery Heritage Fund and lottery players for their support

## St Michael's Church Rendham

Our Easter Service on 5 April at 5 pm surrounded on all sides by the Commemorative lilies was heralded in by our faithful Bell Ringers, including now Pauline Carroll, and everyone stayed on for the refreshments afterwards. Frances read out all the names of the loved ones that each lily represents. On the 8th of April at 6.30 pm in the White Horse we much enjoyed the tribute and presentation to Helen



Greenburgh for editing The Street for 19 years. It was a very happy occasion and more than well deserved.

Our Spring Coffee Morning on 18th April in Rendham Village Hall was a great success, raising over £360 for church repairs (a new soak away is to be built currently.) An interesting display of essential alarms and other devices was mounted by Suffolk Police and Neighbourhood Watch, whose representatives were present to answer questions and to give valuable information to us all. Everyone enjoyed the bacon and sausage butties provided by Richard Pilgrim and his hard working team in the kitchen. Many thanks to all who helped and contributed to a very happy occasion.

We all look forward to the annual Rendham Fete, this year to be held on Grove Farm Meadow on the 4th of July. Perhaps an American theme will out!

Charles and Frances

## Dennington



### **A Talk by Roy Tricker Friday 5th June at 6.00 pm**

Anyone who has heard one of Roy's talks before will know how fantastic they are and we are extremely lucky that he can come to us. The talk will be followed by drinks and nibbles in the garden of Corner House (weather permitting) thanks to Anne and Bob Lawrence. Tickets will be for a suggested donation of £10 which will go towards repairing the church roof. Please book tickets - [vmaberly@gmail.com](mailto:vmaberly@gmail.com) or 07885756425 or 01728 638627

### **A SUMMER CONCERT OF ANTHEMS, POEMS & LIGHT SONGS**

**By THE PASTORAL QUIRE**

**AUGUST 1ST at 7.00 pm**

More details of the above to follow but please put the date in your diaries. Tickets will be £10.00 and include refreshments. Please book in advance - [vmaberly@gmail.com](mailto:vmaberly@gmail.com) or 07885756425 or 01728 638627.

We have found a lovely organist who can play for us occasionally. Jane van Tilborg is an excellent organist who has recently been playing the organ in Nelson Cathedral in New Zealand so it was wonderful that she can come and play for us in Dennington! The next time she is playing is at our service on **28th June and then 9th August**. Please do try to come along to hear her and to join in with some hymn singing!

The dates of the Summer Messy Morning will be 10-12 on Thursday 6th August Badingham and Wednesday 12th August Dennington.. more details in the next kink



## Sweffling

**There will be an Open-air Service in Sweffling Churchyard on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> June at 3.00 p.m., followed by afternoon tea at church.**

**We are fortunate to live in such a beautiful place and the service is designed to celebrate this and to give thanks to God for his goodness to us and for the nature all around us. Everyone welcome**

### Easter at St Mary's

Lilies, given in memory of family and friends, again decorated the church for Easter and the beauty and scent were amazing. The names of those to be remembered were written on decorated scrolls by John Tesh and were read out at the Easter Day Thanksgiving service.

There was a beautiful Easter garden prepared by the Tesh family and Rose and Annie Loveridge made lovely miniature Easter gardens.

The church was full and the congregation enjoyed singing familiar Easter hymns and listening to the benefice choir sing the introit "This Joyful Eastertide" and the hymn "Now the green blade rises". Thanks to Rev. Claire for leading the worship and to everyone who took part in the service in any way. After the service refreshments and Easter eggs were enjoyed by all.

### **Taize service**

The third of our regular Taize services was held on Sunday evening, April 12<sup>th</sup>. It was a quiet, reflective service, enjoyed by all those who were present. The next service will be at the end of July, date to be announced.

### **Annual Parish Church Meeting**

At the APCM held in church on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Mrs Daniel and Professor Tesh were re-elected as Churchwardens. Professor Tesh was also re-elected as Treasurer. Members of the PCC are Mrs. Tesh (Secretary), Dr. Fitzgerald (Safeguarding Officer), Mr. Abbott, Mrs. Loveridge, Mr. Morford and Mrs. Weatherby. There are 21 people on the church electoral roll.

## **St. Mary's Church roof repairs**

You may have noticed scaffolding on the church building at the junction of the tower with the main body of the church. This was needed to facilitate repair of the abutment of the church roof to the tower, which allowed the ingress of water inside the church. The repair has now been completed, at a total cost of £9436 of which £1573 was VAT. Previously, historic buildings, such as churches, had been able to recoup the VAT on building repairs but the present government, in its wisdom, has revoked this possibility, so all future repairs will have 20% added to the cost of the work. Now that the roof is watertight we have to wait for the internal plasterwork to dry out before embarking on internal repairs at additional cost. We also need to pay attention to the external woodwork (bargeboards etc) as these are in need of repair/replacement and painting.

## **Bygones Day**

On Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, Julian and Sandy Rowe organised a very successful Bygones Day on the Townland Meadow. The weather stayed fine, if a little chilly, but it did not affect the enthusiasm of the exhibitors. There was an amazing turn out of classic and vintage cars, tractors, engines and other memorabilia, all of which were admired by villagers and visitors alike. Soup, rolls, scones and cakes were served with tea, coffee and soft drinks available. It was a most enjoyable time and the exhibitors were overheard asking when the next one would be organised! The day raised the magnificent sum of £1739, which Julian and Sandy have generously donated to St. Mary's Church. The money will be used to help fund the church repairs. **Photographs of the event are in the centrefold of The Bridge**

**A message from Julian and Sandy:** *A lovely, if cold, day was had by all at the recent Bygones Rally on the Townland Meadow on 10th May. We would like to say thank you to all helpers and for contributions to the food. It couldn't happen without this help. The sum of £1739.00 was raised and donated to St Mary's Sweffling.*

**Cransford Village Hall warmly invite you to a coffee morning.**

Saturday 20th June 10:30 - 12:30

**LIVE MUSIC** from local violin group: "Fiddle-de-de."

To celebrate the Kings Birthday we will have lots of cake, scones and other home made goodies.

All welcome