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Mask Making: Elizabeth Chapman

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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. Padraig Hawkins:	01508 492202	office@east-angliadiocese.org.uk	

Church Office

St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon NR14 6NB Phone: 01508 521179, Email: <u>office@chetvalleychurches.org</u> 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 The Norwich Diocese The Methodist Church The RC Diocese of East Anglia www.chetvalleychurches.org www.dioceseofnorwich.org www.methodist.org.uk www.rcdea.org.uk

Contact Magazine

Email: c.magazineloddon@gmail.com

Editors: Advertising: Treasurer: Distribution: Printing:

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COPY DEADLINE IS ALWAYS NOON 8TH OF THE MONTH Email submissions to <u>c.magazineloddon@gmail.com</u> 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.

From the Editor

So here we are some 3 months into lockdown. The restrictions are slowly being lifted and things are slowly being opened up. Some children are back in school. Some people have been allowed to visit family members and give them a hug. Some of our shops and pubs and cafes are open. Some of our churches are open for private prayer.

Because things are changing from week to week, this year the summer will have both a July and an August edition of Contact. Whilst this edition will be on-line only, we are hoping that the August edition will have a limited print run which will be available for collection in some shops (who knows—it may be a *collectable* in years to come!).

Whilst our wonderful team of deliverers is not in action, Roger Outlaw, who arranges distribution, would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to add themselves to the list of those who deliver Contact. The more deliverers there are, the less onerous is the task. You can e-mail him at <u>c.magazineloddon@gmail.com</u> or leave a message for him in the church office 01508 521179.

Meanwhile, if you are struggling in the lockdown, there are people out there to help if they can. There are a number of contact numbers in this issue—do use them.

Allson



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Ministerial Musings

Lockdown Learning

This month's Ministerial Musings is a joint effort, reflecting the fact that the Owens have spent a lot of time in each other's company over the past few months. Most of the time it's been good – we've been for more walks than we normally do, and have tackled all sorts of domestic jobs that are better suited to two people rather than one. But what happens next?

As we write this, the Government is issuing numerous pieces of guidance about getting the country back to normality (whatever that might be). We are thinking about how some of our church buildings will begin to re-open, depending on how possible it is to make them clean and safe, and we're in touch with people whose businesses are beginning to plan a way forward. So what have we learnt during lockdown? Here are a few of the things...

David:

Just walking about gives many opportunities to meet and chat with people from across the community;

There needs to be time each day for spending time together, and doing things that contribute to domestic life;

Simply sitting and reading is a useful occupation;

Getting the church and its services and activities online has been long overdue, and now it's happening. (Must find a way to carry on.)

Nina:

It's often good to be a human <u>being</u> rather than an human <u>doing</u>; Getting to grips with putting everything online has been a steep but essential learning curve for lots of us (me included);

Having the space and loveliness of the countryside around us makes an enormous difference in terms of well-being. (I have a friend with three small children and no garden in London.)

Cooking with what's in the fridge or freezer rather than going to buy specific ingredients is entirely sensible, and a creative thing to do.

That's a digest of some of the day-to-day things we've learnt. But there's something else, which is important for all of us, whether lockdown has been a positive experience or one filled with personal tragedy. It is that God cares for us and holds us gently in his arms, whatever we are facing – when the world cries, God cries with us. Maybe it is when things are tough that we can become most aware of the sustaining comfort of his love. Could this be a positive and life-enhancing legacy of Covid-19?

David & Nina Owen



Thurlton Preschool

Learning through play

01508 548342 info@thurltonpreschool.co.uk www.thurltonpreschool.co.uk

We are set in Thurlton Village Hall, a bright, spacious hall with well-planned resources and a well-equipped outside play area.

Our caring and welcoming staff have a wealth of experience; give us a call to find out more and arrange a visit.

Rated as GOOD by Ofsted with "support for older children is outstanding"

Find us on Facebook:

Thurlton Preschool - Learning Through Play



Gillingham Early Years

Ensuring individual growth and learning in a nurturing, loving and enabling environment

01502 471861 /07506544360

gillearlyyears@gmail.com

We are situated behind Gillingham Village Hall and open from 8.30 to 4, Mon to Thurs & 9 to 3 Fri term time for 2-5 year olds. We offer inclusive indoor/ outdoor early years education and play in a happy, relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

> Please call to arrange a visit. Ofsted registered



The Hollies Classroom Loddon (01508) 520286 www.loddonnurseryschool.co.uk

Open 8am-6pm, all year round From birth to 5 years, we offer a beautiful natural environment to inspire and stimulate your child's development

Funded places, full and term time contracts available Holiday club for up to 9 yrs Please contact us to arrange a visit.



LODDON PRIMARY FEDERATION NURSERY

Teacher-led nursery education offering:

Funded places for 3-4 year olds Access to early years curriculum Safe secure learning environment Dedicated outdoor area

Our Foundation Stage Area for Children in Nursery and Reception, provides a child-centred curriculum which helps children learn, develop confidence and independence and also have fun at school

Come and visit us TEL: 01508 520118 KITTENS LANE, LODDON, NR14 6JX wwww.loddonprimaryfederation.co.uk

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, starting at 11:00am at All Saints, Chedgrave (January, March, June and September 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.

Xtral 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 1^{st} and 3^{rd} 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.





Saxon nouse, Mittens Lane, Loudon



Saxon House is a Very Sheltered Housing Scheme

The scheme provides independent living with individual 24hr assessed care and support. Accommodation is a mixture of 1 and 2 bedroom affordable flats for rent. Saxon House is ideal to enable older people to stay in the area, and to retain independence, choice and control over their lifestyle in a safe environment.

For further information contact either Lyn Church (Orbit Scheme Coordinator) on 01508 528707 or Hales Care Manager on 01508 528971

Thanksgivings & Baptisms

A You are welcome to request thanksgiving and baptism for your children.

Thanksgiving Services will be held again by arrangement with the clergy after the emergency. An opportunity to give thanks for the gift of a new child '

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 <u>ball880am@btinternet.com</u> or the Church Office on 01508 521179

The activities below are all suspended until further notice

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: <u>ball880am@btinternet.com</u>

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.

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

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 Meeting:

Members of Friends and Neighbours will gather again once the current restrictions are lifted.

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

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 12 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!)



Thanksgivings

At this challenging time we give thanks for all the new lives born into our community and we pray for their good health and long life.

Heavenly Father, we praise you for all 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

Fune ra k

Leonard William Frank Bird who died on 20th May 2020 Funeral: 4th June 2020 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

News From Your

South Norfolk District Councillor



A shorter column again this month, as we start to rebuild following lockdown.

I've been very proud of the work of the team of 80+ incredible local volunteers we have put together, and for their incredible work, helping people, driving patients to hospital, delivering prescriptions and so on.

Our focus in the future, as well as being a general help group, will be to combat loneliness across Loddon, Chedgrave and Hales & Heckingham.

To this end, I am currently cycling the length of Britain to raise money to help set up this group: at the time of writing this report, I have raised £598, which will go towards training and resources. If you would like to contribute to this, please go to **Just Giving/Jeremy Rowe**.

My regular surgeries will resume when it is safe to hold them again.

Jeremy Rowe—Councillor for Loddon and Chedgrave.

Holiday Club 2020

Following on from our successful EcoWarriors in Summer 2019, this year we were hoping to hold 'Zookeepers' as our annual holiday club in the Chet Valley Churches. Unfortunately, we are not going to be able to run this year for obvious reasons and are sorry for any disappointment that this will cause. However, we hope to run something in the February half term of 2021 to bring us all together once more and Zookeepers' is on ice (just like the penguins) until summer 2021.



Loddon Parish Council

Annual meeting Of Loddon Parish Council - May 2020

Thank you to Parishioners and Councillors that attended remotely, the full set of Minutes will be available on our website in due course; <u>www.loddonpc.org.uk</u>. A summary of the meeting follows.

- Chairman Councillor June Strickland and Vice Chairman District Councillor Kay Mason-Billig were re-elected.
- The Skate Park, Play Area, TIC, Staithe Public Conveniences and the Council office closed until further guidance is received from the Government.
- Wherryman's Way was discussed and Councillor Kay Mason-Billig has offered to research grants and assist County Councillor Barry Stone.
- The grant application was awarded to Kirby Cane Hall Farms for maintenance of the well-used permissive footpath from Hales Green to Loddon.
- Cllr June Strickland thanked Councillors and members of the public for socially distancing whilst attending the recent VE Day wreath laying ceremony.

Allotments: Now is the growing season and we have vacant plots available.

Tennis Courts: Please visit <u>www.loddonpc.org.uk</u> to book. £5 per hour per court.

Vacancy - **Responsible Financial Officer:** We are looking for a candidate that has excellent bookkeeping PAYE and VAT skills. To find out more about the vacancy, please go to our website; <u>www.loddonpc.org.uk</u>.

Vacancy - **Parish Councillor:** If you are interested in local issues and would like to work as part of a team to improve community amenities and facilities, we would like to hear from you. You would be co-opted onto the Parish Council. You must be over 18, be an elector within the Parish, live or work within three miles of Loddon.

Staithe Public Conveniences, The Play Area and Skate Park Closure: At the time of writing these public facilities are still closed.

Future Meetings of Loddon Parish Council: Meetings commence in the Library Annexe at 7pm on the second Thursday of each month. They are being held remotely at present. Information on how to access these meetings will be on our website and our Facebook page. The Agenda will be displayed on the notice board on Church Plain and on the Council's website at least three working days before the meeting. The next meeting date of the Parish Council is 19 July 2020.

Contact Loddon Parish Council: by phone on 01508 522 020, or email the Clerk: Emily Curtis <u>clerk@loddonpc.org.uk</u>. The office is in the Library Annexe, 31 Church Plain, Loddon and is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings between 9:00 am and midday. At present the office is closed to the public, but we are still receiving post and telephone calls. More information is available on the Parish Council's website: <u>www.loddonpc.org.uk</u> or follow us on Facebook for regular updates: Loddon Parish Council.

<u>www.loddonpc.org.uk</u> or follow us on Facebook for regular updates: Loddon Parish Council.

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If you are kind, caring and passionate about providing a quality driven service then we would love to hear from you!

✓ Excellent rate of pay ✓ Career Progression

✓ Exceptional training

For further information or to apply for one of our roles please contact us on 01603 706187, or email recruitment@norsecare.co.uk www.norsecarecareers.co.uk

Chedgrave Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Hayley Goldson. Tel: 01508 528310 Email: <u>chedgrave.pc@gmail.com</u> Website: <u>www.chedgraveparishcouncil.co.uk</u>



The Parish Council held a virtual meeting on 4th June 2020 (in line with Coronavirus Act 2020). Copies of the minutes are available at Loddon Library, on the Parish Council noticeboard and website. It is possible that future meetings will also be virtual. Members of the public are welcome to attend – please contact the Clerk for details.

Coronavirus: For urgent help, including for those not "on-line", please contact South Norfolk Help Hub on **01508 533933** or <u>earlyhelphubsouth@s-norfolk.gov.uk</u>

Local Heroes: South Norfolk Council is welcoming nominations for individuals who have been particularly helpful during the pandemic. Nominations can be made via: https://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/residents/communities/community-awards-2020/nominate-your-local-hero

Councillor Vacancy: Please contact the Parish Clerk.

Play Areas (The Pits and Grebe Drive): Closed (at time of writing, 9 June 2020) as per government guidance, please check noticeboards & parish website for changes.

Brian Clarke Rooms: Currently closed.

Allotments: Open, with adherence to government guidance on social distancing. One full size plot is currently available. Please contact the Clerk.

Planning Applications:

2020/0506: The matter was discussed and the parish council expressed concern a at the proximity of trees to the proposed properties and noted that a more sympathetic colour could improve the effect of the cladding.

Wherryman's Way: A Powerpoint presentation has been received from NCC in lieu of a meeting. The Working Group is continuing to press for a meeting with the aim of the full re-opening the path which NCC has advised is not part of its plan.

White Horse Plain: It is hoped that a final plan will be ready for the July meeting. The only material change is the surface material with most other details remaining the same.

Annual Accounts: The annual accounts were signed off at the June meeting in line with requirements.

Grass Cutting: Matters relating to grass cutting were discussed and the parish council is following up with the relevant authorities.

Faulty street lights, potholes, problems with roads, footpaths or public rights of way, road safety, flooding and overgrown trees and verges should be reported to Norfolk County Council on 0344 800 8020 or online at <u>www.norfolk.gov.uk</u> Criminal & illegal activities, public disorder & nuisance, anti-social behaviour, speeding, uncontrolled dogs, should all be reported to the Police on 999 or 101 (non-emergency) and can be reported online at <u>www.norfolk.police.uk</u>

Strawberry Jam

Great strawberry jam is surprisingly quick and easy to make especially if a spurt of enthusiasm at the pick-your-own has left you with a glut, or you spot some overripe fruit going cheap at the market – it's the flavour of summer all year round. All you need are good berries, and a little patience. And, of course, a good scone recipe.

Makes 4 x 200ml jars

2kg small ripe strawberries 1.7kg jam sugar Juice of 2 lemons

1. Hull the strawberries and discard any rotten ones. Set aside about 10 of the smallest berries, and then mash the rest up into a rough pulp. Put into a wide,



thick-bottomed pan, add the sugar and the lemon juice, and bring to the boil. Add the remaining strawberries to the pan, and put a saucer in the freezer.

2. Boil the jam for about 15 minutes, stirring regularly checking the setting point every minute or so during the last 5 minutes. To do this, take the cold saucer out of the freezer, put a little jam on it, and put it back in to cool for a minute. If it wrinkles when you push it with your finger, then it's done. Strawberry jam is unlikely to set very solid.

3. Take off the heat and skim off the pink scum. Pour into sterilised jars and cover with a disc of waxed paper, seal and store.

Scones

350g self-raising flour ¼ tsp salt 1 tsp baking powder 85g butter, cut into pieces 3 tbsp caster sugar 175ml milk

Heat oven to 200C fan.

Mix flour, baking powder and salt together in bowl.

Rub in the butter until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar.

Mix to a dough with the milk.

Pat the dough out until it is about 3 cm deep.

Use a 5 cm cutter to cut out 8-10 scones.

Brush with some beaten egg or a little milk.

Bake in the oven on a lined baking tray for 10 minutes.

Eat just warm on the day of baking, generously topped with homemade strawberry jam, and clotted cream.



Hales & Heckingham Parish Council

All enquiries please contact Parish Clerk: Eleanor Banister

clerk@halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk or by phone 07703 124544

Website: www.halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Hales & Heckingham Parish Council

Next Parish Meeting: At 7.30 pm on Wednesday 9th September at Hales Assembly Hall (formerly Village Hall), Briar Lane, Hales. Agendas are posted on the notice board in the brick bus shelter opposite Masala Garden and on the website 3 days before the meeting. Minutes are displayed in the same places.

Hales & Heckingham Community Compost Scheme

To all residents in Hales and Heckingham.

Our Community Compost Scheme is looking for new members.

Everyone, after 5 successful years we were concerned that our ability to continue into 2020 may be held back by our dwindling number of volunteers..... and then Covid 19 struck.

Historically the scheme has worked on the basis that our volunteers collect your garden waste. This in part was to enable us to be reasonably certain that we knew were waste had come from in the event of any problems. However, it was demanding on manpower which in turn has become a major drawback for the Scheme.

The lockdown has forced us to look at how we can run our Scheme in the future and after a successful trial of socially distanced and revised collection procedures we feel confident that we can move forward.

By adopting these new procedures it means that we can invite new members to join the Scheme.

This will be on the following basis. You must bring your waste to our site at a pre allocated time, unload your waste and let us record the weight before you empty your sacks into the bins and then leave. Sacks will be provided to you. It would be very nice if you could also lend a hand on the odd maintenance session but this is no longer a condition of joining the scheme.

As a start we will accept up to 15 new members and depending how this works we may look to expand further.

Future 'collection' dates will be Saturday's, initially fortnightly but depending on demand we may be able to move to every Saturday.

If you are interested please contact with Alan Mason on: alan_mbc@btinternet.com or 07738 933316.

PILATES ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL GEORGE LANE LODDON NR14 6NB



Tuesday 6.30-7.30 Beginners Tuesday 7.30-8.30 Improvers Friday 9.30-10.30 Mixed Ability Friday 10.30-11.30 Mixed Ability Friday 11.30 –12 Limited Mobility

£6.50 Per Week First Class Free

Rosie Matthewson

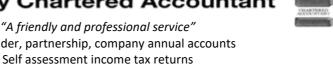
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"Quiet guidance, gentle words and our professional knowledge will help you make the right decisions for you and your family."

-Rachael Barber

'Providing the very best care'



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www.gordonbarber.com

What's Happening in Loddon Library

All of Norfolk's libraries and library services have been closed until further notice including mobile libraries, the home library service, and Open Library.

All borrowed items will be automatically renewed until further notice, and we are asking people to keep library books at home for the time being.

You will not be charged overdue fees, and any existing charges, as of 17 March, will not increase over time. This covers all items, including books, DVDs and music.

Unfortunately, you will not be able to reserve items, or request inter-library loans whilst our libraries are closed.

From home you can join the Library via the Norfolk County Council website. If you have a library card but can't remember your PIN, email <u>libraries@norfolk.gov.uk</u>

You can download a range of eBooks, eAudio books, eNewspapers, and eMagazines from a range of different apps, including Libby, Overdrive, Zinio and PressReader. For a full list of our apps visit: <u>https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-historyand-archives/libraries/find-an-item/ebooks-and-eaudio</u> If you have any issues downloading your titles, you can get support from staff by emailing <u>libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk</u>

For children there are regular Storytimes, Bounce & Rhyme sessions, Brick Building Club, reading challenges, and a virtual reading group, among other things. All are available across our social media channels – more info below.

Online reference subscriptions available from home include Encyclopedia Britannica, Times Digital Archive, plus others. Login requirements may vary between titles.

The Business and Intellectual Property Centre can answer enquiries by email, contact bipcnorfolk@norfolk.gov.uk

If you need help learning how to use online services, register for Learn My Way and enter the name of your local library into the 'Centre' box for free online learning. <u>https://www.learnmyway.com/</u>

There are a range of Norfolk Library podcasts to brighten your mood.

The Norfolk Heritage Centre Podcast

Norfolk Libraries – Escape with a Poem

Around the World in 80 Books: Classics in Translation

If you're missing your local book group, why not join the Norfolk Borrowers Facebook group? You'll be able to share what you're reading with others and get lots of recommendations to add to your 'to be read' piles. Just search The Norfolk Borrowers in Facebook.

Website, Social Media, and Contact Info:

Facebook: @NorfolkLibrariesUK or @LoddonLibrary; Twitter: @NorfolkLibs;

Instagram: norfolklibraries; YouTube: NorfolkLibraries

Website: https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-history-and-archives/libraries



01508 520688

bakery, café & crafts

10am-12noon Chedgrave church With craft activities, chat and a different sort of church

Loddon Players



We are pleased to tell you that we have made the following donations to various charities and local societies.

Loddon & District Day Care Centre £375 Hallswood Animal Sanctuary £375 Norfolk Blood Bikes £375 Playpark (Chedgrave Parish Council) £375 Funky Feet (Floor Fund) £375 Eastern Rivers Community Gym £50 Dementia U.K. (Songs of Praise collection) £90.60

These donations would not be possible without you, the audience, so a big 'thank you' for your continued support for our productions. We hope to see you again before too long.

It has been evident, during these past few months of lockdown, that many of us have been enjoying the delights of the natural world on our doorsteps.



It has been found that the enforced shut down of

much of our busy lives has shown to have benefited the health of those who have taken advantage of this situation. We have had the time to notice the flora and fauna that, in usual everyday circumstances is generally missed. Our creatures too seem to have been able to flourish and increase, in many areas, due to the general lack of disturbance.

On our daily allotted walks many have been rediscovering places much nearer to home, that are just as beautiful as those we usually travel to find.

Sadly, during this time, many of the crucial grasses and wildflowers that are so important for our insect life, in particular, have recently disappeared under the flail and our daily exercise has been far less enjoyable. There seem to be several authorities responsible for this, all of whom are being lobbied by many of us who err on the side of nature, to desist from their regimes or, at least, to change their timing to a later part of the year. This could then be carried out when flowers have seeded, insects have bred and birds have nested and young are fledged.

Two of our local wildlife groups, The Chet Valley B-Line and The South Yare Wildlife Group are both working to encourage everyone to appreciate the need to leave nature to its own devices more. We really do have to stop our incessant efforts to control every tiny space that could be left alone, at least for the few crucial months between March and September. If verges, banks, and open areas, including house frontages, could be left unmown along with our own wild patches in our gardens, maybe next year we will be able to enjoy our home territory and all it has to offer, in more relaxed times. Carol Webb.

Cannell's Farm Shop has re IFI 1" -opened and we will be TA PROD FARM PRODUCE practising social distancing, plus we will be offering a delivery service to Loddon - Fresh Fruit & Veg and Surrounding Villages, - Jams, Chutneys & Pickles of fresh fruit and veg, fresh - Coffee from Give It Some Beans milk, eggs etc. Zero Waste Wholefoods - Fresh Eggs, Duck Eggs Mon—Fri 8-5 - Fresh Fruit & Veg Boxes Sat 8-2 - Free Local Delivery - & more Email for an order form cannellsfarmproduce@gmail.com Open Monday - Friday 8am - 4.30pm Saturday 8am - 2pm Or call 01508 520994 to Langley Road Trading Estate, Chedgrave NR14 6HD place an order www.cannellsfarmproduce.co.uk **BRIDGE STORES** WINDMILL COTTAGE KENNELS & GROOMING A caring, family run kennels, Newsagent & Convenience Store in a picturesque countryside setting Pay Food and bedding provided in individual, heated kennels. Dogs walked twice a day 24 hr Cash Machine - Free Withdrawals in our own private paddock. Groceries & Confectionery Beers, Wines & Spirits Tel: 01502 678172 Cigarettes & Tobacco Thorpe Road, Haddiscoe, NR14 6PP Newspaper & Magazine Deliveries www.windmillcottagekennels.com Stationery & Greeting Cards Toys & Gifts Fax, Photocopy & Laminating Service TV Cabin Dry Cleaning 01508 528940 FREE HOME DELIVERY Langley Rd Trading Est, Chedgrave Within 3 miles radius when £15 or more spent Opposite The White Horse Pub (Excluding Lottery) Telephone orders are accepted **TELEVISION & STEREO REPAIRS OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK TV AERIALS INSTALLED** Mon-Sat 5.30am to 9pm Sunday 5.30am to 8pm DYSON VACUUM CLEANER REPAIRS 41 Bridge Street, Loddon S/H DYSONS FOR SALE (opposite Loddon Staithe) **BATTERIES & BULBS** Tel 01508 520699 WATCH BATTERY FITTING

The Sisland Chronicle

The Virus plague has, in a short space of time, taught us a lot about human behaviour, not least of the small businesses who have pulled out all the stops to ensure that those confined to their homes have been supplied with essential items. In towns and villages people have picked up 'phones and i-pads to keep in touch with those in need to ensure that a semblance of normal life is maintained. As for those who have cared for the victims of the virus, no praise can be high enough, although as a nurse said the other day "we're not heroes – we are just doing the job we trained for". I think this could be an under-statement!

Scientists often surprise me with their wide range of work. Dr Anthony Dodds of the John Innes Institute in Norwich has been studying the circadian rhythms of plants, which tells them what to do, and when. He found that they are much better at recovering from 'Jetlag' than we are! This 'clock' also ensures that Night scented Stock knows when to open its blooms and switch on its alluring scent on summer evenings, and off again at dawn.

On the hottest day of the year our borehole pump expired, and suddenly being without water, with a kitchen garden burgeoning with crops, concentrated the mind. Fortunately it was soon put right, but not before our rainwater tanks were nearly empty. Not surprising really, as in May we only had 4mm of the stuff, but being dry did seem to have a beneficial effect on butterflies. Sisland also benefited by a visit from cuckoos' in May, a welcome return of a sound that seems rather sporadic these days. **Sislanda**

Hi – **Freddie here,** I'm not a dog to complain – but a chap in a fur coat like me feels the sun has been overdoing it a bit recently. T. has been muttering too – about the amount of water that his plants drink; would you believe they suck it up through their roots,

but don't make a sound! When it is hot I have been spending a lot of time on a big comfy stool near a window which lets in lots of cool air – it also lets in lots of smells so that I know what's going on outside. I'm not keen on cats you know; I chased one up a tree the other day, and kept him there for ages – until it was time for our elevenses. I don't think he'll come back! J. says that some dogs help people and guide them, and even pick up the phone when it rings! The trouble is I'm not big enough to do that sort of thing– but I am a working dog – it says that on my biscuit packet – rats are my speciality! Keep safe. **Cheers Freddie**

Holy Trinity Bell Ringers

As with every other aspect of our daily lives, Coronavirus hit the bellringing world with all events and local plans immediately cancelled after the Government announcements. The ringers at Loddon are all of various ages and some went into self isolation straight away to keep away from others. To stay in touch, a Whatsapp group was set up and has proved very useful not only for communicating but also for our mental well being and to be able to make sure everyone is ok and not lonely at this challenging time. 'm sure as and when we are all able to get back to some form of normality, the bells at Holy Trinity will once again ring out over Loddon. **Steve Rabong**





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During these difficult times we are aware that some people are in need. Perhaps these can be of help to you:

Loddon Town Estate Trust

What does the Trust do?

We can offer small grants to people who live in Loddon who are going through a difficult time in their lives. The Trust is made up of two strands, welfare and education. Grants are made in proven circumstances, which means you must prove that you need help. However, we really want to help if we can!

Who can apply to the Trust?

The Trust is for anyone who lives in Loddon.

What might the Trust pay for?

These are some of the things we might help to fund:

- Household necessities such as a washing machine or cooker.
- Disability aids.
- Bathroom adaptations such as shower.
- Equipment for educational activities.
- Help to access education or training opportunities.

How do you apply to the Trust?

To find out more about how the Loddon Town Estate Trust might help you, contact the Secretary:

Ann Lumley: 01508 528141 or by post to 1 Harvey Green, Loddon, NR14 6UB.

Please remember that we will need to ask some questions about what you can afford, and why you need a grant. We don't have a big pot of money, so we must make sure we use it wisely.

Chedgrave Church Discretionary fund

We can offer small grants to people living in the parish of Chedgrave who are going through a difficult time in their lives. Please remember that we will need to ask some questions about what you can afford, and why you need a grant. We don't have a big pot of money, so we must make sure we use it wisely.

How do you apply to the Discretionary Fund?

Please contact either Rev David Owen (01508 522993 <u>david.chetvalley@gmail.com</u>) or Rev Alison Ball (01508 528126 (<u>ball880am@btinternet.com</u>)

Foodbank

Please contact Rev David Owen about how to access Foodbank boxes in the Chet Valley (01508 522993 david.chetvalley@gmail.com)

The Hollies

Food is available to collect by people in need in the front lobby of The Hollies thanks to @morrisons. It is open from 9am—4pm, Mondays-Saturdays. Take a bag and fill it with what you need.

Please contact Heather Tew 01508 520528 for further details of how to access this resource.

Home Tutor Needed ?



Leigh has been in Norfolk classrooms since 2009 and is based in Poringland

Q. Does your child need a helping hand to catch-up or to get ahead?

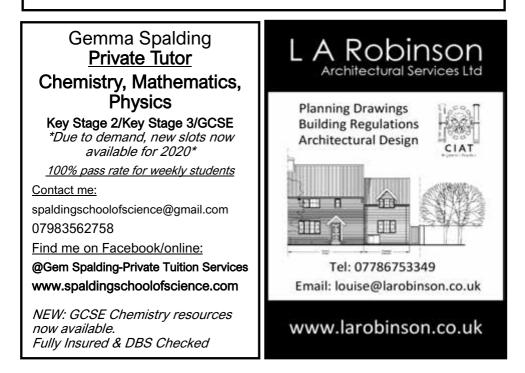
Q. Are they worried about SATS or do they just need some extra confidence?

"As a fully qualified teacher I have taught children from Reception to Year 6."

"I still teach and have a current Enhanced Disclosure DBS Certificate. I charge £25 per hour. Lessons – Late afternoon/Early evenings/Weekends/Holidays.""I still teach and have a current Enhanced Disclosure DBS Certificate. I charge £25 per hour. Lessons – Late afternoon/Early evenings/Weekends/Holidays."

Contact Leigh Cole on 07766 705988 or leighcole1@gmail.com

"Quote 'Loddon Contact' for a 1st lesson discount. Meet me beforehand for your peace of mind."



Poetry from local writers

2020—Lock in Marriage!

Wiv bin in this 'ere bungalow Jus' doing what we're told For nearly 13 weeks now. And I'm feelin' kinda old.

I thought I'd do some knitting. Round the needles red wool whirred. But my square turned to a triangle 'cause I'd *plained* instead of *purled*.

I'd like to have me hair done, Put polish on me nails. But I'll 'ave to get my rollers out And perm, if all else fails.

For comfort I went bra-less But that weren't a good idea. They swung about like pendulums Right up to me ear.

I'll look sexy for me hubby, Make a bulge in them there flies. Wore a G-string and red lipstick, 'boufed' me hair, and flashed me eyes.

He came in from the garden, Then looked me up and down. "You'll get a chill if you sit like that, I'll get your dressing gown"

Well, if he won't please me, blow him! So I cooked, then mopped the floor. I'll be off to take my steaming pie To the nice young man next door! Jeanne Sinclair

Ring of flames

A small spark, a quarter of a world away, set a fire by the Yangtze River. Winds fanned the flames, blew embers here and there, started new blazes, ever distant. Lives, livelihoods consumed

in the conflagration, ways of life laid waste.

As we watch our embers cool, we yearn for times without the stench of smoke:

we yearn for times before the match was struck. Richard Y. Ball

Church Services				
5 th July				
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		
12 th July				
8.00am	Holy Communion	St Margaret's Hardley		
9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints, Chedgrave		
10.45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon		
19 th July				
10.45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon		
11.00am	All Together Worship	All Saints, Chedgrave		
5.00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)	St Mary, Sisland		
26 th July				
9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave		
10.30am	Morning Worship	St Margaret, Hardley		
10.45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon		
6.30pm for 7.00pm	Last Sunday Praise	Holy Trinity, Loddon		

Church Services during the Covid-19 pandemic

At present our churches are shut and will continue to be so until further notice. However, prayer and worship has not stopped!

On Sundays, our services are available on our YouTube channel: Chet Valley Churches. The URL for each service and a pdf is on the church website (www.chetvalleychurches.org). If you would like a paper copy of the Sunday service, please contact one of the clergy.

It is possible that we may be open for worship again in July. The dates and times given are indicative of services that may happen in the Chet Valley but we will need to follow government guidelines.

Every day	Monday	Holy Trinity, Loddon
Momina	Tuesday	St. Margaret, Hardley
Morning Prayer 9.00am	Wednesday	All Saints, Chedgrave
	Thursday	Holy Trinity, Loddon
	Friday	St Mary, Sisland
All Welcome	Saturday	All Saints, Chedgrave

From 15th June some of our churches may be open for private prayer on some days of the week. We have to adhere to government and Church of England guidelines about maintaining social distancing, use of hand sanitisers... in the buildings. Please be mindful of instructions if you visit one of our churches that is open.

Other Services in St John's, Loddon		
Every Saturday 6.00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	
Tuesdays 7.30pm- 8.30pm	COME AND PRAY	
	If you would you like to spend some time in prayer with a small group of people you are welcome to come along to	
	'Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection'	
	3 rd Tuesday Midweek Communion with Blessing	
	All are welcome	
Thursdays during school term	Xtra! 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	

Please contact Rev Alison (ball880am@btinternet.com) about arrangements for Xtra!

Please contact Rev Jill (jillhaylock@aol.com) about arrangements for Tuesday Prayer and Reflection.

Please contact Father Padraig (office@east-angliadiocese.org.uk) for details of Catholic services.

COMMUNITY GROUPS NEWS & EVENTS

Loddon Flower Club

Contact Tricia Godfrey on 01508 480522 or <u>tricia646@aol.com</u> or take a look at our new website at <u>www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk</u> We are available to arrange flowers for family occasions.

Loddon Women's Institute

The members of Loddon WI have been keeping in contact with each other. We have circulated a monthly newsletter to keep everyone up to date with the Federation News and our own. It is unlikely that we shall meet together again as a group until later in the year. However, we are hoping to maybe have an afternoon outdoor meeting in August. We have been busy puzzling, reading, gardening and crafting. Prem baby hats are still be knitted. We are also hoping to produce a 'Lockdown Journal' with a contribution from each of our members. Contact us through our website; or Facebook, or via LoddonWI@gmail.com.

Chedgrave & District Women's Institute

Our usual meeting place is All Saints Church Centre, Chedgrave at 2pm. Unless otherwise specified, meetings are held there on the 4th Tuesday of the month, at 2pm. For further details, please contact Rosemary Whettem on 01508 528291

Langley with Hardley Women's Institute

The group meets on the third Tuesday of every month, starting at 7:30pm at Langley with Hardley Village Hall. Further details from Secretary Gillian Ball 01508 528182 or President Judy Wilson 01508 522051

Loddon & Chedgrave Ladies 8 o'clock Club

Sadly, not operating at present due to the Covid 19 pandemic. We are a friendly group meeting each month for a talk from a guest speaker and refreshments. Usual time 8pm at the Brian Clarke Meeting Rooms, Mallard Close, Chedgrave.

For more information contact Hillary 01508 520457 or June 01508 528853

Patient Participation Group

Our meetings are mpt currently taking place and we will advise all through Contact when normal service is likely to resume.

Footballers Wanted!

A friendly, relaxed group of guys of all ages and abilities who meet at Hobart Astroturf every **Monday** evening from 8.30pm-9.30pm for a non-competitive kick-about to keep fit and socialise. We are looking for like minded people to join us once restrictions are lifted. Cost £2.50 per session, first session free.

For more details, please contact Terry on: 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

Short Tennis Club

Come and join our friendly non-competitive club on **Tuesdays 11.30am** - **1pm** at the Jubilee Hall. All welcome. For more information call 01508 520589.

Hales & Loddon Cricket Club

For details contact Pete on 07931711323 or <u>Pete.dye@canaries.co.uk</u> The Club run teams in the Norfolk Alliance as well as the Norfolk League, as well as teams at U9/11/13 age groups.

If you would like to play, whatever your age or ability, you'll be very welcome at Hales and Loddon. All our Youth Coaches are DBS checked and are qualified to work in youth Cricket. We are just off the A146 after the roundabout near Hales.

Ashby St Mary Cricket Club

We are a small village club, who plays home games at Ashby Hall "The Meadow", a wonderful location. We play competitive friendlies on a Sunday afternoon, also midweek 20 over games April—September. If you are new to the area, not played for a while, or perhaps want a change in clubs - call us.

Come and join us—you will enjoy it! For more information, please contact Paul on 01508 218078.







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Loddon Community Gym

As I write this in early June, we are still in lockdown even though there has been some easing of restrictions. Schools, shops and businesses are tentatively opening their doors but social distancing is still mandatory. Hopefully by the next issue of Contact in September there will be better news. When the government allows and when our

committee feels it is safe to do so, the Gym will reopen. Those on our e-mailing list will be informed by email. Please also check local social media and this website for updates: <u>www.loddoncommunitygym.com</u>

In the meantime I am sure that you are all doing your best to keep fit and well. It is lovely to see so many people out enjoying a walk or cycle ride in the sunshine and, if Loddon and Chedgrave are anything to go by, gardens across the country will be stunning this summer though a little more rain (at night time please) would be very welcome. Take care, until we met again at Jubilee Hall, George Street, Loddon

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

Jubilee Short Mat Bowls Club

Calling all bowlers and non bowlers. Do you fancy bowling throughout the year? Why not give short mat bowls a try. Free taster session on your first visit. Then just £2.50 a week. Join us on Tuesdays 1.30-3.30pm at Jubilee Hall. Bowls can be provided, just bring indoor flat shoes. Further information from Sara 01508 521958

Royal British Legion–Loddon & District Branch

Not much has changed since last month, but we hope you all had chance during the lockdown to see our branch VE Day display in Young's

window. We look forward to celebrating the 75th anniversary of VJ Day in August, although what form this will take we do not yet know. Look for details in August's issue of this magazine.

Thank you to Colin and Christine Hartley for keeping branch members informed and cheered up, and we hope that, now there seems to be a slight chink in the lockdown rules, it won't be too long until things return to some semblance of normal and we can all start meeting again in person.

In the meantime, Christine Hartley as Secretary can keep you updated with help and advice. As usual, she can be contacted by phone on 01508 521136.

Loddon and Chedgrave District Society

Contact June on 01508 528853 for further details unless otherwise stated.

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.







Loddon Community Cinema

The cinema is suspended until further notice for the safety of our community.

Social Whist

We meet every second and fourth Friday of the month though there is no pressure to attend every month We welcome 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, Jane Hale, on 01508 528875.

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 and meet new people? 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. Meetings start at 10am and finish around midday with the option of staying for lunch. Several of our members do.

We are a friendly informal club, jackets and ties not required. Members range in age from 60 to almost 100. We have guest speakers with topics range from clocks, Whitehall, cartoons, space and even stagecoach journeys to Norwich.

Meetings are: currently suspended.

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.

All meetings are regrettably cancelled due to the current health crisis.

Undaunted, and despite being a non-profit organisation with limited funds, the Club has decided to contribute the generous sum of £500 to the Cambridge University Covid-19 Research Programme - <u>https://shar.es/aHqXxZ</u>. This is in addition to its usual more modest donations to local charities each year.

For further details contact the secretary: John McCormack, 5a Norton Road,

Chet Valley Photography Club

All money raised by our displays goes to worthy causes. For more details about our club please see our website: <u>www.chetvalleyphotography.org.uk</u>



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Reflections from Lockdown

As a single parent with grown up children I was, this weekend, allowed to find a bubble buddy, so I was reunited with my daughter and three-year-old grandson after being apart for too many weeks to count. It was blissful. The hugs, the love, the joy, the hugs, the laughter, and the hugs. A tactile man, I have greatly missed the physical touch of another person and, given the opportunity, I did not want to let either of them go. Now reflective, listening to mellow tunes on a Sunday evening, I am beginning to process the enormity of those magical few hours.

I do not like what is happening in the world. It frightens me. I am frightened because of the tragic stories I hear. I am frightened at our lack of understanding of this dreadful disease, and even more frightened when our politicians and leaders pretend that they do understand it. I am frightened of what might happen in the winter, and I am frightened of how it is affecting our mental health. I am frightened that we are becoming numb because we are being bombarded with statistics – "896 died yesterday, and another 788 today" – and frightened that we may not be properly equipped to deal with the ensuing grief once we find whatever our "new normal" becomes.

I don't seem to be able to cry any more. When I read "pregnant nurse, 28, dies of coronavirus" I howled. I sobbed. It seemed so real, so fresh, so raw, so relatable, and yet every one of the thousands of people still being affected directly by awful circumstances – death, pain, isolation, poverty, anxiety, uncertainty – is undergoing their own challenge, facing their own mountain, and I feel so helpless. I can not help feeling that the processing of these awful events will take many months, and impact on many thousands of lives.

After a recent unexpected change in my life circumstances I took time and space to reflect and to listen. Time in some of the world's poorest regions helped me to re-calibrate my priorities in life, and I returned home with a renewed belief in humanity in all its beauty. I met and lived with people who owned almost nothing, but willingly shared everything. This helped me remember the importance of community and the wonder of society.

If there is a positive side to what we are enduring it is that we are taking opportunities to demonstrate this human beauty. Who would have believed that we could willingly sacrifice so much of what we took for granted in life and adapt to a world with new rules and a new vocabulary?

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Reflections from Lockdown continued

"Social distancing" and "furloughing" are accepted and commonplace. We have defined "key workers". There is no sport, no pubs, and few shops. We cross the road to avoid people walking towards us. We stand on spots or behind lines. Screens have appeared, as have masks and gloves. We have stood in our streets, united, and shown our appreciation for health workers and, in so doing, we have re-ignited a community spirit that I last remember seeing in the street parties to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

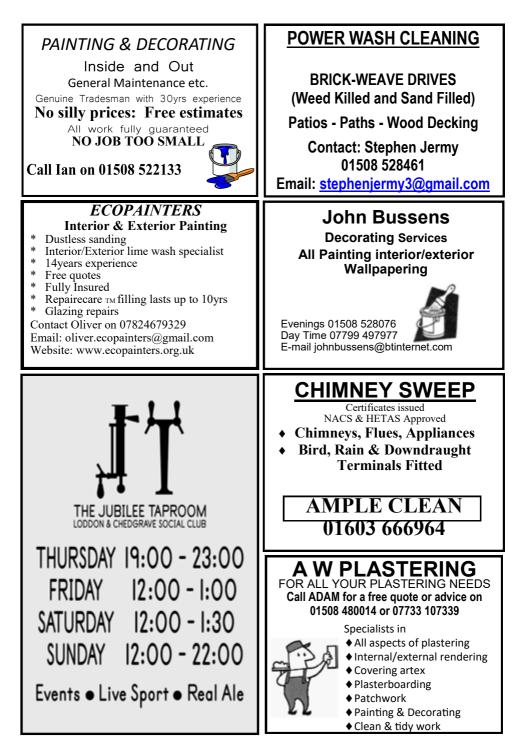
Loddon and Chedgrave are particularly special. We were one of the first to set up a community volunteer hub to support the elderly and vulnerable in our society. The love and kindness shown by that group, and many other unrecognised volunteers, is

inspirational. Buying some shopping, delivering a prescription, popping around for a welfare check, doing a quick favour, or simply reminding a neighbour that we are available if they need us are all wonderful and worthy gestures.

My hope for the future is a simple one. I hope we can support each other through challenges as we face them, now and later. I hope we can learn and accept that life does not have to run at its usual fast pace, and I hope we remember the love and kindness we can show each other when we put our minds to it. Let us not yearn for what we once had but, instead, let us learn from these experiences and be mindful of them as we continue this journey together.

Tony Bown





PARKINSONS

Would you like to meet other Parkinsons sufferers? We will normally 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.

Davy Place Social Club

Hello from everyone at the Davy Place Social Club.

Thank you to two very kind people who have donated a piano stool and a tea trolley for our residents to use in the Davy Place Common Room. We are very grateful for your generous gifts.

Our exercise classes on Tuesday and Friday mornings continue to be good fun and are proving to be very beneficial. We have a few spaces available for our Friday morning sessions with personal fitness instructor Mike, of Long Stratton Leisure Centre. If you are interested in joining us contact Janet—see below

Bingo is held every Monday afternoon, eyes down at 2pm.

Please contact Janet 01508 522115 for further information about any or our activities or events. Thank you.

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.



For up to date info contact Bev on 07826 299290.

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

Loddon and District Horticultural Society

Schedules for our Annual Open Show in September are likely to be reviewed in the light of the Covid 19 pandemic.

Show Secretary Tricia on 01508 520273 or patricialoades@btinternet.com. Will produce information when available.

For other information contact:

Secretary Hazel on 07765098345 or <u>happyhaze50@gmail.com</u> Chairman Jean on 01502 710024 or <u>jeancope52@gmail.com</u>

Follow us on our Facebook page or take a look at our webpage on www.loddon.org

Chedgrave Church Centre Hire

All Saints Church Chedgrave has a lovely church centre attached to it which has been open for over 25 years. There are two rooms (one upstairs), a kitchen and a loo. There are wheeled tables which are easy to move and put up. It is warm even in the winter! It is available to book with a suggested donation of £8 per hour. If you are looking for a venue for a meeting, a party, or an activity do contact Jack Barwick who is responsible for hall bookings on jackbarwick@yahoo.co.uk

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Gluing yourself to the pavement too uncomfortable, but want to do something positive to help the environment? Here it is!

The Bergh Apton Conservation Trust, supported by the South Yare Wildlife Group, Norfolk Wildlife Trust, and



others, is leading a project to create a pollinator friendly corridor centred on the Chet from its source in Poringland all the way to the Yare: **The Chet Valley B-Line**.

We are looking to recruit people to help with a range of tasks including promoting the aims of the project by speaking to Parish Councils, local clubs and societies; giving advice on pollinator friendly gardening; lobbying for change; organising or helping with planting projects; and monitoring and recording pollinator numbers. Training will be provided where necessary.

B-Involved If you have experience or are just enthusiastic and want to make a practical difference please contact any of the following:

Dr Anthony Davy	01508 558453	<u>a.davy@uea.ac.uk</u>
Andrew Milner	07939134326	milnerandrew9@gmail.com
Rodney Aldis	07909 5406	72 rodneyaldis@ymail.com

Eco Checklist	
I take regular walks in the countryside and notice what trees and flowers are there	
I always pick up litter when I see it	
I am going to wear last years' summer clothes	
I support a project helping sustainable farming another country	
I compost my waste food and other compostable items	
l grow my own vegetables	
I have planted bee-friendly shrubs	
I can recognise common birds and butterflies	
I cycle or walk as much as possible	
I use zero-waste shops and take my own bags when I shop	



Loddon and District Local History Group

Work continues slowly with the Churchwardens Accounts transcriptions. One of the delights is the vagaries of the spelling. A word that appears in many of the years is soldiers, but when I first started the transcriptions I was confused by sogers, solgurs, souldyers, souldgers and other variations. The entries often related to collections for "maimed soldiers" by the County Chief Constable. Then even more than now, provision for soldiers released from service, and particularly those injured was poor. Many became vagrants begging and stealing and different monarchs attempted to solve the problem by encouraging local charitable provision and later taxation. In 1602 we find the payment of $4/4^{d}$ for a years payment. By 1626 we find a bulk collection of $11/11^{d}$ "for halfe a yere due at midsum 1626 for the marshallseas Kings bench{courts down in London} & prisoners in the Castell & maimed souldgers"

Loddon also had to provide men and arms for the militia. In the 1590's they paid 19/- to the Constables for setting forth of Soldiers, and 4/1 to setting forth certain footmen to Ireland. **In 1599** there seems to have been a muster at Dereham, and Loddon provided Powder for the Petronel(*a long barrelled gun fired with the barrel suported on a stick and the butt against the chest*), making the Petronel coat(*a thick padded jacket to protection*) good, and the cost of having the men at the muster.

Pd the xxiiij of July to the Constable for the muster master	
Payd the fifte of auguste for the peternel coate making last	
Payd for gimponder for the peteteserne withal at deared	
P to Thomas nashe & Thomas Ad For ther charges & ther horses at deream	
Payd for my charges whe I w?? to Newmarket with the sogers viij	
Pd for the peternell mending & for the church gate	

In 1600 A q^{tr} li gunpowder to the petronell

iiij^d

In 1601 John Fox tenant of the Town Lands entered the following bill to the Churchwarden:

more of him the sayde John Fox for his sayde halfe yeeres fearme due at the Feaste of St Mychaell the Archeangell in the sayde yeere of owre Lorde 1601 there beinge before Layde out by him to the use of the towne w[i]th the Consent of the Feoffes and townsmen of Loddon

Firste for the settinge forthe of 4 soldeyers	56 [°]
for the mayned soldyers	3 ^s 3 ^d
for the setting forthe of the petrenells	2 ^s

In 1619

Memer[andum] delivered to William Mickleborough fearmer to our Towne :a Muskett, headpiece, bandaleres, staffe, Sword, dagger, Moule, worme, scourer, girdle and bagg

M[emorandum] The Towne doth owe to John davy 40^s



Read Any Good Books Lately?

"Where is human nature so weak as in the bookstore?"

Henry Ward Beecher, 1813 - 1887

"Normal People," by Sally Rooney

Some of you may have seen the recent dramatisation of this book, but even if you have it is well worth taking the time to read just what the playwright decided to base the television programme on. Two young people, Marianne and Connor, come from very different backgrounds, but live in the same Irish village, go to the same school, and have a very strong sense of attraction to each other. Both being highly intelligent academically, when they leave school they go on to study at Trinity College, Dublin. This is not a straightforward tale of romance, however. They each take up with others from High School days onwards, but something always draws them back to each other.

Sally Rooney has adopted a unique style of narrative in writing this novel; it may strike you as odd at first, but once you begin to accept it you may well enjoy it. The content of the novel is often moving and the ending is definitely so.

"Sweet Sorrow," by David Nicholls

This is the fifth novel written by this extremely talented author, the earlier four being "Starter For Ten," "One Day," "The Understudy," and "Us." "Sweet Sorrow" is the longest of the five. Charlie, the teenager at the centre of the book, is having a hard time. His parents' divorce has upset him in several ways - he stops caring about school work; he dislikes living with, and virtually having to look after, his father; he indulges in a sort of petty theft regularly and he has no real self respect. He doesn't know what to do with himself to make life any better and he doesn't enjoy looking ahead to the future. This is all changed by a chance meeting of a small amateur dramatic group and in particular by a girl called Fran. Again this is most definitely not a straightforward tale of romance; the author has used the quotation "sweet sorrow" (from Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet) most aptly. To know more, you will have to read the book!

All age groups feature in this novel. David Nicholls seems to have a genuine understanding of any age group and he writes about young and old with equal sensitivity. He also weaves together a very good plotline!

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"Deception," by Ken McClure

A really good thriller, this. There is a most unusual plot centring on GM crops and rats, which have become larger and even more vicious than usual. DSI Steven Dunbar is sent undercover to find out what is going on in the small village where the GM crops are being grown, with instructions to find out what is making the rats so remarkably large and so very aggressive that they have killed a teenage boy and attacked others, including grown men. Steven is an ex-policeman and ex-military person who works for a hush-hush branch of intelligence known as Sci-med. He befriends a local journalist who is happy to help him and also he falls in love with one of the local young women he meets while trying to solve this very complex mystery.

Ken McClure writes well, building the tension all the time. He can make you want to put other things to one side so that you can keep turning the pages until the very end.

Loddon WEA

The decision has been taken by the WEA National Office that there are to be no face-to-face talks this Autumn in any of the branches. A number of talks are nevertheless going to be given on line. Anyone who is a member of the WEA will be able to sign up for any of these talks from July 13th (July 20th for non-members) but this will have to be on the initiative of the individual; the local Loddon branch will not be involved in the on-line programme. To find what is on offer, go on line to: 'WEA Eastern region', and then to the section labelled: "Find a course".

If all goes well, the usual ten-week programme of face-to-face talks on Mondays in the Jubilee Hall will resume in January 2021. It had been arranged for Mr. Stephen Poulter to come to Loddon this September to start a series of talks on "The History and Heritage of E. Anglia". Our hope is that he will still be able to come here in January instead. As the song says, however: "The future's not ours to see", but we hope for the best! There will be another announcement in November or December.

Plants for Sale

Chedgrave Spring Fair and Plant Sale and Loddon Open Gardens have been cancelled. However, if you would normally buy plants at these occasions, there is still the opportunity to do so.

Chedgrave Spring Fair Plants are available on a stall at the bottom end of Hillside in Chedgrave.

Loddon Open Gardens Plants are available at Avocet, Norwich Road, Chedgrave.

There are herbs and much more. Stock replenished regularly. Do go and have a look.



Nature Notes

We might still be in lockdown, but it has been amazing what you can see and hear either through a window or from your garden.

Since the June Nature Notes the Greater Spotted Woodpecker finally stopped daily drumming on the 16th May, so he was "head banging" for over two months. We do see both the male and female most days flying from wherever their nest is to where they are collecting food for their young and back.

Rachel has now heard the cuckoo, though not as regular as in previous years. We saw our first Hobby on the 14th May, when we watched three of them mobbing a buzzard. Early the following morning while feeding our chickens, I was aware of something swooping past me followed by a distressed call from a small bird. Looking up I saw a Hobby fly off with its noisy prey. Their main prey are dragon flies which they catch and eat while flying. I have enjoyed watching them doing this on various occasions in the past. The Hobby is a migratory bird of prey spending the summer with us. They resemble the shape of a large swift.

Having mentioned dragonflies, we have been able to identify some in our garden, Four Spot and Broad Chasers, Blue tailed Damsels and the green-eyed Norfolk Hawker. We were also fascinated to watch a damsel fly nymph climb up a yellow iris, from our pond and later see its adult self by the now empty nymph case. Unfortunately, it had not developed its coloration for us to identify though I think it was probably a Blue Tailed Damsel.

Towards the end of May the garden seemed to be invaded by a variety of young birds, initially by starlings, then house sparrows and blue tits. The latter being fledglings from one of our nest boxes. We had a sparrow fly into our bungalow and while I was trying to usher it back out of the door it decided to land on the front of my jumper and cling on until I was outside!

We are still regularly seeing a Red Kite. It is particularly fascinating watching it fly effortlessly, holding its position by slight movements of its tail while everything else was being blown sideways because of the strong winds. On the marsh beyond our property is a drainage ditch and so far, there are a family of Mute Swans, Mallard ducks and Moorhens. Pandemonium breaks out amongst the smaller birds when a Marsh Harrier flies up the ditch just above the water, which gives us amazing views of this bird. Fortunately for the ducklings and moorhen chicks they have survived these low-level attacks.

Since the beginning of being confined to our bungalow our list of birds seen in or from the garden has reached 70. At least from the 1st June I have been able to take the dogs out for a walk. It was invigorating to walk down Hardley Staithe early that Monday morning listening to the cacophony of bird song. Our dogs also enjoyed the freedom. Hopefully as the Summer progresses more restrictions will be lifted. However, I must admit that having to remain in the boundary of our home, has made us appreciative of what is right under our nose and can so easily be missed.

Richard and Rachel Hull





Gardening Notes

From the allotment ...

We are now entering the most productive period and we should all be enjoying picking and eating the results of our hard work, but also learning a few lessons. Though I know better I was tempted by the sunny weather into planting out courgettes too early and they were really damaged by the late hard frosts and had to be replaced. The new shoots on my vines were also killed and only after two weeks did the secondary buds (next years) start to shoot. I am resigned to a poor crop for two years. Still its only a hobby and not like the Chet Valley Vineyard who think their whole Chardonnay crop may be lost. Potatoes suffered the usually blackening of the tops, but soon bounced back, though I did cover these with straw to limit the damage. As I did the Sweet Potatoes + fleece to hold it in place. On the positive side I have finished picking the November planted crop of broad beans and now started on the Spring ones, the first peas, radish, lettuce, rocket, asparagus, new potatoes, rhubarb, chard and spinach are all being eaten. The bees and other insects have been hard at work pollinating and this week (4th June) I picked enough strawberries for two meals and 4 lbs of jam. More soft fruit will soon follow. The loganberry is loaded with fruit as are the gooseberries and blueberries. Raspberries will soon be. This is why I have an allotment.

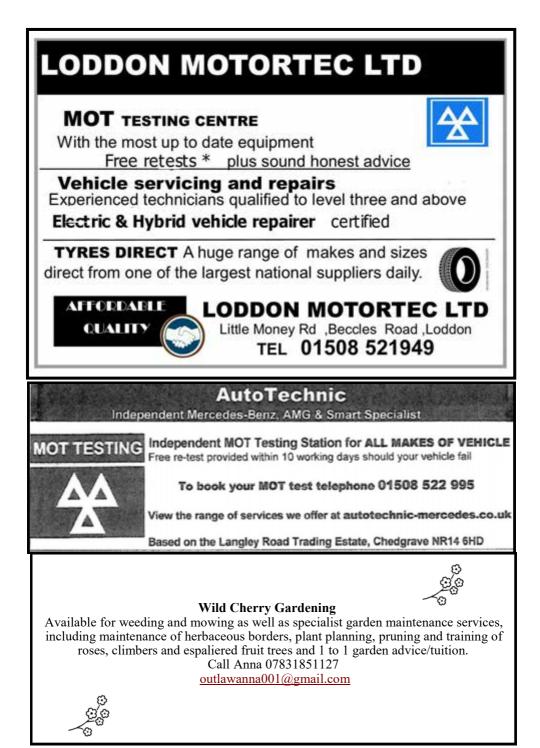
Not the Open Gardens...

If we had been able to run Loddon Open Gardens this year it would have taken place on a very cold, wet weekend at the beginning of June, when our gardens might have looked a bit sorry for themselves. Of course the event didn't run, but we do have some stunning photos of the gardens taking part, taken in bright sunshine.

If you would like to take a virtual tour round the garden trail, go to <u>www.chetvalleychurches.org</u> and follow the link to Loddon Open Gardens. The tour is entirely free of charge, but if you wish you can make a donation either by text or by envelope – details at the end of the tour.

For more information, please contact Nina Owen on 01508 522993 or by email: loddonopengardens@gmail.com







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