

# CONTACT

Published by the Church in Loddon

June 2018

Loddon Open Gardens  
June 23rd & 24th  
*Details inside front cover*

*Photograph: David Owen*



Chet Valley Churches

# Holiday Club

Signs and

Sayings



Holiday Club  
St John's Chapel  
from July 30<sup>th</sup>  
to August 3<sup>rd</sup>  
9.30am-12noon

Forms now available in Loddon  
Infant and Junior schools or from  
the Church Office, George Lane  
Loddon

## Loddon Open Gardens Sat 23 & Sun 24 June

11am-5pm around Loddon

with light lunches, teas, stalls, giant book sale and photography exhibition.

Entry by Garden Passport obtainable from Holy Trinity Church

or in advance from Loddon Garden & DIY or the church office

Price: £5 individual, £15 Family ticket (*parents with children aged 16 or under*)

## Chedgrave Church Gift Day

There's no such thing as a free lunch! Well, there was on 5<sup>th</sup> May at our Gift Day and refreshments were free too. It was a beautiful sunny day and it was lovely to welcome so many folk from the community and the church to chat and to look at the Chet News 50 exhibition.

**Thank You** to all who came and donated at our Gift Day. We are truly grateful for your generosity.

# Chet Valley Churches Information

## Clergy

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## Church Office

St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon, NR14 6NB  
Tel. 01508 521179 Email: [office@chetvalleychurches.org](mailto:office@chetvalleychurches.org)  
Open: Mon & Fri. 10.00am - 4.00pm. Tues. Wed. Thur. 10.00am



Baptisms, Weddings, Thanksgiving Service for the Gift of a Child  
To arrange any of the above please contact the Church Office.

## Church Websites

Chet Valley Churches [www.chetvalleychurches.org](http://www.chetvalleychurches.org)  
The Norwich Diocese [www.dioceseofnorwich.org/#](http://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/#)  
The Methodist Church [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk)  
The RC Diocese of East Anglia [www.rcdea.org.uk](http://www.rcdea.org.uk)

## 'Contact' Magazine

Email : [c.magazineloddon@gmail.com](mailto:c.magazineloddon@gmail.com)

Editor : Rev Joan Evans Advertising : Robin Godber Treasurer : Val Counter  
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**Copy deadline is always noon 8th of the month**

Email submissions to [c.magazineloddon@gmail.com](mailto:c.magazineloddon@gmail.com)

Hand written submissions can be handed in at the Church Office.

**Please include your name and telephone number.**

**'Contact' is published monthly, with double issues for July/Aug & Dec/Jan.**

## DISCLAIMER

*Advertisements are included in good faith, but the Church in Loddon does not necessarily endorse the products or services advertised.*

*Similarly, the opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Church in Loddon*

# Editorial

## NEWS ABOUT 'CONTACT' MAGAZINE

"Contact" is produced by the Church in Loddon and goes towards meeting the church's many costs. The regular giving of those who worship Sunday by Sunday simply isn't sufficient to meet the demands of keeping two church buildings open, and to enable the Church here in Loddon to meet the needs of the local community.

In this difficult economic climate, we have lost some of our regular advertisers, which, in order to 'balance the books', has made it necessary to reduce the number of pages in 'Contact'. We can compensate for this by being less generous with the space allocated to local events: instead of being presented as a small type of poster, they are listed in a 'What's On' format.

2,200 copies of 'Contact' are produced each month, and are distributed free to every house in the parishes of Loddon, Sisland, and Hales & Heckingham. (A few are made available elsewhere). Unlike many parish magazines, we only charge for commercial advertisements - everything else is free, and we want to keep it that way.

The situation may improve. However, in the meantime, may we ask for your support? If you appreciate receiving your copy, please will you make a donation to 'Contact' by using the envelope which is included in this edition and returning it to the Church Office at St John's Chapel in George Lane?



Whatever you can give will be much appreciated.

Thank you

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# Ministerial Musings

## Balance and Bloomers

What do you do in June (apart from watching the World Cup, perhaps)? For many of us it's time to see what's growing in the garden and maybe take a trip to the garden centre for something bright and cheerful to flower throughout the summer. It's the time when we hope for the right balance of sunshine and showers to nurture a good harvest.

Balance is important – not just for toddlers learning to walk or sports players running around the pitch. We all need to balance the activities in our lives. I love my job as Rector of these parishes, but I know that taking time to rest or to do other things is important too. (I don't always manage it, as friends and colleagues will know.)

The problem comes when our lives are thrown out of balance by circumstances we can't control. It might be illness or financial matters or relationships – there are so many possibilities. We still need cheerfulness and a positive outlook, but it's hard to achieve. I believe that the answer lies in the solid grounding and realistic hope that Jesus Christ offers. You might respond "Well, he would think that, because he's the Rector." But there are others in your community who would agree with me and could tell you stories about how Jesus makes a difference in their lives.

This Musing is entitled Balance and Bloomers. I chose it because when we plant a balance of faith in our lives we harvest the flowers of assurance, contentment and love. Think about it as you enjoy the garden this summer, and maybe have a chat with one of our clergy team if you'd like to know more.

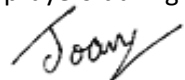
*David Owen*

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**YOUR JUNE CONTACT:** Lots going on! In our new 'What's On' feature there are eleven special events to keep us busy and entertained, as well as all the usual club and society meetings. Do take a look at the requests for help and support on pages 23 (fancy being a bell ringer?), 25 (time to spare for some voluntary work?), and at the bottom of page 41.

On a personal note, I want to express my gratitude for our wonderful health service. We talk about the 'NHS', and we hear lots about the things that go wrong, but not often about the things that go **right**, and there are far more of the latter! The 'NHS' is staffed by dedicated doctors, nurses and technicians trying to do their life-saving and life-changing work often in very difficult conditions: thank you to all of them.

And thank you, too, to good friends for all the support and prayers during recent difficult times.





# Across the Chet Valley Churches

## Worship in the Chet Valley

**You will be warmly welcomed to any of our services.  
We hope to provide worship to suit everybody.**



- **Holy Communion** is celebrated every Sunday at one or other of the churches in the Benefice, either Book of Common Prayer or Common Worship, with an informal Holy Communion service once a month in Chedgrave.
- Once a month there is an **Evening Prayer** service at Sisland.
- Services of **Morning Worship** are held in Loddon and Hardley.
- **Last Sunday Praise** is held on the Last Sunday of the month at St John's in Loddon: a chance to sing old and new Christian songs plus time to worship together.

**Families and children are welcome at all our services.**

*Special provision is made at Chedgrave  
where there is a toilet and baby changing facilities.*

- **Xpressions Café** Normally held at All Saints, Chedgrave, on the first Sunday every month between 10.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon. This is a relaxed and contemporary way of 'doing church'. You can come and go as you please for coffee, cake, crafts, games, songs and much more.
- **Xtra!** An exciting, informal service every Thursday after school in St John's Church.
- **All Together Worship** on the third Sunday.  
This is designed to be as inclusive as possible, a mixture of formality and informality; traditional and modern; activity and stillness. In short, we will attempt to provide a service which will have points of connection for children and adults - indeed people of all ages and all backgrounds.

In Loddon and Chedgrave there is an opportunity to meet after the service and enjoy a chat over tea or coffee.

**Home Communion:** If you would like home communion, because you are unable for any reason to get to a Sunday service, please contact the clergy or the Church Office and we will arrange for someone to bring communion to you.

***Times and details of the services can be found  
in the centre pages of the magazine.***





## Thanksgivings & Baptisms



You are welcome to request thanksgiving and baptism for your children. Thanksgiving Services may be held at any time in the churches by arrangement with the clergy. They are an opportunity to give thanks for the gift of a new child and to celebrate this with family and friends in the presence of God.

Baptisms are usually held within the Sunday worship in our churches. They are an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the new life we have in Jesus and to welcome a child into God's family, the Church.

Please contact Rev Alison Ball on 01508 528126

**ball880am@btinternet.com** or the Church Office on 01508 521179.

### Noah's Ark

A drop-in group for babies, toddlers and their parent and carer.



### Wednesdays

**9.15a.m. to 12 noon.** All welcome.

For further details please call Alison on 01508 528126 or e-mail : **ball880am@btinternet.com**

### Friends and Neighbours

If you've been widowed or have lost your life partner



come and join us at St John's Lecture Hall on the first Thursday of the month. Make new friends, enjoy tea or lunch together.

**June 7th 12.30 p.m.** Fish & Chip lunch followed by a talk by Rev Jill about her recent visit to the Holy Land.

If you are interested in joining the group ring Jill on 520 248.

### Small Groups

Some of us like to meet during the week in small groups where we can enjoy each others' company, study the Bible together and pray for one another and for others.



Those who attend find their small group a real help and support.

If you would like to join one, or just to know more, please contact David Owen or the Church Office.

### Monday Mardles

If you like a relaxed and informal chat with others or are looking to meet some new friends, join us at a Monday Mardles for refreshments and to swap books at Chedgrave Church Rooms.



Mardles are held every **Monday between 10:00 am and 12:00 noon.** Come and go as you choose.

On average there are about 17 people who come to Mardles, and there's room for more! You will be made very welcome.

*('Mardle' - in Norfolk it means a good old natter!)*

### Xtra!

Join us in St John's Church for an exciting, informal service **every Thursday after school.**

Refreshments, activities from 3.15. Service starts 3.45.

More from Reverend David 522993 or Reverend Alison 528126



## STOP PRESS!

*We hope at least some of you see these events in time!*

**Chet Valley Churches**



**All Saints Chedgrave**

**Spring Fair and Plant Sale**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May  
10:00-12:00**



**Tea, coffee and homemade cakes  
available all morning  
In addition to the plant stall  
there will be homemade cakes  
and second-hand books for sale and the usual  
tombola and raffle**

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**

**POP-UP CAFÉ**

**SUNDAY 27th May from 12 noon onwards  
(alongside Loddon Street Fair)**



**light lunches, and cakes or cream teas  
PLUS the first Giant Book Sale of the year.**

*IF YOU ENJOY ARRANGING FLOWERS*

*do join the team and enjoy the peace and quiet of  
Holy Trinity church*

*Please contact Genevieve Godber on 01508 528843  
or via the Church Office in St John's.*



## THE SISLAND CHRONICLE

For the first time in recorded history the PCC of St Mary's Sisland has an all 'Fair Sex' makeup; with two new churchwardens, Liz Percival, a semi-retired teacher, and Rowena Bryce, a U.E.A. lecturer taking centre stage. With the welcome addition of Laura Haylock, a farmer's wife and young business-woman, as Secretary. Judy Read remains the Treasurer. Jenny Burgess and the Rev. Jill Haylock complete the Committee under the Chairmanship of the Rev. David Owen, Rural Dean of the Chet Valley Benefice. They have a challenging future ahead in this tiny parish, and welcome support and visitors for this Historic thatched Church. Watch this space for Social events planned for the year ahead.----- We need your money!

Sisland has always kept up with the times in gardening circles. Jenny Burgess has an interesting collection of Alpine plants, the seeds of which she has collected in France. Another gardener, a definite fruit & nut case, with a mania for all things edible, has 30 varieties of figs! --"why?" I hear you ask: we may never know. Figs were written about long before the Birth of Christ, and Pliny, a Roman garden writer eulogised that..."they give strength to the young, preserve the elderly in better health --- and make them look younger with fewer wrinkles". I wonder if makers of modern beauty aids are missing something!

Hi – Freddie here. T. took me for a walk (on a lead as usual!) and I was amazed that one of Farmer John's fields – which was green last week, is now bright yellow – very clever of him. T. & J. are talking about picnics – which I'm very partial to, so I'm getting excited; we go to all sorts of interesting places, but they keep me on a long lead – "in case I get lost", what rubbish, I always know where I am! I'm not so keen on the seaside though, it is very wet, and the sand gets in my fur. Yesterday T. said he was going to give me a good brush, so I went and got one out of my toy box (under J.'s sitting chair); they laughed as if they thought I didn't know what they were talking about. They must think I'm a bit thick! Mind you I did get a really good brush and comb, which made me feel a lot better. Cheers

SISLANDA

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PAUSE FOR THOUGHT : TAKE TIME FOR REST

A folk tale tells of two men who chopped wood for a whole day. One man chopped constantly without a break. The second rested for ten minutes in every hour. At the end of the day it was the second man who had chopped more wood. Puzzled by this, the first man asked his colleague how this could be. 'It's simple,' said the second man. 'Whenever I rested, I sharpened my axe.'

*On May 6th at Xpressions Café, we celebrated Rogation Sunday. We remembered and gave thanks to God for those who provide our food and considered our own part in caring for the environment. We also thanked God for his beautiful and plentiful creation. This brought to mind Revd. Alison's sermon from last year's Rogation service. In this season of growth and promise of plenty, it seems appropriate to share it.*

There is a rhythm to life. We expect night to follow day and for day to come again. We expect that Spring will arrive after Winter with Summer and Autumn to follow. We are used to the succession from bare twigs, to green leaves, bright flowers; to fruits and seeds, then red, yellow and orange leaves before bare twigs again.

In the church we move from Christmas through Epiphany to Lent, Easter, Ascension and Pentecost. We have Trinity Sunday, Ordinary Time punctuated by Saints Days and then Advent and back to Christmas. From white through purple, white, red, green, purple and white again.

As I said, there is a rhythm to life.

One of the things that I particularly love about living and worshipping here is the Tuesday walk from Chedgrave to Hardley Church for Morning Prayer. Early winter sun illuminates the brown furrows in the fields which, as the weeks pass, become covered by a green haze as the shoots appear. Then later, the barley ripples in the wind like an endless green sea. Potato plants poke their heads out from the ridges, beans and beet appear. We look forward to the warmth and the golden brown of cereals ripe for harvest and then we see the farmers working long hours with combines, tractors, trailers. We find beets in clamps waiting for the huge lorries to collect them and transport them for processing. And then there is ploughing and sowing again.

There was a time when the Church year and the agricultural year were quite obviously linked. When each parish in the countryside had its own priest, country people looked to him to bless and hallow the agricultural year so that the ground might be fruitful, the livestock healthy and human bellies and purses relatively full.

The agricultural year started with Plough Sunday around the time of Epiphany. Christmas festivities were over and done with and it was time to turn the soil so that the frosts could break it down ready for sowing in the Spring. Everyone gathered so that the priest could bless the plough to speed its course through the ground and also to acknowledge at the outset God's indispensable involvement in the whole agricultural cycle.

But it was not just the marking of Plough Sunday for which the farmers and the church gathered together. Years ago, the parson of every rural parish was expected to celebrate all of the festivals of the farmers' year: Rogation Day, Lammis, Harvest. There were strong traditions around what was to be done when and these were bound up with and governed by the Church calendar. Potatoes were planted on Good Friday (hopefully before or after church attendance), apples were no good until they had been 'christened' by rain on St Swithin's day. Candlemas Day was the time to sow beans. Peas

and other beans needed to be sown early in March around the feast days of St David, St Chad and St Benedict and if they were not in the ground by St Benedict on March 21<sup>st</sup> people were advised not to bother at all as they would be no good. And then there were the four quarter days: Lady Day, St John Baptist's Day, Michaelmas and Christmas Day when farming rents were due and when tenancies changed hands. Church and farming life were very much intertwined.

Nowadays, you might say that with the advance of science and technology farmers are rather less reliant on God's goodness. The link between church and farm seems irrelevant. There are herbicides to get rid of the weeds, fungicides to deal with disease. Massive irrigation is a possibility. Fertilisers and other soil treatments can be applied. And according to The Archers, that great source of farming knowledge, you can now fly drones over your fields to assess your crops seemingly no longer needing to walk the fields in the old way.

And yet... God is still as involved in our lives as ever. We have lost something of our awareness but the rhythms of life point to the greater rhythms of God's purposes. Just a week of so ago, farmers, as well as those of us with gardens, were desperate for rain – the right kind of rain. In this last week, we have been blessed with just that though I suspect we could do with more, steady rainfall. When we come to harvest, farmers will want sunshine and warmth to ripen and dry the heads and dry weather to allow them onto the fields. These things we cannot influence even today!

The pressing need then was to gain God's cooperation in the provision of food to sustain human life. However, if we feel this is less relevant today, it is because our world has become fragmented and insensitive. We have lost our sense of wonder and our ability to connect with one another and with that greater sense of purpose which is to be found in God, he who is the source of all things. In Genesis we read that God blessed man, male and female, when he had created them. He gave them dominion, careful and responsible stewardship, of the land in which they were living. He gave them every green plant for food and then every living thing for food.

..... Let us ask God's blessing on our farming communities and on those who work the land and give thanks for all that they do. And let us come in gratitude for God's goodness along with a real sense of responsibility that we all have in stewarding the resources of the earth.

**Genesis 9:12** God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

**Psalms 24:1** The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;

**Genesis 8:22** As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

Maybe next time you see a rainbow you will remember these things.





## **Skatepark**

The Parish Council has commissioned a new skatepark and community area to replace the existing facility on the Jubilee Hall Playing Fields. Large scale plans are available to view in the LPC offices (opening times below) and we would very much welcome your views and comments on these proposals.

## **Parish Councillor Vacancy**

Are you interested in local current affairs?

Do you wish to serve your community?

Could you provide a voice for residents?

If so, the Parish Council would be delighted to hear from you. The term of office will run until the next ordinary elections in May 2019.

To be considered for the role applicants must meet at least one of the following criteria:

Be registered as a Local Government Elector for the Parish on the current Electoral Register

Has, during the whole of the previous 12 months, occupied as tenant or owner any land or other premises in the Parish

Have your principle or only place of work in the previous 12 months in the Parish of Loddon

Have resided in the Parish of Loddon or within 3 miles thereof during the previous 12 months

If you'd like more information on joining the Parish Council and wish to be considered for co-option please contact the Clerk to the Council: please see the contact details below.

**Allotments:** there are a few vacant plots available to Loddon and Chedgrave residents on the allotment gardens in Bridge Street. The available plots vary in price beginning at about £15 per year, depending on size. If you are interested in taking on an allotment or would like to know more then please get in touch (see contact details below).

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018 commencing at 7.00pm in the Library Annexe. Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings and will be given the opportunity to speak. The agenda will be displayed on the notice board on Church Plain and on the council's website (see below) at least three days before the meeting. A list of the meeting dates in 2018 are on the LPC website.

Contact Us: Please telephone the Parish Council on 01508 522020, or email on [clerk@loddonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@loddonpc.org.uk). The office in the Library Annexe, Church Plain, Loddon is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings between 9.00am and midday if you would like to visit in person. More information is available on the parish council's website: [www.loddonpc.org.uk](http://www.loddonpc.org.uk) or find us on Facebook under Loddon Parish Council



## What's happening at Loddon Library?

**Shopping online with Confidence: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June sessions between 2pm-6pm.** Have you ever wanted to do your shopping online but haven't had the confidence to try? Then come and book a session with Maddie who will take you through it step by step. This is a chargeable course. Please contact the library for more information.

**Facebook** – Good news, you can now keep up to date with all our events and news by following us on Facebook just search for Loddon and Poringland libraries.

**DVD Hire** – A reminder you can hire dvds for just £2.00 per week. Top Titles £2.00 for 2 nights from the library. Special offer 2 for 1 every Thursday and Friday.

**Just a cuppa – every Monday from 10am** – Feeling at a loose end pop in for a friendly chat and a cuppa.

**Book Ends** – every other Friday, 3.30 – 4pm please contact the library for future dates

**Saturday Junior Book club – fortnightly. Please contact the library for future dates:**

Do you love to read and chat about books with others? Then come along to our new, fun book club 10:30am to 12:30pm. Run by youngsters for youngsters! The books will be based on a different theme each meeting.

**C.A.B. will be holding advice sessions in the library throughout 2018 – please contact library staff for the dates.**

**Computer Buddy Drop-In – Every Monday, 10am – 12noon** – He's happy to help you with most IT difficulties.

**Micro:bit!** Did you know you can borrow these for free at your local library? A fun way to learn more about programming

*Loddon Childrens Centre run the following sessions from the library.*

**Loddon Baby 'O.N.E.' stop – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of Each Month, 10 to 11:00 am**

**Optimum Nurturing Environment** – A session to support you and your baby. Health visitor/ Assistant Health Practitioner and a CC staff run session. Babies 0 to 1 year.

**Baby weighing scales**

We now have a set of baby weighing scales located in the library. These can be used anytime during our normal opening hours.

*For information on any of the above please contact the library staff.*

Are you unable to get to the library?

Would you like to have books chosen for you and collected?

Contact the library for details of our housebound library service.

**31 Church Plain, Loddon, NR14 6EX 01508 520678**

**Opening Hours**

Mon.: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm; Wed. 10am - 1pm;

Thurs. 2 - 7.30pm; Fri. 2 - 7.30pm; Sat. 10am - 1.00pm





A peal was rung at Holy Trinity by visiting ringers from Lancashire on the morning of Saturday 7th April. The 5040 changes of Spliced Plain Bob and Little Bob Major took 2 hours and 49 minutes to complete. They also rang another peal at Norton Subcourse in the afternoon.

We continue to help a band of new ringers from St. Mary's, Oulton who have been coming over to us at various times. They are a keen group of people who hope to be able to ring their own bells for the Armistice celebrations in November.

Members from Loddon took part in a Quarter Peal of Grandsire Cinques on the twelve bells at St. Mary Le Tower in Ipswich on Sunday 8th April. Two Quarter peals were rung on the simulator at Loddon that same day. One of Stedman Caters and another of Yorkshire Surprise Royal.

On Monday 16th April we again hosted the ringers from St. Peter Mancroft in Norwich for a ten bell practice on our simulator. A project is underway at Mancroft to reinstate a ringing gallery in the tower and also a training and heritage centre. The bells there are un-ringable while this is being done, so the band is touring the area ringing at various churches on their normal Monday practice nights.

On Saturday 28th April, members travelled to the Cathedral church of St. James and St. Edmunds in Bury St. Edmunds to ring a Quarter peal of Stedman Caters on the ten bells in the Norman Tower, which sits at the entrance to the former Abbey in the Cathedral grounds. The 1287 changes took 51 minutes to ring which was for an Evensong service being held in the Cathedral. We then travelled on to Horringer St. Leonard's to ring another of Glasgow Surprise Major.

It is a fact that around 1400 bell ringers died in the 1914-1918 war. Bells were silenced during the war but gloriously rang out to celebrate the signing of the Armistice on 11th November 1918. The 100th anniversary of the Armistice will be commemorated in a similar way across the country **on November 11th** this year. It is hoped that 1400 + new ringers will be recruited across the country and you could be one of those new recruits at Loddon. We have a fine ring of 8 bells and good facilities to teach new ringers. You may have family members that were lost during the Great War and this would be an ideal opportunity to remember them in a very special way.

Ringers come from diverse backgrounds and span all age groups to share a fascinating team hobby in both a mentally stimulating and social setting. We practice on Tuesday nights from 7.30 p.m until 9.00 p.m, but at the start of the learning process there will be practices at other convenient times when the bells are silenced to get potential ringers "up to speed" so that confidence in handling a bell is quickly developed.

If you would firstly like to join us at one of our practices to see what is involved and before making a commitment, please contact our tower captain, David Webb on Loddon 528468.



Ringling for PEACE  
*Armistice 100*



# BATTLE'S OVER

A NATION'S TRIBUTE  
11TH NOVEMBER 2018  
100 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE

## BE PART OF HISTORY

Church Bells will ring out & Big Ben will strike to mark the centenary of Armistice Day. Bell ringers will mark 100 years since the end of the First World War. **COME AND LEARN TO RING FOR THIS SPECIAL OCCASION.** See details below:

**Loddon Holy Trinity church**  
**Contact David Webb**  
**01508 528468**









Last year, I went to Sierra Leone to take part in the Marathon. It was such an incredible experience in such a beautiful country with such wonderful people. The whole experience was something completely outside of my comfort zone; I went with the hope of being able to make a small difference, but I found it was me who gained so much from this very uplifting and refreshing experience. So this year I have decided to go back! When I returned last year, I was just so aware of the massive differences we could make. Money goes such a long way in Sierra Leone: the Marathon sponsorship allows Street Child to direct money to where they feel it is most needed. Having seen the work Street Child, I have every confidence in their work, particularly in the ways in which they empower and train local people.



I go back with the hope of making some difference, but also that, once again, it will remind me of what's important, and enable me to spend time with such inspiring and resilient people. This is the link to the fundraising & Street Child website and my daughter Niamh is also selling cards, bookmarks & crafts. All donations go directly to Street Child.

<https://sierraleonemarathon2018.everydayhero.com/uk/jenny-walker>

<http://street-child.co.uk>

[Jenny.Walker@stntrust.org](mailto:Jenny.Walker@stntrust.org)

*Jenny Walker*

*Jenny went on 24th May and did a half marathon. It's not too late to donate.*



Supporting volunteers and voluntary organisations

We are looking for compassionate and friendly people to join us as Health Goal Volunteers for the Norfolk Community Health and Care NHS Trust in South of Norfolk. This exciting new role involves supporting patients to achieve a particular goal that will improve their health and wellbeing; for example, joining a group to pursue a hobby and to make new friends.

Volunteers will visit the client weekly for around 2-3 hours per week, for a period of 2-8 weeks, depending on the goal the individual would like to achieve. All volunteers will receive full training, including the opportunity to attend a 2 day course in Health Coaching, and ongoing support. This is a great opportunity to make a real difference to your local community.

For more information about becoming a Health Goal volunteer, please contact Pavlina Parashkevova, Volunteer Co-Ordinator (South) on 01603 272336 or email [volunteering@nchc.nhs.uk](mailto:volunteering@nchc.nhs.uk)





## Loddon Primary Federation

### A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE TOPIC

During the last half term we explored the story of 'Supertato'! We were very lucky to have a special delivery of some 'Veggie Pals' from the story! They arrived in a box and we had to guess what they were, before we opened them. We used them to help us to re-tell the story. Unfortunately an Evil Pea was close behind and stole our Veggie Pals! We

decided to make 'WANTED' posters to try to catch the Evil Pea, wrote about how the Veggie Pals must be feeling and made some maps to try to track him down! Some of the children decided to make their own 'traps' using construction to see if we could trap the Evil Pea! We carried on the topic by reading the next story: 'Supertato - Run, Veggies, Run' and discussed the importance of having a healthy lifestyle. In the story they have a sports race, so we decided to hold our own sports races on the field. We even made some banners to cheer each other on! Luckily, the sun was shining and we had a wonderful time.



### THE BIG SING

We took our Year 3, 4 and 5's to the Big Sing which was held at the Norfolk Showground. 9.000 children from schools across Norfolk took part in the event with special guest performances from Alexandra Burke and Kirsten Joy. The children have been learning the songs in school and loved singing and dancing in the sunshine.



### TAG RUGBY

After a convincing win at the cluster event, our tag rugby team went on to represent us at the South Norfolk Finals. Despite it being the hottest day of the year so far, the year 5s and 6s put in an incredible performance. Saffy, Alfie and Ruby all scored lightning quick tries, keeping the opposition on their toes, while Darina was incredible in defence, not letting anyone get past her. We ended the day on a high, winning our final match to clinch 7th in South Norfolk, all topped off with a celebratory flapjack!

### LUNCHTIME CLUB LEADERS

Thank you to our Junior Lunchtime Club leaders who run an activity club at the Infant school on a Wednesday lunchtime. Tyler, Gareth and Dylan give their Wednesday lunchtime over to leading fun lunchtime activities. They are showing excellent leadership skills and the children at the Infant school are having lots of fun. A big thank you to them for all their hard work

## Church Services June

Sat 2nd	6.00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	St. John's Loddon
Sun 3rd	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary Sisland
	9.00am	Informal Holy Communion	All Saints Chedgrave
	10.00am - 12 noon	Xpressions Café	All Saints Chedgrave
	10.45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity Loddon
Sat 9th	6.00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	St. John's Loddon
Sun 10th	9.00am	Holy Communion	St. Margaret Hardley
	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	All Saints Chedgrave
	10.45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity Loddon
Sat 16th	6.00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	St. John's Loddon
Sun 17th	10.45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity Loddon
	11.00am	All Together Worship <i>Followed by shared lunch</i>	All Saints Chedgrave
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	St Mary Sisland
Sat 23rd	6.00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	St. John's Loddon
Sun 24th <i>Loddon Open Gardens weekend</i>	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints Chedgrave
	10.30 am	Morning Worship	St. Margaret Hardley
	6.30 for 7.00pm	<b>Open Gardens Last Sunday Praise</b>	<b>Holy Trinity Loddon</b>
Sat 30th	6.00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	St. John's Loddon
Sun July 1st	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary Sisland
	9.00am	Informal Holy Communion	All Saints Chedgrave
	10.00am - 12 noon	Xpressions Café	All Saints Chedgrave
	10.45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity Loddon

### LAST SUNDAY PRAISE

This is usually held on the last Sunday of the month at 7.00 p.m. at St. Johns, Loddon. Refreshments at 6.30 before the service, or just come at 7.00 for the singing

*Xtra!*

Join us in St John's Church for an exciting,  
informal service **every Thursday after school.**

Refreshments, activities from 3.15. Service starts 3.45.

More from Reverend David 522993 or Reverend Alison 528126

MORNING PRAYER  <i>Everyone is welcome to these times of Prayer</i>	Monday	9.00 a.m.	Holy Trinity Loddon
	Tuesday	9.00 a.m.	St. Margaret, Hardley
	Wednesday	9.00 a.m.	All Saints, Chedgrave
	Thursday	9.00 a.m.	Holy Trinity Loddon
	Friday	9.00 a.m.	St Mary Sisland
	Saturday	9.00 a.m.	All Saints, Chedgrave

COME AND PRAY

Would you like to spend some time in prayer with a small group of people?

All are welcome to come along to ‘

**TIME FOR PRAYER AND SPACE FOR REFLECTION'**

at St John's on Tuesday evenings. 7.30 - 8.30pm.

Contact Rev. Jill Haylock on 520248, email [jillhaylock@aol.com](mailto:jillhaylock@aol.com)

or just turn up.

**Please note:** On the third Tuesday the Mid-week service of Communion with Blessing will be held .

MID-WEEK COMMUNION WITH BLESSING

7.30 p.m. at St John's on the 3rd Tuesday of the month

*All are welcome*

(This monthly service is no longer specifically focussing on healing and laying on of hands.)

From the Parish Registers



THANKSGIVING FOR THE BIRTH OF A CHILD

HARLEY HINDLEY April 8th at Holy Trinity Church

*'Heavenly Father, we praise you for the birth of this child, Surround him with your blessing that he may know your love, be protected from evil, and know your goodness all his days.'*

*Common Worship*

IN MEMORIAM

RITA PRIMROSE BALDRY who died on April 11th aged 87  
Interment of ashes: May 11th at Holy Trinity, Loddon.

FREDERICK GEORGE EDWARD NOBBS who died on April 18th aged 86  
Funeral : May 14th at Holy Trinity, Loddon

*Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. So we will be with the Lord for ever. 1 Thessalonians 4. 14, 17b*

It has been a short but eventful term. The 'Beast from the East' was an unwelcome visitor! The day we managed to open (Tuesday) proved to me what a fantastic school we have. The students behaved beautifully and the staff all chipped in to help as colleagues struggled through the snow to get to school.

The following three days were more than a little stressful, but I am confident we made the right decision in closing the school. The safety of our students and staff is the most important issue. I'm very grateful for the support and patience of our parents and carers. It did confirm what a useful means of communication Twitter can be. If you'd like to follow the school (@HobartHigh) or me (@jim1902adams) you will always be kept up to date. A particular 'thank you' to our site staff who worked throughout the snowy weather to clear the site in vain.

A really pleasing new development is our 'Equality and Campaigns Week'. This event has been organised by a team of teachers led by Ms Nethersell and our Student Leaders. It has been a thorough success and has really added some vibrancy to the school. A particular



highlight was a session led by a former student, Eleanor Dickens. She spoke to Year 7 about the representation of women throughout history. A really powerful and interesting talk.

Hobart also hosted a fantastic netball tournament for our cluster primary schools this term. This was led by our fantastic Student Leaders who are, as ever, a credit to our school.

As I write, we are preparing for our GCSE Art Exhibition. The quality of the work is really exceptional and I am sure it will be well attended by our ever supportive community.

*Jim Adams*

## COMMUNITY GROUPS NEWS & EVENTS

### Loddon Flower Club

**June 5th:** Workshop Evening: 'Creating a Contemporary Design' - Anne Baker

7.15 p.m. Hobart High School.

Don't forget the Coffee Morning on June 2nd. *Details on page 45*

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### Loddon Women's Institute

On 18th April Loddon WI celebrated their 88<sup>th</sup> birthday and instead of the usual meeting we held a party. The evening began with music from our wonderful entertainer, Patsy-Rose, who played her guitar and sang a selection of songs from the 1960s. We then enjoyed a selection of tasty food and finished the evening with more music. This time, not only did we sing along, but the more energetic members just had to get up and dance.

**On 20th June**, Mrs Maria Pennington will be talking about 'Periods in time in relation to jewellery'. Do come along and join us, 7.15 for 7.30pm at the Jubilee Hall in Loddon. You will be made most welcome.

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### Chedgrave & District Women's Institute

**Tuesday June 26th:** 2.00 p.m. All Saints Centre

We have invited Jonathan Carrie to give us a demonstration on Basket Making.

**June 15th:** Margaret Bagguley, a member of our committee, has kindly arranged a lunch for several of our members at City College, Norwich.

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### Langley with Hardley Women's Institute

**June 19th** Speaker: Ann Bridge—'Lost and Found'  
Hardley Village Hall 7.30 p.m.

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### Loddon & District Day Centre

**Wednesdays & Fridays** 9.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. at the Jubilee Hall. Join us for outings and games and a wide variety of entertainment.

We also enjoy a hot, home-cooked 2 course meal.

New members always welcome.

Interested? Please call Bev on 07826299290.

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At the Jub Club Friday nights. Eyes down at 7-30pm. All welcome. Two jackpots that regularly top £100 with 10 games per session plus a flyer game. Evening usually ends around 9pm.





### Hobart Badminton Club



We meet on Fridays 7.30 - 9.30 pm at the Sports Hall, Hobart High School. We play socially and are not in a league.

New members, aged 18 and over, welcome – some previous playing experience required.

#### **Membership:**

Trial Members: £4 per session for 4 weeks

Full members:- £10 annual subscription and £4 for each week you play

Visitors:- £5 per session

Further information from Barbara Boardman –

email [tomenelli@btinternet.com](mailto:tomenelli@btinternet.com)

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### Loddon Community Gym



**Mondays:** 1.30pm to 6. pm. **Tuesdays:** 4-30 to 8-30 p.m.

**Fridays:** 10am to 1pm. at the Jubilee Hall

Our well equipped, not for profit gym offers a relaxed sociable atmosphere to help you improve your fitness, health and wellbeing.

**G.P. Referrals welcome.**

*For further details contact Louise on 07534 946143*

*or visit [www.loddoncommunitygym.com](http://www.loddoncommunitygym.com)*

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### Footballers wanted!

We are a friendly, relaxed group of guys of all ages and abilities who meet at Hobart Astroturf every Monday evening from 8:30-9:30 for a non-competitive kick-about to keep fit and socialise. We are looking for like minded people to join us.

Cost £2.50 per session, first session free.

For more details, please contact Terry on:

Email: [tezzahayden99@gmail.com](mailto:tezzahayden99@gmail.com)

Facebook: Loddon Men's Football Club



### Loddon and District Horticultural Society

Our **June meeting** will be a visit to Henstead Exotic Gardens, NR34 7LD.

Coming up: At our meeting on **July 11th** we will be holding our Fuschia and Sweet Pea Show at the Jubilee Hall at 7.30 p.m. (everybody welcome) and on September 1st there will be our Annual Open Show.

If you would like any more information on the visit to Henstead or our society, please contact Trish on 01508 520273 or Mim on 01508 493332.

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### Chet Staithe Probus Club

Have you recently retired or just moved to the area? Are you missing male company, on your own, or just want to get out from under your wife's feet? Then why not visit the Chet Staithe Probus Club which is held on the first and Third Tuesday of the month at the White Horse, Chedgrave. The meetings start at 10.00a.m. and usually finish around midday with the option of staying for lunch if required. Several of our members do. We are a friendly informal club, jackets and ties not required, with members ranging in age from 60 to almost 100. At each meeting we have a guest speaker and the topics can range from clocks, Whitehall, cartoons, space and even stagecoach journeys to Norwich.

Our next meetings are:

**June 5th** Professor Joe Perry : When farming meets ecology

**June 19th** Jill Mann : Welcome to the Workhouse

**July 3rd** Chairman's Lunch

We really look forward to seeing you then.

*Please contact Fred McEvet* Telephone 520622  
*or [mcevet@hotmail.com](mailto:mcevet@hotmail.com) for more information*

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### Chet Valley Probus Club

The Chet Valley Probus Club (*for retired Professional & Businessmen or any who have held some measure of responsibility in any field of endeavours*) meets at the White Horse Chedgrave on the second and fourth Tuesday morning, monthly. Good company, speakers, and food.

**June 12th** Richard Gibbons : Cuban Missile Crisis

**June 26th** Dr Stephen Ashworth : Lasers—The Light Fantastic

*For further details and an application form please contact the secretary  
John McCormack, 5a Norton Road, Loddon NR14 6JN. 01508 521899.*

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### Royal British Legion—Loddon & District Branch

If you happen to be at Ellough airfield on Monday 25 June you can cheer on the RAF 100 Baton Relay who are passing through our region. Further details can be had from Christine Hartley (01508 521136).

Do you have any family WW1 photographs that you would like included in a Remembrance 2018 church exhibition? If so, please phone Erika Olsen (01508 521195).

Last month the branch was represented at the funeral in Holy Trinity of Freddy Nobbs, a long standing and popular member of the branch who sadly passed to Higher Service following illness. Our thoughts are with his family and friends.

**Next branch meetings:** Mondays 18th June and 16th July.

As usual, for all Legion advice and help please phone our secretary Colin Hartley (01508 521136).





### Davy Place Social Club

At the recent Davy Place Social Club AGM Rene Denny was unanimously elected as Chairperson. We are still in need of someone to take on the post of Minutes Secretary. Please contact us if you can help.



In June we are going on a trip to Great Yarmouth Greyhound Stadium and we are looking forward to taking part in the Open Gardens event on the weekend of 23rd and 24th June. Please come along and say hello if you can.

Arrangements are being made for a river cruise and a trip to the coast during the summer. Our annual Summer Sale will be held in July - please watch the notice boards for the date.

We have a couple of spare places at our fortnightly **keep fit sessions** and we would welcome anyone interested in joining us on Thursday mornings for our **Coffee, Chat and Craft Club**. Both events start at 10am.

Please contact Janet Rackham on 522115 for further details. Thank you.

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### Chet Valley Photography Club

**June 11th:** 7-9.30pm in the Community Wing, Hobart High School  
"Portrait Photography" by Phil Barnes.

After his excellent talk last year Phil returns to our club. Based in Norwich, Phil offers lifestyle photography in the beautiful Norfolk countryside and relaxed photography in your own home or garden. Find out more about Phil here - [www.philbarnesphotography-portraits.co.uk](http://www.philbarnesphotography-portraits.co.uk)

If you would like to come along and to Phil's talk then please do so. The club is open to everyone regardless of their photography knowledge or experience.

For more details please see our website:

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

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LODDON FLOWER CLUB - FLOWER FESTIVAL - 'THE 1950'S'.  
21ST TO 23RD SEPTEMBER 2018 - HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, LODDON.

#### **DO YOU HAVE ANY PHOTOGRAPHS???**

To celebrate our Club's 60th Anniversary we are holding a flower festival. Money raised from the festival will be donated to Parkinson's UK and Loddon Church.

We are appealing for photos from the 1950's that anyone may have to do with Loddon Flower Club as we are having an archives display over the weekend of the festival. We would be grateful for a loan of them.

Please contact Tricia on 520273 if you have any.



## Loddon & District Local History Group

In April Dr Adrian Marsden gave a fascinating talk on the history of Merchant's Tokens in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. The tokens helped solve the problem of a shortage of small change. Coins in this period were actually worth their face value and small pieces of silver and copper, particularly halfpennies & farthings, were fiddly to produce and possibly felt by the crown to be not cost effective. Small change was needed for efficient trade to flourish. Businessmen and towns and cities, including Norwich, came up with a solution. First they used copper alloy 'Jettons', imported from Nuremburg. Later, copper or brass halfpennies and farthings struck by the mint which bore the name of the merchant, town or city, solved this problem.

These small tokens [14 - 22mm diameter] with a nominal value of one halfpenny or more usually one farthing date from about 1648 to 1672. In 1672 the Crown started issuing small value coins and ordered the destruction of all tokens. Apparently Alderman of Norwich City lost a lot of money when they called their own tokens in: the face value redemption was much higher than the scrap metal value. Quite large numbers of Norfolk tokens have been found and catalogued as part of the Norfolk Token Project. Examples may be seen at the Castle Museum.

Adrian admits to being a geek when it comes to tokens. His enthusiasm is infectious. Later he enjoyed visiting the grave in Holy Trinity churchyard of Henry Burroughs, Grocer & Tallow Chandler of Loddon. Henry issued tokens & some have survived to this day. It is possible that he lived in the Pink House on Church Plain.

### Next meetings

**June 20th:** our Private Historical Tour of Earsham Hall, £20.50.

For more information, contact Jan 520120 or Christine 521136

**July 17th:** St John's Lecture Hall 1.30pm - Christopher Armstrong returns to introduce us to the Rev. Benjamin Armstrong of East Dereham.

£3 entrance includes refreshments

## Hales and Heckingham Community Events Group

Thank you to everyone who took part in the South Norfolk Litter Pick in Hales.

In spite of the blustery weather we successfully collected many bags of litter from Hales and the surrounding area.

I would also like to mention Miriam Hale who also joined us but is absent from the photo.

*Susan Mason, secretary HHCEG*







The Loddon & Chedgrave District Society

**June 19th** -Tuesday – 2.30pm Glemham Hall Suffolk \*

INVITATION TO VIEW. Have a full house tour and visit the beautiful gardens, including a rose garden. Take tea, coffee and cakes in the conservatory. Contact June 528853 **by 4th June**.

**June 23rd** – Saturday, Hardley Mill 7pm – 11pm

Midsummer Frolic, Celebrate our Summer, relax and enjoy the sunset on the riverbank. Bar, music, BBQ etc. Walk from Hardley Staithe or catch the minibus from sign posted car park.

Bus running from 6.30 – 7.30 pm and 9 – 11 pm. £1.00 per journey.

**July 1st** – Sunday 4.00pm \*

**BBQ** at Langley Forge. By kind invitation of Frances Kirkpatrick. Come and enjoy a summer afternoon. Park at Langley School main car park. Cost £9.00. Contact June on 528853 a week before.

**July 11th** Wednesday 9.00 am. \*

Coach trip to AUDLEY END, visit this lovely stately home and gardens. Lots to see Entrance fee is £13.85 (free for English Heritage members) Coach £10.00 each. Pick up points, Chedgrave shops and Church Plain Loddon. Contact June 528853 **before 22nd June**.

***Very important:*** All bookings for lunches, walks, events etc. must be made in good time through the person named. Events marked with an \* must be booked or paid in advance by the date noted to guarantee a place. All walks will cost £1. Please read information carefully.

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Opportunity to be a Trustee

A Beccles based charity run on Christian principles seeks two new trustees to join the Board. We support vulnerable people of all ages and from all walks of life to improve the quality of their lives. We hold regular events for lonely older people, provide a community hub and drop in centre, supporting over 50 people each month with short or longer-term needs.

We also offer a well-used foodbank facility. Our work is partly funded by a tearoom serving barista style coffees and light lunches and retail sales of furniture. We also offer volunteering opportunities.

If you have an interest in people, some knowledge of customer service, retail, management or finance and can give time to the project, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Theresa Cumbers, Chair of Trustees for an initial discussion on 07974518925 or by email at [t.cumbers@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:t.cumbers@yahoo.co.uk)

Please note that this role does not attract remuneration

Sharel@STEP, 2 Northgate, Beccles NR34 9AS

[www.stepnorwich.org](http://www.stepnorwich.org) [www.dioceseofnorwich.org/#](http://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/#)



# WHAT'S ON: SPECIAL EVENTS

<p>Saturday 2nd</p>	<p>LODDON FLOWER CLUB: COFFEE MORNING 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon. 7, Hardley Road, Chedgrave. Raffle, Plant stall and bric-a-brac. <i>If anyone would like to make a cake, biscuits or small cakes they would be gratefully received. All monies raised to Parkinsons UK</i></p>
<p>Sunday 3rd</p>	<p>COUNTRY AND 60s DANCE 3.00—8.00 p.m. at the Jubilee Hall, Loddon Live music with PAT JAMES and SUSAN JAYNE Compere Terry Mitchell Bar Raffle and Tombola. <b>Tickets:</b> £6. from Jubilee Hall, Rosie Lees &amp; Bevs Discount Store <i>Enquiries: 01508 528588 (Mandy) or 01508 520654 (Eileen)</i> <i>The event is being held in memory of Dick Bloy</i> <i>Proceeds to Hall Maintenance Funds</i> Reg Charity No 285015</p>
<p>Sunday 3rd</p>	<p>SOUTH YARE WILDLIFE GROUP Will be at THE FARE ON THE YARE Claxton Manor 11am to 4pm. Come along and see their stall and join in the fun and countryside activities.</p>
<p>Saturday 9th</p>	<p>LODDON PRIMARY FEDERATION CEILIDH Jubilee Hall George Lane Loddon <b>Tickets:</b> £7.50 available from Loddon Infant &amp; Junior School or The White Horse, Chedgrave) Food &amp; drink available to purchase from 6.30pm First dance 7.30pm <b>All welcome</b> <i>All proceeds to Loddon Primary Federation</i></p>
<p>Thursday Friday Saturday 14th 15th 16th</p>	<p>CHET CARNIVAL &amp; COMMUNITY GROUP: SCARECROW FESTIVAL <b>FESTIVAL DAY - 16th</b> <b>This year's theme: THE SWINGING SIXTIES</b> Dress up &amp; join the Parade 12 noon from White Horse Public House, Chedgrave to main event on Jubilee Hall Playing Field for 1.00 p.m.</p>



<p>Sunday 17th</p>	<p>SOUTH YARE WILDLIFE GROUP  Open Day at Ducan's Marsh 2.00—5.00 pm.  An opportunity to visit this Site of Special Scientific Interest (sssi) where members of the group regularly help out with practical conservation work. We will be holding guided walks.  Meet at Claxton Village Hall.  For further information please see  <b><a href="http://www.southyarewildlifegroup.org">www.southyarewildlifegroup.org</a></b></p>
<p>Saturday 23rd</p>	<p>LODDON PLAYERS: QUIZ AND CHIPS  7.30pm At The Hollies (<i>Next to the Post Office</i>)  Maximum teams of <b>6 people</b>  <b>Tickets:</b> £5 per person available at Bridge stores  or E-mail (<b><a href="mailto:loddonplayers@mail.com">loddonplayers@mail.com</a></b>)</p>
<p>Saturday Sunday 23rd 24th</p>	<p>THE CHURCH IN LODDON: LODDON OPEN GARDENS  11am—5pm around Loddon  with light lunches, teas, stalls,  giant book sale and photography exhibition.  Entry by Garden Passport obtainable from Holy Trinity Church  or in advance from Loddon Garden &amp; DIY or the church office  Price: £5 individual  £15 Family ticket (<i>parents with children aged 16 or under</i>)</p>
<p>Saturday 30th</p>	<p><b>CHET VALLEY (ALL SAINTS) PATCHWORKERS'</b>  11th EXHIBITION</p> <p>QUILT SHOW: 10am to 4pm Jubilee Hall, George Lane.  There will be a sales table, raffle, refreshments,  and patchwork and quilting demonstrations.  <b>Sew and So's of Bungay</b>  will be bringing fabrics and patchwork items for sale.  Admission £2.00 (accompanied children free)</p> <p><i>All money raised on the day will go to Guide Dogs for the Blind  and the British Heart Foundation</i></p>



HALES & LODDON CRICKET CLUB.

ANNUAL FETE

**GREEN ROAD HALES 12.noon till 5.00 p.m.**

EVENTS RING, BOUNCY CASTLE,  
BAR, BBQ, STALLS and MUCH MORE.

Stalls Available from £10 a pitch  
(Sorry - no food or drink Stalls)

For more details visit

[www.facebook.comhalesandloddon](http://www.facebook.comhalesandloddon) or [Pete.dye@canaries.co.uk](mailto:Pete.dye@canaries.co.uk)

July  
Sunday  
1st

July  
Fri. 6th  
7.30pm

Sat. 7th  
2.30pm  
&  
7.30pm

LODDON PLAYERS present  
**'DEATH BY FATAL MURDER'**

A play by Peter Gordon

at the Lecture Hall George Lane Loddon

Tickets £7.00 each (conc. £5)

Available from Loddon Garden and Seed Centre

by E-mail – [Loddonplayers@mail.com](mailto:Loddonplayers@mail.com)

or telephone 01508 521006 (Between 6pm -10pm)  
from 28<sup>th</sup> May

Read Any Good Books Lately?

*An apology for a typographical error in last month's book notes, which I'm sure many of you will have picked up on. In the very first sentence about **The Absolutist** I put "World War 2," although I knew full well it should have been "World War 1." Simply a case of hitting the wrong key and not noticing. My mistake, not the Editor's! J. J.*

**"The Gustav Sonata," by Rose Tremain**

Two little boys become firm friends in a town in Switzerland, though their family backgrounds are very different - Gustav's father is dead and his mother earns a pittance from her work, while Anton's parents are comfortably wealthy Jews who came to Switzerland to escape the Nazis. Anton is an extremely talented young pianist and he and his parents make Gustav very welcome in their home, where he learns to know about and love music. Even though their situations are so different with the boys' careers taking them in totally different directions, Gustav and Anton keep in touch and depend on each other, sharing their mutual love.

Rose Tremain has written a very sensitive story depicting a difficult period in Switzerland because of its determination to remain neutral in times of war, and the problems neutrality caused for those Swiss people (in this instance,

*Continued on page 49*





particularly Gustav's father) who cared more about helping the Jews who fled from Nazi Germany than about obeying the rules of the Swiss Government. She also depicts the stark contrast in the lives of the two boys: Anton being given constant love and support from his wealthy parents, and Gustav, whose widowed mother scrimps and saves but who appears to be incapable of giving her son any love or showing any interest in him whatsoever. The need for everyone to love and be loved is central to the theme of this rather beautiful novel.

### **"Three Things About Elsie," by Joanna Cannon**

Florence Claybourne is a woman in her eighties who lives in a care home called "Cherry Trees." She has begun to suffer from dementia, but constantly has a lot of support from her friend, Elsie, spending almost all her time with her. Florence cares a great deal about other people, is happy at Cherry Trees and is very afraid that she might be transferred to a place called "Greenbanks" as her dementia gets worse. One day something totally unexpected happens which upsets her very much and alters her life, turning her, Elsie and their friend Jack, into amateur detectives.

As well as the above characters, two or three members of the staff at Cherry Trees feature frequently and really come alive in this book. We are made aware of the financial frustrations and other difficulties they suffer while trying to run the care home, but there is much compassion and humour throughout in Joanna Cannon's writing - she is a shrewd observer of people of all ages and in the way she writes her turns of phrases are delightful.

There is a real surprise almost at the very end of the book - it's extremely touching. This is a beautifully told, truly original story.

### **"Frank Derrick's Holiday of a Lifetime," by J.B. Morrison**

At the age of 82 Frank Derrick knows he's old (and has physical reminders of his age) but mentally he doesn't feel old. A widower, he and his cat, Bill, live in a flat in a place called Fullwind-on-Sea. One day his daughter, Beth, rings him from her home in America (where she lives with her husband Jimmy, and her daughter Laura) to break the news that she (Beth) is to have radiation therapy for breast cancer, and follows this up by telling her father that she and Jimmy have split up. It takes his life savings to pay for things, but, taking Bill with him, Frank leaves his flat and flies out to Los Angeles to support Beth.

All of the above sounds sad, but in fact this novel is much more happy than sad. A whole new world is opened to Frank - and to Bill, who has several adventures one way and another!



‘June is busting out all over’ say the words to the popular song from Carousel. Hopefully this will prove the case and our strange weather patterns will now settle for a while. Midsummer day on 21st is very significant for some with many national and local events being planned around it. One event not to be missed this month is **Swallowtail Day at Wheatfen on June 11th** and hopes are high for sightings of our largest and for some, our most beautiful butterfly. Guided walks, are available all day and Butterfly Conservation, joint hosts of the event, will be there with all manner of information. The warden of Wheatfen will also have copies of the new booklets on wildlife to be found on the reserve. These are very informative and will tell you exactly what you can find, if you look carefully. Dragonflies should be seen this month along with a myriad of insects. Bees have been around for some time now and I think that Bumble Bees are having a good year as I have seen them everywhere this spring. Bee Flies, that look like tiny balls of ginger fluff, have also been in abundance. These little creatures look like Bees but are actually flies and cannot sting even if they wanted to. They hover over flowers looking rather like minute Huming Birds and drink nectar through a long proboscis similar to the Hummingbird Hawk Moth. These amazing little creatures pick up grains of soil through their abdomen, from disturbed ground, to coat their eggs, making them like tiny missiles and then fire them into areas around the holes of Mining Bees. When those that manage it end up in the burrows, the eggs hatch and the larvae feed on the Bees eggs before emerging as adults next year. How weird and wonderful is that?

Recently I was very fortunate to see a Stoat. It was on a farm track and appeared to be hunting for food. I had an excellent view for several minutes including when it stopped for a few seconds and sat upright, looking straight at me. These lovely creatures, although not rare, are quite shy and I can’t remember the last time I saw one. Stoats are quite fierce little mammals and will readily tackle a rabbit as prey. They will jump on it’s back and bite the back of the neck and just hang on until it is dead. I saw this happen once, years ago and the rabbit was making an awful noise. I’m told they will also tackle rats. Stoats can also climb trees and will find bird nests and steal eggs and also baby birds. They will take them from ground nesting birds too. Although this all seems rather brutal, it is the way of nature. The fight for survival goes on all around.

Just in case you don’t know..... Stoats belong to the family of Mustelids which includes Weasels, Pine Martens, Badgers, Otters and Mink. If in doubt whether you have seen a Stoat or a Weasel, Stoats are larger and have a black tip to their tail. Weasels are really very small but equally as voracious. In the north of the country Stoats change the colour of their coat to white, in the winter, as camouflage in the snow. How they do this, I have no idea.

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Possibly the change is temperature related? This white fur is called Ermine and used to be favoured for ceremonial robes worn by dignitaries at State occasions, such as the opening of Parliament.

After cutting and raking the Roadside Nature Reserve on the junction of Beccles Road with the A146 for the second year last autumn, it is now beginning to show the benefits. I will carry out a rough survey of plants in flower throughout the summer and already, in April, there were signs of many species to come. Unfortunately it also seems to be a place for people to throw their litter! This debris has, once again, been removed and hopefully, as the area improves the culprits will realise that it can be a small area of beauty and not a rubbish tip.

If you have any interesting sightings, please let me know. Thanks.

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**Gardening Notes** At the time of writing I am sitting in the shade on a very hot May bank holiday - what a change to just a few days ago: cold wet and windy. This is better! If this dry and warm weather continues, late sown vegetable plants will soon catch up, and we should look out for some early potatoes and some strawberries this month. Once early potatoes have flowered wait a couple of weeks and do a test dig to see how big the potatoes are - they will usually be the size of a chickens egg, so just lift enough each time to eat that day: they taste much better when they are fresh. Strawberries need to be picked every day. Make sure to pick just the ripe ones. Any that are damaged or are rotting should be thrown onto the compost heap, so as not to start other strawberries rotting. You'll find that you'll be in a battle with blackbirds as to who gets to the strawberries first, so it will pay to cover the strawberries with some netting.

Early sowings of salads crops should be ready this month. Again pick when tender and fresh. Further sowings of salads and peas, runner beans, and French beans etc, can still be made. Make sure to keep the weeds under control - it's easier when the weeds are small - and make sure to weed on a hot sunny day so the weeds die off quickly and don't have a chance to re root.

There will be plenty of bedding plants around this month, so make sure to fill your borders and containers to give plenty of colour this summer. Remember to feed the plants during the summer and to keep the soil damp to give the plants the best chance to flower all summer long. We sell bedding plants at just £2.20 per tray so come along and give us a look.

Weeds in paths and driveways will be growing rapidly now its turned warm, so either hoe them out or spray off with a dual purpose weed killer. One chemical will kill the weeds and the other will stop further weeds from germinating. Watch out for pests and diseases and treat accordingly

When you get a chance just sit in your garden and enjoy the sights and sounds of the wildlife around you, it can be quite amazing, happy gardening.

*Andrew Carver Loddon Garden and DIY*





