



FRIENDS OF HOLY TRINITY BLYTHBURGH

28 March 2025

Dear Friends,

How lovely to see spring again - and Blythburgh churchyard is looking particularly springlike. We will start our monthly mini-market again on Friday 28 March 10.30-12 noon. If you're in the area, do visit for tea and cakes and an array of stalls selling everything from hand-loomed shawls to hand-baked cakes (and lots in between).

### **Work in the tower**

You may find the church in a slightly untidy state this year, as we are having work done under the west tower - the lowered floor will accommodate two toilets and a servery, while there will be an upper floor to accommodate the bellringers who currently practise every Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. We are lucky that our PCC member and Honorary Friend, Charles Morris, has designed all this for us. Faculty has been granted for the work to begin as soon as possible.

### **Postponed Open Afternoon**

We were disappointed to have to cancel our Open Afternoon last year due to the illness of our speaker, Rev. Malcolm Doney. With his regained good health, Malcolm has re-arranged the event for this year, Saturday 17 May at 2.30p.m, until 4p.m. The subject remains Ronald Blythe (1922-2023), the well-known Suffolk writer and churchman, whose most famous book is still *Akenfield* (1969), the fictional (but rooted in reality) interviews with Suffolk villagers on the cusp of the end of life and farming as it had been known in Suffolk for centuries. A friend of many cultural names of the 20th century, such as Benjamin Britten, Peter Pears, and John and Christine Nash (he lived with the Nashes for many years at their house, Bottengoms in Wormingford, Essex), Blythe was also a committed Anglican and churchwarden of St Andrew, Wormingford and lay canon of St Edmundsbury Cathedral. The afternoon will be slightly different

### **Blythe Spirit:**

**A conversation about Ronald Blythe  
between Blythe's biographer Ian Collins  
and local writer and priest Malcolm Doney**

**FRIENDS OF HOLY TRINITY BLYTHBURGH  
OPEN AFTERNOON**

**Saturday 17 May 2025  
2.30 – 4.30pm**

This will be followed by tea & cake,  
and an optional tour of the church.



The event is **free** to Friends of Holy Trinity  
– donations welcome from everyone else!

**Blythburgh Church, Church Lane, IP19 9LL  
[www.holytrinityblythburgh.org.uk](http://www.holytrinityblythburgh.org.uk)**

from last year's plans, as Ian Collins, friend of Blythe and his biographer, will take part in a question-and-answer discussion with Malcolm Doney. We hope that Ian's book, *Blythe Spirit: The Remarkable Life of Ronald Blythe* (2024) will be available for sale and signature. Tea will be served, as usual, after the discussion.

### **Easter services**

Holy Trinity will be holding the following services and events.

**Palm Sunday** Holy Communion 11.15am.

**Maundy Thursday** Service of Tenebrae and Holy Communion 8.00pm.

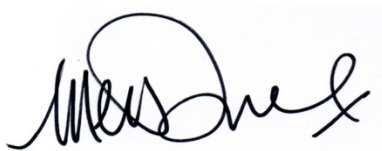
**Good Friday** Building the Easter Garden at 5.00pm.

An opportunity for all the family to construct the garden, listen to the Passiontide story and scour the churchyard for Easter eggs.

**Easter Day** Service of Holy Communion at 11.15am.

The services for all our Sole Bay Team churches appear on the website each month, so do check when April comes round  
<https://www.solebayteamministry.co.uk/services>

Thank you so much for your continued support and wishing you a happy Easter.



For Sue Powell, Chair of the Friends of Holy Trinity

