

CONTACT

Published by the Church in Loddon

September 2019



ART EXHIBITION

A display of paintings, textiles, sculptures and ceramics by
local artists

Holy Trinity Church, Loddon

Saturday 24th August 10am - 5pm

Sunday 25th August 12.30 – 5pm

Monday 26th August 10am – 5pm

Preview Evening Friday 23rd August 6 pm

Wine and Nibbles.

Tickets available from Church Office £6

Artists interested in exhibiting should contact
Genevieve Godber at church office 01508 521179

or call Angela Bailey 01508 528794

Chet Valley Churches Information

Clergy

David Owen:	01508 522993	david.chetvalley@gmail.com
Louise Morrissey:	01728 830733	delilah.morrissey@gmail.com
Ros Hoffmann:	01508 548200	ros@hoffmann2011.plus.com
Alison Ball:	01508 528126	ball880am@btinternet.com
Jill Haylock:	01508 520248	jillhaylock@aol.com
Fr. Pdraig Hawkins:	01508 492202	office@east-angliadiocese.org.uk



Church Office

St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon NR14 6NB
Phone: 01508 521 179, Email: office@chetvalleychurches.org
Open: Mon & Fri: 10am-4pm; Tues, Wed, Thurs: 10am-1pm



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
The Norwich Diocese	www.dioceseofnorwich.org
The Methodist Church	www.methodist.org.uk
The RC Diocese of East Anglia	www.rcdea.org.uk

Contact Magazine

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Email submissions to c.magazineloddon@gmail.com

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

Please include your name and telephone number.

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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

Last month I said I was hoping for sunshine days, a little less heat than last year, and some good overnight rain. We've certainly had some sunshine, though the heat has been a bit fierce, and perhaps I was anticipating gentle rain rather than the dramatic thunderstorms that have been a feature of this summer. Still, I'm not complaining. I turned my umbrella into a parasol when necessary and used the continental method of closing curtains and windows at appropriate times of the day to keep the house as cool as possible.

I've been watching the farmers out with their combines which reminds me that we are coming up to our harvest festivals (see p29 for details). I used to like celebrating harvest when I was little. Even though I grew up in a town—Croydon (dare I admit that?)—with no nearby farms, we used to share a meal together and have a Barn Dance in the church hall. Lots of fun with adults and children alike joining in. If you like that kind of thing, then why not go to Sisland's Ceilidh at the end of the month (see p14).

If your garden has been productive, you have the chance to show off what you have produced at the Loddon & District Horticultural Society Open Show (see p47). Or maybe you just have a surplus that you would like to share with friends and neighbours.

Alison



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Ministerial Musings

It seems hard to believe that our multicultural family wedding was over a month ago; a whole weekend of celebration of family, faith and food—lots of each!

The Sikh part of the wedding took place at the bride's parent's home. We, the groom's party, gathered at 8am at the end of their road before arriving at their house with much noise and the beating of a drum. Our son was dressed like a Sikh prince, resplendent in colourful clothing and turban. After exchanging garlands so everyone knew who were 'the important family members', and having breakfasted, we washed our hands, removed our shoes, covered our heads and sat for the Sikh ceremony.

At its heart are the four *lavans*, the wedding hymns. We were given an English explanation of what was going on—one of the auntsies said that many of the British Sikhs were grateful to hear that as their Punjabi wasn't that good. The hymns can be thought of as signifying four stages on our life's journey: growing in understanding of who we are as individuals; growing together as a couple; growing as a couple in community with others; and growing towards unity in God.

After lunch, and a short civil ceremony to make things legal, we continued to celebrate by sharing Christian thoughts on marriage, a Bible reading, blessing of rings and the marriage, wedding prayers, and a final blessing for us all.

More food followed and lots of Banghra dancing until late in the evening. It was a joyous day, especially for proud parents, and we were overwhelmed by the depth of hospitality and the generosity of spirit shown by everyone.

Many spontaneous conversations ensued between Sikhs and Christians (and those of no faith) and it was in these that generosity of spirit really shone through. We could have spoken of what divides us, where we differ in beliefs and customs, but we did not.

Instead, on all sides, we were struck by the depth of what we have in common. Several Sikhs came and told me how moved they had been by St Paul's great poem on love which my brother read during the Christian part of the ceremony. We reflected on how much of the Sikh ceremony and beliefs resonated with us.

When we focus on how we differ from others, what divides us, we can find ourselves on a road that leads to dark places, even to intolerance and racism.

Yet there is so much more that we have in common: we are all children of the same loving God; we share a common humanity; and we all have the same hopes and dreams for a better life for all.

So let us always try to look for the common ground in everything we say and do.

Rev Alison



ADVERTS

Across the Chet Valley Churches

Worship in the Chet Valley



You are welcome to join us at any of our services.

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday at one or other of the Chet Valley Churches, either Book of Common Prayer or Common Worship, with an informal Holy Communion service once a month in Chedgrave.

Services of **Morning Worship** are held in Loddon and Hardley.

Xpressions Café is on the first Sunday every month at All Saints, Chedgrave. This is a relaxed and contemporary way of 'doing church'. Open between 10am and 12 noon, you can come and go as you please for coffee, cake, discussion, crafts, games, stories, reflection and much more.

All Together Worship is on the third Sunday every month at All Saints, Chedgrave (January, March, June and September have a later start and are followed by shared lunch).

All Together Worship 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.

Last Sunday Praise is held on the last Sunday of the month at St John's: a chance to sing old and new Christian songs and worship together.

Xtra! is an exciting, informal service every Thursday after school in St John's Church. Refreshments from 3.15pm, service starts ~3.45pm. Open to all; particularly suited to children and young people.

In Loddon and Chedgrave there is an opportunity to enjoy a chat over refreshments after the service.

There are toilets and baby-changing facilities at All Saints, Chedgrave and St John's, Loddon.

Families are welcome at all of our services but are particularly catered for on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month in Chedgrave.

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.

ADVERTS

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 parents and carers.



Wednesdays 9.15am - 12 noon.

All are 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.

Next Meetings:

5th September at 12.30pm Fish and Chips lunch followed by an illustrated talk by Sue Sursham about her travels.

7th September 10-12noon Coffee Morning at St John's. Proceeds to Service by Emergency Rider Volunteers.

If you are interested in joining the group ring Jill on 01508 520248.

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 (01508 522993).

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 10am-12pm**. 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 3.15pm. Service starts 3.45pm.

More from Rev David 01508 522993 or Rev Alison 01508 528126

ADVERTS

From the Parish Registers

Thanksgivings

Lavinia Herwin on 16th June in All Saints Chedgrave

Jack Eames on 16th June in All Saints Chedgrave

Neo Browne on 16th June in All Saints Chedgrave

Evie Rose Cousins on 23rd June in St Margaret Hardley

George Cousins on 23rd June in St Margaret Hardley

Luke Millet on 23rd June in St Margaret Hardley

Baptisms

Phoebe-Nora Taylor on 14th July in Holy Trinity Loddon

Lavinia Herwin on 21st July in All Saints Chedgrave

Heavenly Father, we praise you for these children. Surround them with your blessing that they may know your love, be protected from evil, and know your goodness all their days. Common Worship

Funerals

Amanda Rose Brayley who died on 1st May 2019 aged 64 years

Funeral: 27th June 2019 at Holy Trinity, Loddon

Mayzie June Diane Ripplingale who died on 11th Jun 2019 aged 1 year

Funeral: 3rd July 2019 at Holy Trinity, Loddon

Brenda Gillian Skilleter who died on 24th Jun 2019 aged 77 years

Funeral: 25th July 2019 at Holy Trinity, Loddon

Josephine Mildred Pearce who died on 4th July 2019 aged 89 years

Funeral: 27th July 2019 at All Saints, Chedgrave

Alma Margaret Flatman who died on 13th Jul 2019 aged 89 years

Funeral: 30th July 2019 at Waveney Crematorium

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

Ellen Hammond (Nelly) passed away in hospital 1st July aged 97.

Many thanks to Beauchamp House for all their care.

Maureen Hill (niece)

ADVERTS

THE SISLAND CHRONICLE

The Annual Sisland Strawberry Tea at Lodge farm made over £400 for church funds. The weather was fine, the flowery garden full of pollinators, and a good time was had by all; many thanks to Jill Haylock and helpers. ‘Saving up for a rainy day’ is par for the course where churches are concerned as maintenance of one sort or another never stops’

July provided us with a succession of assorted insects that obviously liked the weather, although perhaps not the thunder storms towards the end of the month when a number of parishioners unfortunately had damage to computers, telephones and other electronic gadgets. Pulling all the plugs out can be a wise precaution, but doesn’t always work, as we found once when our underground cable was struck and caused mayhem to various items.

SISLANDA.

Hi, Freddie here.



Phew—we’ve had some jolly warm days since I last wrote. T. & J. can unzip their skins, but I’m stuck with a fur coat! Luckily I live in an old house, which is nice and cool inside in hot weather. (It can also be a bit cool in the winter when the hot-walls go off at night!) J. says I should go for a swim in the pond to cool off—but I’m not keen on all those frogs and newts—and the water looks very wet! We have been having lots of meals in the garden, with a big shady thing to keep the sun off; ‘bits fall off’ more often than in the dinner room, so I’m all for it.

Cheers F.

P.S. Watch out for wasps, there’s a lot about—and they bite!

Ceili dh in Aid of Sisland Church

There will be a bar and raffle. Tickets £12 including Ploughman’s Platter are available from Jill Haylock (tel 01508 520248 or email jillhaylock@aol.com)

or the Benefice Office

Saturday 28th September at 7.30pm

Langley with Hardley Village Hall.



Sisland Saturdays

Come for Coffee, etc. in the Church

The first Saturday of the month

10am to 11.30am



WEA Loddon Branch

We can now announce that Mr. Michael Nash, a Royal historian and legal expert who lectures at UEA, has is going to talk about Royal Portraits. As usual, the talks will be on Monday afternoons in the Jubilee Hall Clubroom, from 2-3.30 p.m. The first talk, in a series of 10, will be on 30th September. The second will not be until 14th October, but the series will then continue uninterrupted, concluding on 9th December.

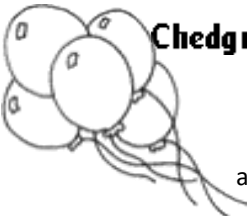
To enrol there are two options:

Either on line: go to www.wea.org.uk/look or wea.easternregion/courses and follow the prompts. You will need to know the title of the course is Royal Portraits and the course reference number is C2226932. You will be asked to pay the fee on line by means of a credit or debit card.

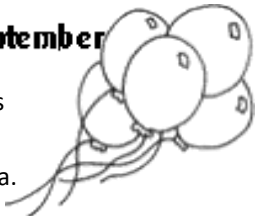
Or by phone: the number to phone is 0300 30 33 464 and the line will be open Mon -Fri 8am to 8pm, and Sat. 8am-1pm. There is a recorded 'menu' of 6 options, but you will need only the first one. You will also need to know the course title and reference number (see above). The course fee can be paid at the same time or you can give a cheque to the Branch Treasurer at the. first talk.

We urge you to enrol as soon as possible because austerity is now the watchword and under-subscribed courses may be axed. No special knowledge is needed in order to join and everyone is welcome. There is ample free parking at the Jubilee Hall and there is access for the disabled. For any further information, please phone (01508) 521036 or 558453 or send a message to candm52@icloud.com

Chedgrave Fun Day-Sunday 15th September



Chedgrave Parish Council and Friends
invite you to a Fun Day
at the Brian Clarke Room and Play Area.
From 12noon-4pm.



Bouncy Castle, Funky Feet, Pony Rides, Raffle and more.

There will be a table top sale.

To book a table (£10) call Emma on 01508 218549

Libby's Superhero Abseiling Challenge.



I cannot believe the abseil was over a month ago. Thank you so much to everyone who donated/supported me. I think the grand total is somewhere near £1,200. All of the money was sent straight away to the cardiac team/unit at the NNUH who do absolutely amazing work. They are the real superheroes.

Thank you. Elizabeth Chapman

Loddon Flower Club

Our meeting venue has changed to St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon with the new starting time of 7pm. and a break for refreshments. There will be a raffle held afterwards to win the flower arrangements from the evening.

Forthcoming meetings:

3rd September: Linda Kingcott—The Green Man and Friends.

1st October: Tim Green—My Life in Flowers. A competition for members will be held with the same title.

Visitors £6.

At our July meeting we presented a cheque for £1500 to Sue Fishpool from Parkinson's UK our charity for the last two years. This amount was raised through coffee mornings, stalls and from our 60th Anniversary Flower Festival last year in Holy Trinity Church, Loddon.

At our AGM in August, Margaret Turner stepped down after 7 years as Chairman and was presented with a gift and thanked for all her hard work over that time.

Our new Chairman is Tricia Godfrey and we welcome her to the post. Trophies were also presented by our President, Diane Blyth, to the winners of our competitions held over the year. The winner of the



Novice Class was Penny Mills, Intermediate Class winner was Tricia Godfrey and Advanced Class winner was Tricia Loades, so well done to them all.

If you would like to join our Club, now in it's 61st year, it is £30 for the year. That works out at £3 per meeting, so well worth the membership fee! During the year we have a New Year lunch, coffee morning and visits to gardens of interest, so why not join us if you are interested in flowers.

For more details on our Club take a look at our webpage on Loddon.org or contact Secretary Alex Pinder on 01508-493869.



ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, LANGLEY

THE AVENUES, LANGLEY, NR14 6BL

(Ample parking in the field adjacent to the Church)

THE CLASSIC GUITAR with PETER TURRELL

A popular programme showcasing a talented performer

Saturday 21st September at 7.30pm

TICKETS: £10.00 Adults; £8.50 Friends; £2.00 Students/Children

(Includes wine/soft drinks and nibbles)

Concert proceeds will go towards refurbishment of the Church

ADVERTS

Seething WWII Control Tower Open Days 2019

Sunday 1st September

Sunday 6th October

Open from 10am to 5pm

Displays showing the history of the young airmen of the 448th Bomb Group who were based here in 1943-45 through their personal wartime diaries, photographs, and memorabilia. Remembering also the 498 men who never got to return home.

Refreshments. Free parking and admission.



Annie THE MUSICAL

PROUDLY PRESENT

1st, 2nd, 3rd November at Langley School.

Tickets £14.50; children (under 16) £12.50 available from:

loddonplayerstickets@outlook.com

or Funky Feet School of Dance NR14 6HD Unit GE

(Saturday mornings 9-10am from 6th July)

27th October 2019, 4 pm
All Saints Church, Chedgrave



Give us Grace performed by Libricini

A programme of gorgeous classical and contemporary music performed by this accomplished and versatile women's choir. Works by Brahms, Taverner, Leonard Bernstein, Sarah Quartel and others.

Refreshments will be served after the concert.

Tickets £10 (concessions £7.50, under 16s free)

from Alison Ball 01508 528126 or ball880am@btinternet.com

or from the church office 01508 521179

ADVERTS

Social Whist

We have been meeting every second Friday each month for many years and our numbers are still growing. There is no pressure to attend every month but following a request we are going to increase our evenings to the second and fourth Friday of each month. In September we will meet on the 14th and 28th.

We welcome any new players. We meet in the back room of The Hollies and start playing at 7.45pm. The evening consists of 12 hands of Whist, each with a different partner, a drink and a biscuit at half time together with lots of chat. You don't need a partner and if you need a lift to get there this can be organised. All proceeds are for local charities.

If you need a lift please call me on 01508 528875.

Jane Hale

Thanks from Helen Edwards

Helen wishes to thank all those who gave donations at her recent birthday celebration. This has resulted in the sum of £350 being sent to the Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre at Snetterton, for which they are extremely grateful.

Chet Valley Photography Club

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday 2nd September 7pm—8pm at Community Wing, Hobart High School, Loddon.

Our next club meeting on Monday 9th September is “An East Anglian Wildlife Photographers’ Year” by Kevin Sawford. Based close to the Norfolk/Suffolk border, Kevin returns for a 3rd time to speak about wildlife photography. He is an RSPB photography tutor and has started a photography programme for the Suffolk Wildlife Trust. Kevin’s website is www.kevinsawford.com

For more details about our club please see our website:

www.chetvalleyphotography.org.uk



Help Wanted!

Naomi is taking over as Rainbow Leader and she needs one more person to assist her.

From September, they will meet on Wednesdays from 5-6pm in the Brian Clarke Rooms, Chedgrave.

Please contact Naomi on naomi@28KL.UK , or 01508 528107 or 07530 607307 if you can help, or for more information.

ADVERTS

Holy Trinity Bell Ringers



The ringers have been very busy over the past two months. The bells have been rung for Sunday services and our practice nights have been well attended with some new people learning to ring with us. We rang to welcome the Bishop of Lynn to Holy Trinity on 2nd July. We have rung to celebrate weddings held at Aldeby, Saxlingham Nethergate, Beccles, Acle, Saham-Toney, Bergh-Apton and here at Loddon.

We have rung Quarter Peals of Lincolnshire Surprise Royal, Stedman Caters, Plain Bob Major, Primrose and Surfleet Surprise Minor at Loddon. Our members have also rung Quarter Peals at Lowestoft, Beccles, Brooke, Shotesham, Holme Hale, North Lopham, Hopton, Gislingham, New Buckenham, Diss and at the MRDC in Norwich.

At the beginning of July we welcomed some visiting ringers to Loddon who also rang at Haddiscoe, Raveningham and Norton Subcourse the same day. On Monday 29th July we had a training session, specially arranged for the Loddon ringers, which was held at the MRDC in Norwich. The eight training bells are connected to their own dedicated computers, which means the ringer can use headphones to hear the simulated bell sound they are making, so can practice handling or a method of their choice without disturbing anyone else in the ringing chamber. A peal of 5040 Multi Doubles methods was rung at St. Mary's, Haddiscoe commemorating the 60th anniversary of the first peal rung there by Norman Cossey, age 14. He was tower captain at nearby Norton Subcourse for forty years.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers, Sunday 4th August 2019.

5040 Multi Doubles in 2 hours 43 minutes. Tenor 5 cwt.
20m/1p.

240 Grandsire (Morris's arrangement), Two extents each of Stedman, Shipway Place, Westminster Place, Blackburn Place, St. Hillary Place, Dragon Place, New Bob, Huntspill Bob, St. Vedast Bob, Blasedon Bob, St. Nicholas Bob, Winchendon Pleasure Place, St. Remigius Bob, Huntley Place, Reverse Canterbury Bob, Plain Bob, St. Simons Bob, St. Martins Bob, St. Osmund Bob, Eynesbury Bob.

Treble David J. Steed.

2 Stephen W. Rabong.

3 Lesley A. Steed. (Conductor)

4 David F. Webb.

Tenor Michael G. Clements.

Chet Valley Voices

Reminder! The first rehearsal of **Chet Valley Voices** is on Friday 6th September 2019, 7-9 pm at St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. Everyone over the age of 18 is welcome. We look forward to seeing you then. Don't forget to bring a drink.

ADVERTS

What's Happening in Loddon Library

Library Opening Hours

Monday	8am-7pm	(Staffed 10am-7pm)
Tuesday & Wednesday	8am-7pm	Open Library access only
Thursday	8am-7pm	(Staffed 10am-7pm)
Friday	8am-7pm	(Staffed 2-7pm)
Saturday	8am-4pm	(Staffed 1-4pm)
Sunday	10am-4pm	Open Library access only

New to the area? Never used a library before? Haven't used the library for a long time? Then come along to Loddon library. We can join you up, renew your card or just update your details. To register for a new library card, just bring something with your name and address on it and the staff will do the rest.

Open Library: gives you access to Loddon library even when the building is unstaffed. To sign up, come during staffed hours with proof of address, and ID or call 01603 774777. **We look forward to seeing you!**

Reading Pathways: Free 1-2-1 Support in Norfolk Libraries, helping you to be a better reader. Take that first step and get involved today! Pop into any public library in Norfolk for more information.

Facebook: Follow us on Facebook – just search for Loddon Library or visit [facebook.com/loddonlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/loddonlibrary)

DVD Hire: for just £2 - Top Titles for 2 nights and other DVDs for a week. We have a 2 for 1 offer on Thursday and Friday afternoons and Monday evenings!

Baby Weighing Scales: A set of scales is available during opening hours.

Space Chase Medal Ceremony—Saturday 7th September from 2-3.30pm.

If your children participated in this year's Summer Reading Challenge then come along to our medal ceremony to celebrate their achievements. Local Councillor Barry Stone will be attending, and we will be offering refreshments.

Mondays

Coffee Morning: every Monday 10am-12pm. Pop in for a friendly chat and a cuppa.

Stay and Play: every Monday 11am-12pm. Drop in for a chat with other families while your children play.

Computer Buddy : friendly computer help on Mondays from 10am-12pm.

Thursdays

Community Book Group: a friendly group on Thursday 5th September 10.45am.

Crochet Group: Come and crochet on Thursday 5th & 19th September 2-3pm.

Bounce & Rhyme: Songs and rhymes with your little one. Thursday 5th, 19th & 26th September 10.15-10:45am

Fridays

Loddon Loves Books book group: Friday 27th September from 5.45-6.45pm.

Saturdays

Craft Club – a children's craft club on 21st September 2-3pm.

Loddon Library, 31 Church Plain, NR14 6EX – 01508 520678

ADVERTS

News From Your South Norfolk District Councillor



Since writing to you in the last issue, I've dealt with quite a few local enquiries, ranging from yellow lines to annoying jackdaws. It's been a pleasure to try to help, and signpost where help might be found.

I've completed the three local surgeries I promised I'd hold during the election. From now on I will hold these surgeries in Loddon library. The next dates are: Saturday 28th September 2-4pm and Saturday 14th December 2-4pm. As well as my regular surgeries, I can also be contacted by ringing 07932 970718 or emailing me at jrowe@s-norfolk.gov.uk. If you contact me I guarantee that I'll get back in touch within 48 hours.

In addition to the Full Council meetings, I am also on the Licensing, Electoral Arrangements and Scrutiny committees – I'll keep you informed about what we look at, and decide, at these groups. In terms of Parish Council meetings, so far I have attended those at Chedgrave and Hales and Heckingham. I will regularly attend those, and the meetings at Loddon and Norton Subcourse.

In our community I have authorised two payments so far to local groups. As a District Councillor I have an annual budget of £1,000 to spend on local projects. If your project is looking for funding, please get in touch. There are also 'Go For It' grants: If you are passionate about an activity, project or interest, please contact Julie Ringer in the Communities team at South Norfolk Council on 01508 533642.

In August I will be attending a local meeting about the proposed roundabout on the A146 next to the St George's roundabout. I'll use this column to keep you informed of the progress.

Jeremy Rowe—Councillor for Loddon and Chedgrave.

Hales & Heckingham Parish Council

Our new Council met for the first time in May. With four councillors and one co-opted councillor, we have two vacancies. Our Clerk would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join the team. (Contact details are below.)

A donation from Hales & Heckingham Community Events Group, after their closure, has enabled the Council to install a second bench table on the playing field. Sadly, we are seeing signs of vandalism which is very disappointing. If you see anything untoward please contact the Police on 101 or, if no crime is being committed at the time, contact our Clerk. We continue to be very pleased with the impact the new roundabout has had on speeding and accidents at the junction with the A146 and B1136. However, we are frustrated at the condition of the land surrounding it and have been pressurising Norfolk County Council to address it.

If you have any questions, please contact our Clerk, Eleanor, by email: clerk@halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk, phone: 07703 124544. or visit our website: halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk and [Facebook](#)

ADVERTS



All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Hayley Goldson
6 Farm Close, Chedgrave, NR14 6HQ. Tel : 01508 528310

Email: chedgrave.pc@gmail.com Website: www.chedgraveparishcouncil.co.uk

The Parish Council met on 4th July & 1st August 2019. Copies of the Minutes are available at Loddon Library, on the Parish Council noticeboard and website.

Traffic Speeding: CPC have written again to NCC regarding a possible speed reduction on the Norwich Road.

Parking: Visitors to businesses on the industrial estate on Langley Road are reminded to park in the car park. Cars should not park at the corner of Pits Lane near the entrance to the river footpath. The space is needed for access and turning.

Brian Clarke Room: To book the Brian Clarke Room, please contact Georgina Buckle via brianclarkeroom@gmail.com or 07981-856270. The cost per hour is £7.50.

Grebe Drive Play Area: Fund raising continues and our thanks go to Continental Product Engineering Limited, R.D. Hutton, Roberts & Son and Pacific Cruisers who have kindly sent generous donations. Parishioners are welcome to join the play area working party. The next fundraising event is a Fun Day at the Brian Clarke Room and play area on Sunday 15th September 12-4 pm. Any volunteers who would like to help or if you would like to book a table (£10), please contact Councillor Emma Guymer on 01508 218549.

White Horse Plain: Planning permission for resurfacing is to be renewed and this project is to be undertaken in the near future.

Jubilee Oak Christmas Lights: Quotes for a professional installation were rejected due to cost. Instead, a Christmas tree with lights is to be considered next to the bus stop.

Chedgrave Churchyard Grass Cutting: CPC will no longer be responsible for the grass cutting. Instead, CPC will provide an annual grant to the church.

Wherryman's Way: CPC continue to apply pressure on NCC to progress a plan of action to have it re-instated. We urge parishioners and visitors to the area to make complaints to NCC.

Chedgrave Common: Fly tipping has been reported to SNC & NCC trails team. CPC are very disappointed with the lack of action by the BA regarding the abandoned boats & have written to the BA accordingly.

Scam Alerts: For cold call scams & rogue trader alerts register at <https://www.norfolk.police.uk/services/police-connect> or <https://www.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk>

Ragwort: Please remember your responsibility regarding the management of ragwort. It spreads very easily and is extremely toxic for animals. The best periods to spray ragwort are early spring (February to Mid-March) or late autumn (Mid-September – Mid-November).

The next meeting of Chedgrave Parish Council will be held on Thursday 5th September 2019 at 7.30pm at the Brian Clarke Room

Church Services in September

Sunday 1st September

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary, Sisland
9.00am	Informal Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10am—12 noon	Xpressions Café	All Saints, Chedgrave
10.45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon

Sunday 8th September

8.00am	Holy Communion	St Margaret, Hardley
9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints, Chedgrave
10.45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon

Sunday 15th September

11.00am	Harvest Festival + shared lunch	All Saints, Chedgrave
10.45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
5.00pm	Harvest Festival	St Mary, Sisland

Sunday 22nd September

9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10.30am	Harvest Festival	St Margaret, Hardley
10.45am	Morning Worship	Hoy Trinity, Loddon
6.30pm for 7pm	Last Sunday Praise	St John, Loddon

Sunday 29th September

10.30am	Holy Communion	Benefice Service at St Mary,
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Every day Morning Prayer 9.00am <i>All Welcome</i>	Monday	Holy Trinity, Loddon
	Tuesday	St. Margaret, Hardley
	Wednesday	All Saints, Chedgrave
	Thursday	Holy Trinity, Loddon
	Friday	St Mary, Sisland
	Saturday	All Saints, Chedgrave

Other Services in St John's, Loddon	
Every Saturday 6.00pm	Roman Catholic Mass
Tuesdays 7.30pm- 8.30pm	<p>COME AND PRAY</p> <p>If you would you like to spend some time in prayer with a small group of people you are welcome to come along to</p> <p>'Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection'</p> <p>3rd Tuesday Midweek Communion with Blessing</p> <p><i>All are welcome</i></p>
Thursdays during school term	<p>Xtra!</p> <p>Join us for an exciting, informal service. Refreshments from 3.15pm, Service starts 3.45pm More from Rev David 01508 522993 or Rev Alison 01508 528126</p>

Harvest Festival Services



15th September

11:00am All Saints Chedgrave. Once again, we will be collecting tins, packets, and toiletries for the St Martin Housing Trust. A cash collection will be sent to the Disasters Emergency Committee to support those communities suffering from the double catastrophe of two hurricanes followed by drought. The service will be followed by a shared meal. Do come and join us

5:00pm St Mary's Sisland There will be a Traditional Harvest Festival service at Sisland church with refreshments to follow. The fruit, vegetables, boxes and tins of food collected will be donated to Baynard House.

22nd September

10:30am St Margaret's Hardley Gifts of fruit and veg to decorate the church would be most welcome. These will be auctioned after the church service to raise money for the church.

Service of Remembrance

A service to remember those infants who never had the chance to live or whose lives were precious but short.

Tuesday 15th October at All Saints Church, Chedgrave, starting at 7pm.



COMMUNITY GROUPS NEWS & EVENTS

Loddon Women's Institute

In June, Fay Jones gave us a fascinating, entertaining, and informative talk on 'The Wonderful World of Stinging Nettles'. We will never again think about stinging nettles in the same way! Her knowledge of the subject was truly remarkable. It was a really good evening. Also, some of our members visited East Rushton Vicarage Gardens. The weather was fine while we enjoyed the beautiful gardens.

In July we joined Georgette Vale for 'Five O'clock Tea with Betsey', when Georgette, in the persona of Elizabeth Fry, told us about Elizabeth's life. Georgette's research was obviously extensive and thorough, and it was extremely interesting to be reminded in such an entertaining way of all that just one woman had achieved, especially in the area of prison reform.

18th September 'A Bishop, a Quaker and a roll of wire netting!' by Barbara Miller

21st September Coffee Morning at The Lecture Hall, George Lane, in aid of the Loddon Co-operative Day Centre and WI funds.

Visitors and new members are always welcome.

We meet at the Jubilee Hall Loddon at 7.30pm.

Chedgrave & District Women's Institute

Meetings this month:

Tuesday 24th September An insight into fashion 1930-1940
by Toni Ford

All Saints Church Centre at 2pm

Wednesday 25th September Norwich Theatre Royal visit.

Some of our ladies are visiting the theatre for a tour of this historic building, followed by a light lunch.

Langley with Hardley Women's Institute

Tuesday 17th September Beautiful Bulbs *Simon White*

Competition for Mildred Loades Cup: *Greatest number of items in a long matchbox*

At 7.30pm, at Langley with Hardley Village Hall.

Loddon & District Business Association

30th September Networking event upstairs at The Loddon Swan, 7.30pm.

All welcome. Members free. Non-members £5, refundable on joining.

Hope to see local business people there.

B I N G O

In the Library Annex 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.

Footballers Wanted!

We are a friendly, relaxed group of guys of all ages and abilities who meet at Hobart Astroturf every **Monday** evening from 8.30-9.30pm 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

Facebook: Loddon Men's Football Club



Hobart Badminton Club

We meet on **Fridays** 7.30-9.30pm 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



Hales & Loddon Cricket Club

Hales and Loddon Cricket Club's **Monday night** Cricket starts on the 28th April for **ages 5-14yrs**. We run Softball and Hardball, and have teams at U9/U11 Softball as well as U11/13 Hardball teams. Whether you have played before, or just want to come and try, Hales and Loddon CC is the club for you.



SOUTH NORFOLK
SNYAB
YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

We are a warm and friendly Family Club who welcome all. This year we have formed a partnership with SNYAB to provide more opportunities for both boys and girls within the game. For players **15yrs-Adult we train on Thursday nights**, and run teams in the Norfolk Alliance and Norfolk Leagues.

For more details, email Head Coach Pete Dye at pete.dye@canaries.co.uk or text 07931711323. The Club is Clubmark accredited, with all Coaches and Captains holding DBS and the relevant qualifications. Whether you can play regularly, or just want a look, we'd love to see you.

The Club is currently looking for a Treasurer. If you have a few hours spare and would like to get involved, email Pete.dye@canaries.co.uk

ADVERTS

Cyclathon

What is it? 12 hours of continuous cycling on a static bike by Gym members.

Why? To raise awareness of the Community Gym and raise funds for it.

When? Sunday 22nd September 9am-9pm.

Where? Outside the Co-op supermarket in Loddon.

Please support this event by cheering us on the day or putting money in the bucket at the Gym or on the day itself or making a donation online by visiting this link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/easternriverscommunitygym> and

encouraging friends and family to do the same. You can also win a beautiful painting by a local artist by guessing correctly how far we will cycle in 12 hours.

There will be second bike on the day for anyone who would like to try it.

‘No mirrors and no lycra’

At an awareness-raising day at Morrisons supermarket in Beccles this was our much repeated phrase to reassure potential members. Many people who stopped (or were hijacked!) to take a leaflet about our Community Gym here in Loddon were surprised that it is for ‘people like them’. Whilst anyone over 16 is welcome, the majority of our members are more mature in years. We are delighted that we have a steady stream of new members who discover that whatever your age, shape, size or fitness level, Louise will design a programme just for you.

Thank you

We are grateful to Morrisons for giving us the opportunity to advertise who we are and what we offer. We are also delighted to report that in Tesco Bags of Help Scheme in April and May we came second and have received £2000. A big thank you to everyone who collected blue discs for us. A fantastic result.

If you are a member of the Gym but have not visited recently, come and try out our newly purchased equipment (still no mirrors and very little lycra) If you would like

to find out more please contact Louise on 07534 946143 or visit our website

www.loddoncommunitygym.com

We are open in the Jubilee Hall, George Street, Loddon as follows:

Mondays: 1.30pm-6pm; Tuesdays: 4.30pm-8.30pm; Fridays: 10am-1pm.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 28th SEPTEMBER from 10.30-12.30pm

Hawthorn House, Norwich Road, Chedgrave

(near The White Horse)

ADVERTS

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 10am 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.

The meeting on 20th August is cancelled

The speaker for September is:

3rd September John White A Life Afloat

We really look forward to seeing you.

Please contact Clive Boyd on 01508 520547, or e-mail cliveboyd@btconnect.com

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.

27 th August	Linda Scoles	Journey to Citizenship
10 th September	Sue Sursham	Vanuatu
24 th September	Bob Colli	Down in the Drink

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

Loddon & Chedgrave Ladies 8 O'clock Club

Next Meeting: **Wednesday 25th September**. Linda Salmon, an interior designer, talking on Choosing the Right Curtains - Common Pitfalls to Avoid.

We are a group of very friendly ladies usually meeting on the last Wednesday of each month in the Jubilee Hall club room.

After a very informal meeting with a speaker we have tea/coffee, a raffle and time to chat. £6 joining fee, plus £3 for each meeting attended.

Do come along to our meetings and make new friends or for more information contact Hillary 01508 520457 or June 01508 528853

ADVERTS

PARKINSONS

Would you like to meet other Parkinsons sufferers? We meet on the first Monday of the month at the Chedgrave White Horse at 12.15pm. Partners are also welcome. For further details please ring Michael Osborne on 01508 522034.

Loddon & District Cooperative Day Centre

Why not come and meet some new people?

We play games, do crafts and exercises, chat and have a two course lunch.

9.30am-2.15pm, each Tuesday and Friday, at the Brian Clarke Room, Chedgrave.

Just drop in or ring Bev on 07826 299290.



Loddon and Chedgrave District Society

4th September—Wednesday. 11.00 am.

Visit our local vineyard, the Chet Vineyard Berghapton, tour and tasting with local cheese and charcuterie. £12-£14.00 each. Contact June on 528853.

17th September—Tuesday 10.30 a.m.

A walk in King Street Norwich with Carole, looking at various historical buildings. Approx. 2 hours. Contact Carole on 520589.

Membership is open to all for an annual subscription of £6.00 to the Membership Secretary, 01508 520457.

Davy Place Social Club

The residents of Davy Place Grouped Homes would like to thank all those who supported the Davy Place Social Club activities and events over the summer period. We all appreciate the continuing support from the local community.

Coffee Morning—27th September

We shall be supporting the national Macmillan Cancer Support campaign with a Coffee Morning to be held on Friday, 27th September at 10am onwards in the Davy Place Common Room. There will be plenty of coffee/tea and cake so please come along and help this very worthwhile cause. Everybody will be made very welcome.

Also In September we will be visiting Wroxham and Latham's store in Potter Heigham and in October we will be enjoying our annual fish and chip lunch at The Floral Tearooms in Dunwich.

We are still searching for a Minutes Secretary for our Social Club. If you think you could help out please contact Janet on 01508 522115.

Thank you from everyone at Davy Place.

ADVERTS

Royal British Legion–Loddon & District Branch



We are pleased to announce that this year's RBL Outdoor Bowls Tournament will be held on Sunday 8th September at the Swan PH. Book in at 2.00pm for a 2.30pm start. There will be a raffle, and refreshments will be provided. Posters round the villages will give more details.

Next branch meetings will be on Tuesday 17th September and Tuesday 15th October at 7.30pm at the Kings Head PH.

Colin Hartley, branch secretary, can be contacted on 01508 521136 for all Legion help and advice.

Margaret Wallace 01508 520840

What's Coming Up in All Saints, Chedgrave

11th October

27th October

23rd November

Quiz & Supper

Libricini in concert at 4pm

Autumn Fair



Chet Valley Churches All Saints, Chedgrave

Come to the Quiz and Supper on 11th October 2019

£8.00 full price; concessions £6.50; families £25.00

***Come on your own or as a group—
each table of eight will play as a team.***

**Tickets from Church Office, George Lane Loddon (521 179) or
Rev Alison (528 126 or ball880am@btinternet.com)**

ADVERTS

Loddon & District Local History Group June & July Meetings

19th June Outing to Wingfield College

Wingfield College is an extraordinary place. The unusually elongated Georgian frontage hides the medieval structure that dates back to its foundation over 650 years ago. It was once part of the chantry college established by Sir John Wingfield.

The present owners, Peter and Jane Bloore are doing a remarkable job in both preserving and utilizing a medieval great hall, cloisters and a fully restored Georgian room. We began our visit in the church where Peter told us about the occupants of the impressive tombs and the history of the college. We then moved across to tour the house.

Although, we had refreshments at the Hungry Horse Cafe, on the way, we all tucked in to the nice tea and cake they provided. This is a truly fascinating place, more information is available online at: “wingfieldcollege.com/digital-reconstructions” or in the book Winfield College and its Patrons.

On 17th July Phyllida Skrivens returned to talk about her researches into the fascinating life of Joe Stirling. He was suggested as a subject while she was studying at UEA. Joe, born Gunter Stern in Hintergasse near Koblenz, was one of the last of the kinder transport children to from escape Germany in 1939.

Joe’s life seems to have been a mixture of great misfortune and great good luck, very hard work and determination. His parents both died in a Concentration Camp. Gunter’s academic ability and determination were recognised early and he flourished.

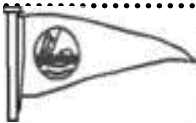
By 1944 he had volunteered to serve in the British Army and was destined to return to Europe on D Day. His CO told him he must change his surname as if he was captured he would likely be shot as a traitor. He decided on Stirling, his messmates decided on Joe. Phyllida’s enthusiastic, affectionate and moving presentation shared her researches into Joe’s life and success as a business and family man in Norwich. Her book “Escaping Hitler: A Jewish Boy’s Quest for Freedom and his Future” tells more of the story.

Next Meetings

18th September Robert Halliday “the Tithe Wars in 1930s East Anglia

16th October Pip Wright “The Class of ’63”

Meetings are in St John’s Lecture Hall George Lane, at 1.30 pm, all welcome, admission £3 includes light refreshments.



Coldham Hall Sailing Club

Surlingham (NR14 6AN)

Full details on the club website: www.coldhamhallsailingclub.co.uk

ADVERTS

Patient Participation Group

Next Open Meeting

24th September: Carers Matter The speaker will be Stacey Robertson. Doors open at 19.15 when refreshments will be available (donations, please). The meeting starts at 19.30.

Saturday Flu Clinics for those over 65 only

28th September surnames A-J

5th October surnames K-Z

Both clinics will be from 08:00-12:00. No appointment necessary.

Clinics will be arranged for those under 65 in at risk groups. This is due to a national delay in the delivery of vaccine for the under 65s. This will arrive later in October.

Loddon Community Cinema

Our next presentation is **“Fisherman's Friends”** Rated 12. Starring James Purefoy, Daniel Mays and Tuppence Middleton. Directed by Chris Foggin.

Telling the story of the rise to fame of a Cornish fishermen's choir, this warm-hearted tale is reminiscent of the old Ealing Comedies of yesteryear.

Based around a real life choir from Port Isaac in Cornwall, the usual naive fish out of water character is a record producer from the big city of London. He tries to convince the group to sign a record deal with his company and at the same time manages to fall for one of the daughters of the group.

There are the usual moments of friction between the differing cultures but does it all work out in the end...?

Showing on **THURSDAY 5th SEPTEMBER**. At The Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon. Doors open 7pm, film starts 7.30. Adults £4, Child £2. On the door or in advance from Loddon DIY. SHOWN WITH SUBTITLES



Fashion Show

Ann's Crafts are holding a Fashion Show on 27th September at The Hollies, Loddon **in aid of Meningitis Foundation Research.**

Women's, Men's and Children's clothes
Refreshments available.

Doors open at 6pm. Show starts at 7pm. Admission £3

ADVERTS



Michael Bublé

A tribute concert with Dale Bullimore
on Saturday 12th September, 7.30pm
at Holy Trinity Church, Loddon

**Come and enjoy the familiar songs of
Michael Bublé—Bring friends & family too!**

Tickets £9 to include excellent interval refreshments
from the Church Office at St John's Chapel (01508 521179)
or Val Counter (01508 520702, email valancounter@gmail.com)

Under 16s free of charge.

Events in and around the Church in Loddon

Over the next few months there will be events and entertainment in and around the Church in Loddon, so do make a note of dates and be there!

- Sat 12th** **LODDON BAND CONCERT** 7.30pm, Holy Trinity Church
Oct An evening of favourite music.
Tickets (to include buffet refreshments) priced £9, under 16s free
- Sat 30th** **CHRISTMAS FAIR** 10.00am, St John's Chapel
Nov Stalls, refreshments and a chance to get into the mood for Christmas
- Fri 6th** **OPEN HOUSE AT THE VICTORIAN EVENING**
Dec 6-9pm in Holy Trinity Church and St John's Chapel, with refreshments including mulled wine, charity stalls, and much more alongside the town's Victorian Evening
- Bookings for community groups and small charity fundraising to
Nina Owen, 01508 522993, email theroamingfenlander@gmail.com

ADVERTS

LODDON & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL OPEN SHOW

SATURDAY 7th SEPTEMBER
AT THE JUBILEE HALL, LODDON
1PM

VEGETABLE, FRUIT, FLOWERS,
DOMESTIC AND CHILDRENS CLASSES
REFRESHMENTS, TOMBOLA, AND CAKES
PLANT SALES

FOR MORE DETAILS AND A SCHEDULE
PLEASE CONTACT

TRICIA LOADES (Show-Secretary) on 01508-520273
or ALI BARWICK (Secretary) on 07707-029940 email
alisonbarwick@gmail.com

South Yare Wildlife Group



Our Moth Trapping in July was successful, despite very wet conditions. Around 40 people attended the event at Claxton Village Hall, where children enjoyed activities and games.

The moth highlight for many of the youngsters was half a dozen spectacular Hawkmoths that had braved the previous night's rain . In total 34 species of moths were identified.

You are invited to our next event: "Plants: Poisonous, Medicinal or Both?" David Hamlin will talk about the medicinal and poisonous properties of plants. This will be on the 3rd September at 7.30pm at Bergh Apton Village Hall. NR15 1AA

For further information about this and other activities, please visit www.southyarewildlifegroup.org

ADVERTS

Read Any Good Books Lately?

A particularly varied selection for this month.

“The Legacy” by Katherine Webb

In this novel four generations of one family are covered via the female line. From New York to Oklahoma to London to Devizes, this gripping story unfolds. Two sisters in their 30s inherit an old manor house in which they remember having family holidays during their childhood. These holidays finished abruptly, however—one sister knows the reason why, but the other doesn't. Very gradually the reason comes to light and long-buried memories finally come to the surface.

Katherine Webb has written this story beautifully. It is quite possible that anyone who reads it will become totally involved in the characters and will be wishing desperately for a really happy ending for everyone involved!

“Daughters of Mars” by Thomas Keneally

Another book with sisters at the centre! From a remote farming district of Australia two daughters of one of the local farmers sign up as nurses during World War One. Keneally has written an amazing book, sparing no details of their time in the Dardanelles and then on the Western Front, but he writes throughout with real humanity.

This is an epic tale which draws the reader in to share the young women's experiences of hardship and dedication, friendship and courage, and the gradual blossoming of love. The author manages to absorb the reader completely, connecting him/her somehow to both sisters in such a way that one begins to dread how the story will end for them. It is too realistic a story to have a totally happy outcome, of course. Keneally, however, has been very clever and has produced a wonderfully enigmatic ending.

“Whistle in the Dark” by Emma Healey

Quite a strange novel in some ways, though it has a clever plotline.

A teenage girl goes missing for four days and when she is found, it seems that she is suffering from a form of amnesia concerning those four days, yet she is still able to remember everything about her normal day-to-day life. The characters are brilliantly drawn—the mother is so annoying that anyone who reads this book will almost certainly understand her daughter's attitude to her! The ending of the book is ingenious and is interesting in its simplicity.

“The Liar in the Library” by Simon Brett

A mystery involving a murder which takes place following an author talk in a village library one evening. This is not a deep, meaningful story by any means and there is no real depth of characterisation, etc. Simon Brett writes well, however, and it's fun trying to decide the identity of the murderer! Sometimes it's good to read something which amuses and makes for lighter reading, isn't it?

Jenifer Jeffrey

ADVERTS

Nature Notes

Although I am writing this at the end of July it won't appear in print until September. By then summer will be moving into autumn. Even now bird migration has started. We were at Minsmere earlier this week and there were already various waders passing back through from their breeding grounds in the Arctic circle, some showing their winter plumage. Adult cuckoos will be back in Africa, the females having laid their eggs in other birds' nests. And it's been a few days since we have heard the familiar sound of the screaming of Swifts overhead. I am still waiting to see Spotted Flycatchers this year, but I have seen and heard a Turtle Dove where they have been regularly sighted for the previous two years.

Driving to Seething one morning, I was aware of a vast number of rooks and jackdaws both in the air and covering a field making it look black. It was only when I got there that I realised that it must have been the field of red poppies I had enthused about last time now fallen under the plough. Paradoxically a reversal of the Flanders fields, when a sea of mud and devastation, caused by the war, suddenly produced red poppies. I wondered if it was a prophetic picture of what we are doing to our world; a harbinger of doom. What I did learn from this was that I should have stopped and photographed the poppies while they were still there!

It was back in the middle of June that we saw the first Painted Lady butterfly in the garden. Amazing that they fly here all the way from North Africa. Deciding to treat the dogs to a run in the dunes of Winterton, I found loads more Painted Ladies flitting around. Apparently, this number arriving in the country only happens about every ten years.

Following a large brown dragonfly around the garden gave us some entertainment. "Can you see if it has green eyes?" I ask. Finally, the green eyes were very obvious, "It's a Norfolk Hawker". On the continent it is called the Green-Eyed Hawker, but here it used only to be found in the Broads, hence the name Norfolk Hawker.

On the July survey visit to Chedgrave Common, the Norfolk Wildlife Trust had arranged for us to be accompanied by an expert, to help with identification of flora and fauna. He pointed out several plants we had missed, and identified crickets, grasshoppers and birds by their sounds. Again, we encountered green-eyed Norfolk Hawkers as well as Brown Hawkers scudding over the bracken. I learnt the easy way to separate Essex and Small Skipper butterflies: the underside of the Essex Skipper's antenna is black, whereas on the Small Skipper it's brown or orange. Just proves there's always something new to learn. Will I remember it next year?

A few of the highlights of the past two months: seeing my first ever Squacco heron at Stiffkey; being able to photograph a tree creepers' nest; finding a pair of pied wagtails that had raised their second brood recycling an old blackbirds' nest; and hearing bullfinches' weak calls, so knowing they are about even if I have yet to see them. Rachel is one up on me there.



Richard and Rachel Hull chetnaturenotes@btinternet.com

ADVERTS

Gardening Notes

Just cast your minds back to this time last year. It was very hot and very dry, gardens and lawns were suffering badly, and vegetable crops were yielding well below normal. The difference this year is that we have rain in between the hot spells and most plants in the garden are looking OK.

Lawns still have a green hue although some lawns I have come across still haven't got over last year's heat damage. Now is a good time to re-seed any bare areas as the weather is cooling down and we will get some heavy dews and more rainfall. It's important to sow the right grass seed for the right areas: No 2 sports mix is great for areas that get a lot of wear from kids and pets rushing about; a finer dwarf mix is ideal for areas which get less wear; for areas under trees a shady mix is suitable. Lawns that are looking yellow and a bit sad would benefit from an autumn feed, this will green up the grass and feed the roots making the grass stronger and more able to withstand a harsh winter.

Now is the time to harvest apples, pears and plums before they get too ripe. If you are going to store the fruit, make sure that you don't bruise the flesh else they won't keep for very long. Wrap the fruit in old newspaper and place in trays and store in a cool dark place, and hopefully they will last for several weeks.

Continue to harvest potatoes, courgettes, marrows, salad crops, and onions etc. Make sure to lift onions and shallots when the weather is dry and settled; the tops need to have completely died off before you store them to ensure that they don't rot off in storage. It's best to store them in nets or in bunches hanging from your shed roof. Harvest sweetcorn when the tassels start to turn brown; at this stage the sweetcorn is sweet and tender. If you leave them any longer you will lose the sweetness.

Keep watering and feeding bedding and container plants, as these should keep flowering until the first of the winter frosts. Keep on top of the weeds as they will soon choke off your flowers.

The weather has not been too challenging this year. We have had our moments but on the whole it's been OK. The only sad thing on the horizon is that the evenings are pulling in and we won't be able to spend as much time out in the garden.

Andrew Carver, Loddon Garden and DIY



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