



CHET CONTACT

Produced by the Chet Valley Churches

July/August 2022



Sunday Afternoon Tea at St Mary's Sisland

Come and join us every Sunday in
August for delicious tea and cake,
and conversation.

3:00-5:00pm



Loddon Flower Club

Presents a Flower Festival to celebrate
the Queen's 70th Jubilee



THE QUEEN AND COMMONWEALTH

at St John's Church, George Lane Loddon NR14 6NB

Saturday 16th July 10 am – 3:30 pm

Sunday 17th July 10 am – 3:30 pm

Proceeds to The Church in Loddon and Loddon Flower Club

Chet Valley Churches

All Saints Chedgrave

Sean Smith

Celebrity Biographer

Talk and BBQ

Saturday 16th July

BBQ from 5:30pm

Talk starts at 7:00pm

Tickets £10 full price, £8 concessions

available from Rev Alison: ball 880am@btinternet.com



Chet Valley Churches

Open Café

**and fundraiser for
St Margaret's Hardley**



Friday 5th August

Langley with Hardley

Village Hall

11:00am-2:00pm

Lunches available

Sandwiches, jacket potatoes
with choice of fillings

All welcome!



Chet Valley Churches Information

Clergy

David Owen:	01508 522993	david.chetvalley@gmail.com
Martin Keenan:	01502 560178	martin.keenan@methodist.org.uk
Ros Hoffmann:	01508 548200	ros@hoffmann2011.plus.com
Alison Ball:	01508 528126	ball880am@btinternet.com
Jill Haylock:	01508 520248	jillhaylock@aol.com
Andrew Eburne:	01508 494770	frandreweburne@gmail.com



Church Office—closed at present.

St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon NR14 6NB

Phone: 01508 520897, Email: website.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com

The e-mail account is being monitored regularly.



Weddings, Baptisms, Thanksgiving Service for the Gift of a Child

To arrange any of the above please contact Rev David on 01508 522993.

Church Websites

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



Chet Contact

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Please include your name and telephone number.



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Disclaimer

Advertisements are included in good faith, but Chet Valley Churches do not necessarily endorse the products or services advertised. Similarly, the opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Chet Valley Churches.

From the Editor

It seems decidedly chilly this evening though we are asked to believe that we are approaching summer. Our cover would have us think differently with its decidedly Spring-like look. Why have I used that picture? Well, there was a photography competition as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and this lovely winning photograph was taken by Jared Bollington (aged 10).

Looking forward to summer with its sunny afternoons and long evenings, you will find plenty of things in this edition to keep you happy. Whether it's musical events, talks, afternoon tea, flower festivals, fetes there must be something that takes your fancy. Do go and support them; it would be good to build on the community spirit that was exhibited at the Jubilee events across the Chet Valley.

Times aren't easy at the moment! If you are one of the many people across the country who are struggling financially, and if you are resident in Loddon or Chedgrave, please do call upon the local help available: Loddon Town Estate Trust (for people living in Loddon); and Chedgrave Church Discretionary Fund (for people living in Chedgrave or who are regular members of the congregation at All Saints). They are there to be used; details on p25. Don't forget, there is also access to the Foodbank: phone 0300 365 1123—it's a free number. They'll put you in contact with the local distributors in Loddon.



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Ministerial Musings

'Thank you for staying the course. Thank you for continuing to be faithful to the pledges you made 70 years ago. Thank you for showing us how service and faithfulness matter. People of all faiths and no faiths and people of goodwill can learn from this.'

Archbishop Stephen Cottrell, June 2022.

There are no prizes for guessing where that quotation comes from, or who it is about: throughout June Her Majesty the Queen has been at the centre of attention. Surely one of the most enduring images of the Jubilee weekend was the sight of her taking tea with a small bear from darkest Peru and it was oddly touching when Paddington Bear took off his iconic hat to thank her. You don't have to be any sort of Royalist to acknowledge that this is a person who deserves thanks, because she has been dutiful and faithful to the promises she made at the beginning of her life, throughout her very long life. In the words of St Paul, she has fought the good fight, she has finished the race, she has kept the faith.

It felt good, saying thank you at the Jubilee weekend, didn't it? Saying thank you to the Queen, of course, but also to the army of volunteers and the good will that led people to make things, donate things and give their time at the Jubilee fete. It was lovely to see our community get together and to see people enjoying themselves, after the long, cold winter of Covid: thank you, Loddon and Chedgrave Parish Councils. It was heart-warming, hearing about all the families who got together over the long weekend, seeing all of the smiles and happiness that actually being together brought about.

Perhaps one of the things that has come out of the pandemic is a sense of gratitude: gratitude for family and friends, for every bit of good weather and for our beautiful county. Gratitude expressed in those thank yous to the NHS, or to our fellow citizens as they carefully stepped away to keep a safe distance. To say thank you is to acknowledge the good things in life, it helps to make us happier. Dwelling on the bad stuff drags us down. Rejoicing in the good stuff buoys us up.

But what about the times when everything seems awful? What about the people of Bucha, as their city is destroyed around them? What about ourselves, when everything seems to be going wrong? Isn't saying thank you then just insincere, or silly? Well, St Paul advised the Christians of Thessaloniki to 'give thanks in all circumstances'.

This is a challenging and difficult time for many people, with the cost of living rising, a general feeling of insecurity and a war being fought on European soil. Looking for the things we are grateful for, every day, can change our mood and strengthen our mental health. Remembering to say thank you to every single person who does us a kindness can make them feel appreciated and valued. It's a small way to change the world, but it works.

Belinda Barwick



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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 10:00am 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, starting at 11:00am (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 both 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 at about 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, Covid restriction permitting.

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.

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Thanksgivings & Baptisms



You are welcome to talk to us about thanksgiving and baptism (christening) for your children. Thanksgiving Services give an opportunity to come to the church and give thanks to God for the gift of a new child. Baptisms (Christenings) 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.

Baptisms and Thanksgivings are both held within Sunday morning worship in our churches.

Please contact Rev Alison on 01508 528126 ball880am@btinternet.com

Noah's Ark

A drop-in group for babies, toddlers and their parents and carers at St John's, George Lane, Loddon.



Wednesdays 9:15am-12:00noon.

All are welcome. For further details please call Rev Alison on 01508 528126 or e-mail: ball880am@btinternet.com

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. To join or just to know more, please contact Rev David on 01508 522993.



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:

This will be on 7th July at 12:30pm at St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon. We will have a salad lunch followed by a talk and slides by Sue Sursham on another of her adventurous travels.

If you'd like to join the group, ring Rev 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 10:00am-12 noon**. 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!*)

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From the Parish Registers

Baptisms and Thanksgivings

There were no thanksgivings or baptisms this month in our churches, so lets pray for all children across the world

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.

Weddings

Aaron James Garner and Leigh-Ann Sharon Wells

Saturday 28th May at Holy Trinity Loddon.

David Mark Rippingale and Nicola Diane Campbell

Friday 3rd June at Holy Trinity Loddon.

Those whom God has joined together let no-one put asunder.

Funerals

David Leslie Fryatt who died on 15th May 2022

Funeral: 16th June 2022 at Holy Trinity, Loddon.

Barbara Jean Francis who died on 12th May 2022

Funeral: 27th June 2022 at Holy Trinity, Loddon.

Dennis Francis Walklin who died on 22nd May 2022

Funeral: 24th June 2022 at All Saints, Chedgrave.

Daphne Hunt who died on 31st May 2022

Funeral: 30th June 2022 at Earlham 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.

I Thessalonians 4:14, 17b

To arrange a thanksgiving or baptism (christening), please contact Rev Alison on 01508 528126, or ball880am@btinternet.com.

To arrange a wedding, please contact Rev David on 01508 522993, or david.chetvalley@gmail.com.

To arrange a funeral, at any of the churches in our area or at the crematorium, please contact Rev David on 01508 522993, or david.chetvalley@gmail.com. He can also be contacted about interment of ashes.

All Saints Community Garden

On Sunday 5th July, at our Jubilee XPRESSIONS CAFE, some of our youngsters planted up our new Jubilee raised bed in the community garden. It has a range of different herbs in it so if you need some fresh herbs for your cooking, please come and help yourselves to some leaves. We also have tomato and courgette plants. Once these are fruiting, you are invited to help yourselves to some fresh vegetables.

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Queen's Platinum Jubilee: By the time you read this the fetes, parties and celebrations will be behind us, and I hope that everyone had a good time at the various events being staged around the area. The fete held on the playing field at the Jubilee Hall, Loddon was a roaring success, and it was lovely to see so many people having a fun day out. Thanks to all who came. I was pleased to be able to talk with many local people there and thank you for your suggestions on how the proceeds should be spent. I would really like to pay tribute to all the volunteers, who put in many hours to make this happen. Perhaps, if we do this again, we can encourage more people to join us. Many hands make light work.

The Staithe Footbridge: I am still awaiting some definite costings for the restoration of the footbridge. Like many others, the professionals we rely on to undertake this work, are incredibly busy. Be assured I will continue to pursue this project and will update you when I have some more news.

Speeding: Finally, I just want to mention the small number of people who think it's OK to speed through our villages. It's not OK! They are endangering the lives of pedestrians and other road users. When I see this, I wave them down and often get a two-fingered salute for my troubles. That's fine; it doesn't bother me but I'm sure it will bother them when they get a notice from the police. Yes, it is possible to report people for speeding and yes, the police do take notice. All I want is for drivers to slow down a little bit, is that too much to ask?

Please contact me at kay.masonbillig.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk if you have any issues or if I can help in any way.

Councillor Kay Mason-Billig

We're making good progress in our work with Loddon and Chedgrave Parish Councils to put together an Emergency Plan for our neighbourhoods, to ensure that help is available to every household. Please let me know if you might be interested in becoming one of the team of community wardens who will have a very important role to play if an emergency does occur.

I'd like to remind you that each District Councillor has a members' grant of £1000 for local causes. I've now allocated £600 of this. Please let me know if part of this could help your group.

And, as always, if you, or someone over-60 that you know, would like some help and maybe just some friendship, please phone ChetChat on 07876 050110.



I'm delighted to confirm that my next surgery will be 2:00-3:00pm Saturday 25th June; please drop in if I can help with anything, or just to say hello!

Please ring me anytime on 07733 323581 if I can help you, as many people do.

Jeremy Rowe



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Chedgrave Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Hayley Goldson.
Tel: 01508 528310 Email: chedgrave.pc@gmail.com
Website: <https://chedgrave-parish-council.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Chedgrave-Parish-Council>



Chedgrave Parish Council held its Meeting on 9th June 2022.

Loddon and Chedgrave Platinum Jubilee Fete: The parish council would like to thank the Loddon Parish Council Events Committee and the many helpers, stall holders, performers and sponsors who worked incredibly hard to put on a superb fete which was enjoyed by all. Congratulations and thank you!

Community Larder: The council has been approached about the possibility of setting up a “Community Larder” to assist those in need during this time of financial pressure. Any residents who feel there is a need for this in Chedgrave or who would be willing to help with this idea are encouraged to contact the Clerk, in confidence, to help establish the level of need.

Council Vacancies: The recent Jubilee Fete is a great example of the type of project parish councils are involved with and support. Please consider joining your local council and help support projects like this or something else which you think the local community would benefit from. No experience is necessary and training and support are provided. Please contact the Clerk if you have any questions.

Dog Mess: This is a problem which doesn't seem to go away! PLEASE PLEASE pick up after your dog! Poo bags can be placed in dog bins and ordinary litter bins.

BAG IT AND BIN IT!

Reporting Highways Matters: Residents can quickly and easily report highways problems to our local highways authority, Norfolk County Council. Please use the “Report a Problem” page on their website (<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem>) to report issues such as potholes and overgrown paths and verges.

Footways in Chedgrave: A polite reminder that ponies and horses should not be ridden on footways in and around Chedgrave. This includes pavements and paths such as the Wherryman's Way and the footway along Langley Road. Thank you!

Brian Clarke Room: A well-equipped modern bright room, including access to free Wi-Fi and table tennis tables. Booking enquiries should be made to Georgina Buckle via brianclarkeroom@gmail.com or 07981 856270.

Next Meeting: Thursday 7th July at 7:00pm in the Brian Clarke Room. All welcome!

Highways issues such as potholes, 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 www.norfolk.gov.uk. 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 www.norfolk.police.uk.

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We also need people with practical skills to help maintain
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Georgina Buckle

Email: brianclarkeroom@gmail.com

Tel: 07981 856270

Loddon Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Emily Curtis.

Tel: 01508 522020 Email: clerk@loddonpc.org.uk.

Website: www.loddonpc.org.uk;

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LoddonPC



Platinum Jubilee Fete: Thank you to entertainers, organisers, sponsors, volunteers, stall holders and all the people that came along to support the Platinum Jubilee Fete. We hope you all enjoyed it! And a special thank you to Loddon Parish Councillors Liz Marsham and Jessie Powell for overseeing the whole event with the assistance of the kind people from Loddon and Chedgrave who formed the Events Committee. It was a great event, and a significant amount of money was raised for local community causes—the exact amount and decision on how the funds will be allocated will be published on the Loddon Parish Council website in due course.

Freedom of Loddon Award: Congratulations to the recipient of the 2022 Freedom of Loddon award, Ron Howes. The plaque was presented to Ron at the Platinum Jubilee Fete on 4th June 2022. Photos of the ceremony will be on the Loddon Parish Council website and Facebook page.

The South Norfolk Big Litter Pick Event in Loddon: We'd love to see you at our annual litter picking event on 26th June 10:00am-12:00noon. Meet at Loddon Library on Church Plain at 10:00am. We will provide you litter pickers and sacks.

Kitten's Lane Play Area: The Play Area is looking better for a refurbishment, we hope you agree. If you have any ideas for additional equipment/improvements, please email Jo: info@loddonpc.org.uk.

Emergency Plan: Would you like to help your local community? Have you got good instincts in an emergency? An Emergency Plan is being formed for Loddon and Chedgrave and emergency volunteers are being sought. Please email: emergencyplan@loddonpc.org.uk for more information.

Loddon Tennis Club: A new tennis club has launched in Loddon, and coach Paul Solomon will be delivering junior coaching, club sessions, group coaching, ladies club and cardio tennis sessions. For more information, please see the website: www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/LoddonTennisClub or contact Paul via email: loddontennis@loddonpc.org.uk or phone Paul directly on 07368 684806.

Facilities: Should you wish to book the Library Annexe Hall, or join the Allotment waiting list, please see the Loddon Parish Council website for more details.

Future Meetings of Loddon Parish Council: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at the Library Annexe on Wednesday 13th July 2022 at 7:00pm and parishioners are welcome to attend. The minutes and agendas for the meetings are available on the Loddon Parish Council website.

Contact Loddon Parish Council: The office is open from 9:00am-12:00noon on Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Should you wish to contact the Council, please email; info@loddonpc.org. If there is a genuine Council emergency, please call 01508 486128, at any other time, please use 01508 522020.

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Hales & Heckingham Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Eleanor Bannister.

Tel: 07703 124544 Email: clerk@halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk

Website: www.halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Hales & Heckingham Parish Council](https://www.facebook.com/Hales%20&%20Heckingham%20Parish%20Council)



Next Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 6th September 2022, 7:30 pm in the Hales Assembly Hall, Briar Lane, Hales. Agendas are posted on the notice board in the bus shelter opposite Masala Garden and on our website three days before the meeting. Minutes are displayed in the same places.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Village Fete at the Playground: What a lovely day we had! The weather was kind and lots of people came! The Parish Council would like to thank the following who contributed so much to its success:

- Martin Sisley and his roadies for the great music
- Brian Frost for the electricity
- Masala Garden for the delicious food
- Georgina Buckle who pulled it all together
- Mrs Walpole and Mrs Grice for the Tombola
- Lynne Briggs for the Cakes stall
- Wendy Lockett and friends for the Books stall
- Katie and Laura Beevor for the Teddy Tombola and Lucky Dip
- Charley B for Guess the Marbles in a Jar
- Thomas B for the Peg Grab
- Alan Mason and family for the excellent Games
- Lily B and Laura Dawson for the Craft Table
- Sheila and Gillian for the Plant stall
- Craig Broadley-Naylor for First Aid provision



Welcome to New Parish Councillors: We are delighted that Craig Broadley-Naylor and Claire have agreed to be co-opted on to the Parish Council and we would like to give them a warm welcome.

Composting Group: Contact Alan Mason for more details: alan_mbc@btinternet.com or on 07738 933316.

Meet the Councillors Drop in Dates: To be advertised on our website, Facebook and notice board.

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Langley with Hardley Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Vacant
Tel: 01502 730166 Email: langleywithhardley.pc@gmail.com
Website: <https://langleywithhardleypc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>
Facebook: To be developed



There was no news from the parish council this month.

Langley with Hardley Village Hall

Friday 1st July Café, 11:00am-2:00pm. Come and enjoy homemade scones, cakes and much more in good company. Children's activities available.

Saturday 16th July Quiz and nibbles. Come and show off your knowledge. Doors open at 6:30pm for 7:00pm start. Tickets £4. To book phone Tibby or Jane on 01508 520184.

Friday 5th August Cafe, 11:00am-2:00pm. Come to enjoy great food and company. Children's activities available.

The hall offers Tuesday evening Yoga classes. Thursday evening Dance classes. For more information or to book the hall for events call Tibby or Jane on 01508 520184.



Three Rivers Talking Newspaper

If you or someone you know has a visual impairment that makes reading the local newspaper difficult, why not subscribe to Three Rivers Talking Newspaper? Here's what you need to know:



- It's free
- It's based on the Beccles and Bungay Journal
- We produce a recording every week
- It's mailed out on a USB memory stick
- We provide the simple equipment needed to play the recording and show you how to use it
- We have a website www.3rtn.org.uk
- You can also listen to our recording on Alexa and other devices, or on our website
- Our contact details are Sally 01508 482557 or Helen 07789 994906

Three Rivers Talking Newspaper is part of the national network of Talking News for the blind and visually impaired. We are based in Bungay and most of our listeners are in the Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Loddon area. 3RTN is a charity and is run by a friendly team of volunteers. As well as the weekly local news, we send out a regular audio magazine Let's Talk, with interviews and articles.

Jill Bennett

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Notes from Sisland

Hopefully by the time that you read this summer will have finally arrived, following the mixed weather of the Platinum Jubilee weekend and the heavy rain this morning. We are all looking forward to the many summer events and in Sisland we are busy planning for our popular Sunday Afternoon Teas.

We have been running this event for several years and it is always lovely to see friends, old and new, from across Norfolk and Suffolk who make the visit on a Sunday afternoon to enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of homemade cake in the beautiful surroundings. We can also provide space inside for those who want to enjoy the location without the inclement nature of the British summer. We will be open each of the four Sundays of August from 3:00-5:00pm on each Sunday.



This event is the main fundraising focus for Sisland each year, but it is also an important part of the fabric of the village. Many people from the village, and beyond, contribute to the provision of cakes each week, and, as such, it brings many of us together with the opportunity to catch-up.


Last month, I wrote about the importance of Sisland as an active promotor of conservation and wildlife in its churchyard. The churchyard is left uncut until the start of August to allow for the wildflowers to seed and provide the stunning display that we are treated to each spring. The cutting, preparation, and maintenance of it is another indication of the important contribution that various friends and locals make to the support of the church.

We look forward to seeing friends, old and new, over the summer.

Sisland Jubilee Tea

The afternoon of Saturday 4th July turned out to be warm and sunny which was fortunate, as our celebrations for Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee were held in the garden of Willowdale Barn. Residents of our small village were pleased to be together again after such a long time of social distancing. The event was very festive and colourful with red, white, and blue bunting put up, and some chose to wear colourful outfits for the occasion. Plates of savoury food and a delicious selection of decorated cakes, sponges and cup cakes were enjoyed with lots of cups of tea. The young ones played the traditional bowling game which has been used at many previous Jubilee celebrations and summer fetes at Sisland. Our grateful thanks go to Ian and Jo Newton for their kind hospitality.

Rev Jill Haylock



**Are you an
older person
worried about
rising fuel and
food prices?**

Norfolk Assistance Scheme

is working in partnership with Age UK Norfolk and Age UK Norwich to help you get support and financial assistance for food, energy, water and other essentials including white goods and beds.

Anyone can apply to NAS on your behalf including our Age UK partners if you are not able to contact us yourself. NAS, Age UK Norfolk and Age UK Norwich are here to help you through this difficult time.

The fastest way to apply is online: www.norfolk.gov.uk/NAS
If you do not have internet access, call **0333 996 8333**

If you are unsure whether this is for you
please contact **Your Norfolk Advice Line**
Tel: 0333 996 8333 or by email at helpline@ncan.co.uk

Loddon Bell Ringers



Two of our members joined with others to ring in a Peal at All Saints, Necton on Saturday 23rd April to celebrate St. George's day. The 5040 changes of seven Surprise Minor methods took 2 hours 56 minutes to ring.

We have rung quarter peals of Plain Bob Triples at Swaffham, Pudsey Surprise Major at Ashill, 11 Doubles methods at Haddiscoe, Morning Exercise Delight Minor at Norton Subcourse, Surfleet Surprise Minor at Ditchingham and London Surprise Minor at Woodton.

We also rang for a wedding blessing at St. Peter's church, Brooke and have been helping with teaching new ringers at the St. Peter Mancroft training center in Norwich. We are also teaching some new ringers here at Loddon who are progressing well. We are always pleased to hear from anyone who would be interested in learning how to ring church bells

Steve Rabong

Struggling with Money? Local Charitable Funds available:

There are two local charities to help local people in need: Loddon Town Estate Trust (for people living in Loddon); and Chedgrave Church Discretionary Fund (for people living in Chedgrave or who are regular members of the congregation at All Saints). These have received a boost from monies raised by the monthly quiz at The White Horse during 2021.

The charities are only any good if people use them! In the past, money has paid for things like cookers and carpets. It has also gone towards solicitor's bills and rent. Please do not feel ashamed or embarrassed to call on the funds if you need them.

You can access the Loddon fund by contacting Ann Lumley on 01508 528141 or email: annlumley150@btinternet.com. The Chedgrave fund can be accessed by contacting Rev Alison, Rev David or the church warden, Roger Outlaw—contact details on p3.

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 Anne Jackson who is responsible for hall bookings on 01508 502278.



Hardley Windmill

Music at the Mill

Saturday 20th August 2022

From 7:00pm to 11:00pm

Transport available from car park at Langley, or park at Hardley Station and stroll up the river bank.

Grand
Chedgrave



**TORTOISE HUNT
SUMMER
FETE**

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Jubilee Hall, George Lane, Loddon NR14 6NB
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**For details and to book call
Tibby or Jane on 01508 520184.**

Use It or Lose It!



Royal British Legion—Loddon & District Branch

What a lovely community we live in! It was great to see lots of support for the Platinum Jubilee Fete. Thank you to everyone who called at our RBL Stand and also for the donations to our Loddon Poppy Appeal.



If you are a beneficiary or a veteran and require support or help, please contact us on number below or pop along to one of our meetings. These are held every 3rd Monday of the month (except for December when there is no meeting). We meet in the back room of the Library Annex, 6:45pm for 7:00pm start. Meetings start with a catch up on business and end with a cuppa and chat. Our next meetings are on 18th July and 15th August.

For information or Support, please contact Colin or Christine Hartley on 01508 521136.

Tuesday Market, Loddon

You will find our colourful plant and cut flower stall outside the Hollies, every Tuesday from 10:00-11:30am.

Inside will be a fine selection of baked goods, preserves, fresh eggs, raw milk and vegetables. Why not treat yourself to a coffee and cake, then browse our selection of local crafts including woodwork, jewellery, cards, paintings etc. We look forward to seeing you.

If you have any queries contact Sheila Ford 01508 520752



Sean Smith—Celebrity Biographer

Talk and BBQ at All Saints, Chedgrave, 16th July

Sean Smith is the UK's leading celebrity biographer and the author of the number one bestseller *Cheryl*, as well as bestselling books about Tom Jones, Robbie Williams and Kate Middleton.

His books about the most famous people of our times have been translated throughout the world. His subjects include Adele, Kim Kardashian, Gary Barlow, Kylie Minogue, Justin Timberlake, Britney Spears, Victoria Beckham, Jennifer Aniston and J.K. Rowling. The film *Magic Beyond Words: The J.K. Rowling Story* was based on his biography of the Harry Potter author.

Described by the *Independent* as a 'fearless chronicler', he specialises in meticulous research, going 'on the road' to find the real person behind the star image.

Barbecue starts from 5:30pm and the talk begins at 7:00pm.

Tickets £10 full price; £8 concessions available from Rev Alison:
ball880am@btinternet.com or 01508 528126

Church Services

3rd July		
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary, Sisland
9:00am	Informal Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:00-12noon	XPRESSIONS CAFÉ	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
10th July		
9:30am	BCP Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon
17th July		
10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
11:00am	All Together Worship	All Saints, Chedgrave
5:00 pm	BCP Evening Prayer	St Mary, Sisland
24th July		
9:30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:30am	Morning Worship	St Margaret, Hardley
10:45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon
31st July		
10:45am	Benefice Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
7:00pm	Last Sunday Praise	St John, Loddon

Baa Baa Shop—Holiday Club 2022—1st-5th August

Our holiday club is now in the advanced planning stage. We have a good number of children booked in, though there remain a few spaces. Holiday Club is for children who have been in full time school for at least a year in the primary sector ie YR-Y6. It has a mix of fun, food, faith and friendship with our usual mix of craft, storytelling, songs, cooking and games.

Booking forms are available in both Loddon Infant and Junior Schools and can be returned there by July 15th.

Further details from Rev Alison on 01508 528126 or e-mail: ball880am@btinternet.com.



Church Services

7th August

8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary, Sisland
9:00am	Informal Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:00-12noon	XPRESSIONS CAFÉ	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon

14th August

9:30am	BCP Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon

21st August

10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
11:00am	All Together Worship*	All Saints, Chedgrave
5:00 pm	BCP Evening Prayer	St Mary, Sisland

28th August

9:30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:30am	Morning Worship	St Margaret, Hardley
10:45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon
7:00pm	Last Sunday Praise	St John, Loddon



*Pet Service

This service will be a celebration of the animals that are our companions and friends and very much part of the family.

Do join us, bringing your pet with you for a blessing.

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 Anne Jackson who is responsible for hall bookings on 01508 502278.

Other Services in Chet Valley Churches		
*Every Saturday 6:00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	
**Tuesdays 7:30-8:30pm	<p align="center">Come and Pray</p> <p align="center">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 align="center">‘Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection’</p> <p align="center">3rd Tuesday Midweek Communion with Blessing</p> <p align="center"><i>All are welcome</i></p>	
Thursdays during school term	<p align="center">XTRA!</p> <p align="center">Join us at St John’s 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>	
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

*Please contact office@east-angliadiocese.org.uk to confirm details of Catholic services.

**Please contact Rev Jill (jillhaylock@aol.com) about current arrangements for Tuesday Prayer and Reflection, or if you would like to receive this electronically.

Community Groups, News and Events

News from Local Branches of the Women's Institute



Loddon and District Women's Institute

What an exciting time it's been celebrating the Queens Platinum Jubilee! We had a really great afternoon at the Parish Councils' Fete, (well done to both councils!). It was lovely to be part of such an enjoyable community event after so long apart. Thanks to all who visited our stall. We were sold out by about 2:00pm!

Next Meetings:

Wednesday 20th July: Speaker—Mrs Pam Redwood. 'Dance Around the World' - a variety of easy dances from around the world, suitable for beginners. 7:15pm for 7:30 p.m. St Johns Chapel, George Lane, Loddon.

Wednesday 17th August: Members' outing to Thurton Church and Lynton's garden and tea.

We are always pleased to welcome new members. For more information, we can be contacted through our Facebook page or on 01508 528656.

Chedgrave & District Women's Institute

At our meeting on 26th July we welcome Phillip Sheriff who will be talking to us about Blood Bikes. In August we shall be having our Garden Meeting which traditionally takes place in a member's garden, weather permitting. Our meetings start at 2:00pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month and are held at the All Saints Church Centre, Chedgrave. If you would like further information, please contact Audrey 528393 or Angela 521120.

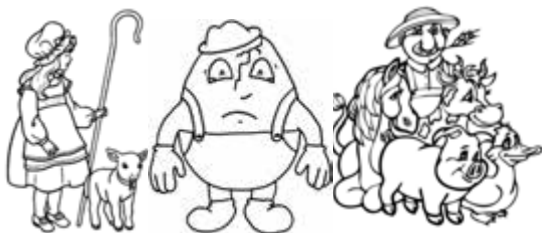
Charity Fete in aid of Parkinson's UK

The Parkinson's UK fete will be on 10th July, 12:00-4:30pm on Cannell's Green (opposite The White Horse, Chedgrave).

There will be a BBQ, cakes, a variety of stalls, face painting, games, raffle.

There will be a nursery rhyme character fancy dress competition with prizes for best fancy dress: 0-5years, 6-12years, 13+ years.

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.



Anyone interested in having a stall or helping on the day, please contact Jenny on 01508 218008 or message via the charity shop in aid of Parkinson's UK page on Facebook.

Norfolk Home Library Service

Norfolk home library expands service and calls for new users and volunteers.

Calling all book lovers and digital masters! A popular home library service delivered by Royal Voluntary Service and the Norfolk Library and Information Service is looking to expand throughout Norfolk.

A new digital inclusion program is also being trialled, in which specially trained volunteers teach the service's clients how to access critical information digitally, and how to download books online. The expansion means that the Home Library Service is looking to welcome new clients, volunteers, and Volunteer Coordinators to the team.

Volunteers work alongside their local library to select and deliver books and other media to those who may find it difficult to leave the house, have mobility issues, or caring responsibilities. The service also provides regular, friendly social contact to check if clients are safe and well, to discuss reading and listening preferences, and to report any concerns to appropriate services as needed.

Volunteer Coordinators liaise with local libraries, manage a network of local volunteers to arrange book deliveries, recruit new volunteers, and build relationships with local community groups to promote the service. As part of the new digital inclusion program, Digital Service Coordinators may offer their skills in workshops to train volunteers to use various devices, apps, and programs that the service's clients may find challenging.

Alicia Stillman, Service Manager for Royal Voluntary Service Norfolk Home Library Service says: "For people who find leaving their homes problematic, the Home Library Service offers a vital link to the local library and a welcome connection with a friendly face. The Covid-19 pandemic has shone a light on the significant number of vulnerable adults living in isolation. During the last two years, it has also become apparent that many socially isolated people were not able to access vital information due to digital illiteracy. Instruction on downloading eBooks, accessing GP and Council services, and setting up video conferencing can often be more easily explained in person, in an informal setting, one on one. Through the new digital inclusion program, with the help of our dedicated volunteers, we hope to bring clients back to the activities they love, prevent further isolation, and provide companionship and support."

To sign up to the Home Library Service, please contact the Norfolk Library and Information Service on 0344 800 8020 or visit: libraries@norfolk.gov.uk to be added to a round.

To sign up to become a volunteer or coordinator of the Norfolk Home Library Service please visit the Royal Voluntary Service at: www.royalvoluntaryservice.org/volunteer. For further information about the roles, please contact Royal Voluntary Service Norfolk Community Service Manager Alicia Stillman: email: norfolkhl@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk or 01603 397998.



Norfolk County Council



Sport

Footballers Wanted!

A friendly, relaxed group of guys of all ages and abilities who meet at Hobart Astro Turf every **Thursday** from 8:00-9:00pm for a non-competitive kick about to keep fit and socialise. £3:00 per session. First session free.

For more details, contact Terry on tezzahayden99@gmail.com



Jubilee Short Mat Bowls Club

If you have never tried short mat bowls why not give it a go? We are a very friendly, non-competitive club, that plays in groups of up to four people. New members and beginners are very welcome. We meet on **Tuesday** 1:30-3:30pm in the Jubilee Hall. Just bring flat indoor shoes (no heels), the right money—£3, and a sense of humour. We have spare bowls. More info? Call 01508 521958.



Short Tennis Club

Come and join our friendly non-competitive club on **Tuesdays** 11:30am-1:00pm at Jubilee Hall. All welcome. For more information call 01508 520589.



Loddon Ladies Hockey Club

Feel like you want to get involved in a new sport, or perhaps you used to play when you were at school and fancy giving it another go?

We welcome new members of all ages (13+) and abilities. Come and get fit, have fun and meet friendly women from in and around the local area. We train on **Monday** nights at Langley School (NR14 6BJ), 7:00pm-8:30pm.



Hobart Badminton Club

Players wanted! Come and join our friendly club of all ages from 16+. Playing experience desirable. We meet at Hobart sports hall, **Tuesday** evenings from 7:30-9:30pm. Cost £5:00, first session free! For more information contact Terry on: tezzahayden99@gmail.com



Hales and Loddon Cricket Club

Youth training outside (weather permitting) at Hales Green every Monday until Monday 25th July. Ben France will be running these sessions on alternate weeks. Youth membership £45 per child (or £80 for two siblings) including training, club insurance coverage and match fees.

We are also running All Stars for 5-8 year-olds until Monday 25th July, 6:00-7:00pm. We've capped numbers for this at 16 this season and places are going fast. Booking and payment via the ECB website: <https://ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/Course/ebc1355f-5717-4c1a-867e-dda9c515f1b5>

Ashby St Mary Cricket Club

If you are new to the area, or have not played for a while, or perhaps fancy a change of club, you will be made most welcome. The Ashby teas are back this season. For more information, please contact Paul Clemence on 01508 218078.





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Loddon Community Gym

It is the small things that make all the difference. Although everyone says the gym is a friendly place to exercise, there were whoops of joy (maybe a slight exaggeration) when members came in a couple of weeks ago to find that the equipment no longer faces the wall and that we can now look up and out as we peddle away. It certainly does make one feel that we are 'all in this together' and it is encouraging to see others doing their best to keep fit. The treadmills have still to face the wall for safety reasons. New members continue to trickle in and many of us are now having new programmes devised by Louise to reflect changing goals or simply for variety. The gym committee is working hard to improve and enhance what we can offer to members and new publicity will hopefully attract even more of you to join.

If you want to see the gym in action please call in, see for yourself and talk to Louise or go to our website: www.loddoncommunitygym.com for more information.

Gym opening hours in the Jubilee Hall, George Street, Loddon, as follows:
Monday 1:30-6:00pm; Tuesday 4:30-8:30pm; Friday 10:00am-1:00pm.

Loddon Tennis Club

A new tennis club has launched in Loddon, For more information, please see the website: www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/LoddonTennisClub or contact Paul via email: loddontennis@loddonpc.org.uk or phone Paul directly on 07368 684806.



Loddon Community Cinema

After a wonderful and successful return last month, for which we thank everyone for their support, we continue with:

“West Side Story” *directed by Steven Spielberg.*

Thursday 7th July, 7:30pm, Doors open 7pm.

Tickets £4 adults, £2 under 16. available from Loddon Garden & DIY, and on the door.



Public Consultation Day

Saturday 9th July 2022, 10:00am-2:00pm,

The Hollies, Loddon

Refreshments available.

Over the next 15 years, 240 new homes are planned for Loddon and Chedgrave. We're developing a neighbourhood plan that will influence how this housing is delivered. Come along to a drop in event to have your say on this important issue.

To find out more or get involved, please contact Carla Petersen on: 01508 522020 or email neighbourhoodplan@loddonpc.org.uk



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Chet Staithe Probus Club

Recently retired or just moved to the area? Missing male company, on your own, or just want to get out and meet new people? Why not visit the Chet Staithe Probus Club? We are friendly and informal; jackets and ties not required. Members range in age from 60 to almost 100.

Meetings are on the first and third **Tuesday** of the month at The White Horse, Chedgrave, 10:00am-12:00 noon with the option of staying for lunch.

Contact cliveboyd@btconnect.com or 01508 520547.



Chet Valley Probus Club

Chet Valley Probus Club is a group of retired business people who meet at the White Horse Chedgrave on the second and fourth **Tuesday** of each month commencing at 10:30am. Our next meetings are:

12th July Peter Lawrence, “Eyes Along The Coast. National Coast Watch”

26th July Adrian O’Dell, “The Historic Landscape of our Area”

9th August Jim Stebbings. “The Topsy-Turvy World of Gilbert & Sullivan”

We are a friendly welcoming group who enjoy interesting talks, good company, good food and just meeting others of a like mind. For further details and an application form please contact the Secretary, John McCormack: 5a Norton Road, Loddon, NR14 6JN; Tel: 01508 521899.

Chet Valley Photography Club (CVPC)

Thank you to everyone that visited our 10th exhibition in June. After an absence of two years it was lovely to be able to put together another exhibition for visitors to come along to and enjoy.



Thank you for voting on the U16 competition that was run jointly by Loddon Parish Council and Chedgrave Parish Council; the winning image is on the front cover of this edition of this issue of Chet Contact.

The result of the CVPC Public Choice vote is as follows: 1st “Garden Visitor Wood Mouse” Norman Wyatt, 2nd “St Pauls” Bernie Webb, 3rd “Loddon In The Snow” Jonathan Orland. These photographs can be viewed on our club website www.ChetValleyPhotography.org.uk

If our exhibition has inspired you and you would like to come along to our meetings then please do—the club is open to everyone regardless of their photography knowledge or experience. For more details please see our website or email info@chetvalleyphotography.org.uk

Our club meetings in July (11th) and August (8th) have yet to be finalised. We are hoping one of these will include a talk on moth photography by Steve Myall EFIAP, BPE5* which was postponed in May due to illness. We will update our website with full details of the meetings when they become available.

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Social Whist

We are back and meeting every 2nd and 4th **Friday** of each month.

We meet in the back room of The Hollies at around 7:30pm for a 7:45pm start. The evening is just what it says, 'Social Whist'—a chance to get together and to play 12 hands of whist with a cup of tea/coffee, a biscuit, and a chat, half way through. You don't need to have a partner, or even know how to play well. If you want a fun social evening, with a bit of thinking added in, this could be for you. Do join us. If you need a lift to/from The Hollies this can be arranged—please call me (Jane) on 528875. All funds raised are for charity.



Loddon WEA

The very interesting course on 'The Company of Preachers' finished at the end of March with a presentation to our speaker, Mary Fewster. We were all pleased to join together for this course after an extended break due to Covid.

The new committee made a presentation to Margaret and Colin Shearmur in recognition and thanks after years of service to WEA group in Loddon.

We are hoping to engage a speaker for a course beginning in September and details will be published nearer the date. The speaker for Spring is Nigel Herwin who will give a 10 course on Early East Anglia starting in January.

For further details, please contact Alison on 01508 521976.



Loddon & Chedgrave Ladies 8 O'clock Club

We are a friendly group of ladies who meet on the last **Wednesday** of each month. A yearly fee is charged and £3.00 for each meeting attended to cover refreshments and outlays.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 27th July when we will welcome Sue Dawson giving us a light hearted talk entitled Bed & Breakfast to Bed & Bondage. We meet in the back room of The Hollies, Loddon High Street. New members always welcome.

For more information please contact June 01508 528853 or Hillary 01508 520457



Parkinson's

Would you like to meet other Parkinson's sufferers? We will normally meet on the first Monday of the month at the Chedgrave White Horse at 12:15pm. Partners are also welcome. Further details from Michael Osborne on 01508 522034.



Chet Valley Voices

We meet every Thursday at St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. 7:00-8:30pm, doors open 6:45pm. Fees: £5 on the night. If you enjoy singing, why not come and join us? All welcome. For more information contact: chetvalleyvoices@gmail.com, or Sue: 01508 528069 suemartin303@btinternet.com.



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Loddon & District Cooperative Day Centre

The Day Centre is meeting again, so if you'd like to get out from your four walls to meet others to chat, play games and have a hot meal, please give Bev a ring on 07826 299290. We'd love to see you at the Brian Clarke rooms in Chedgrave.



Loddon Indoor Bowls Club

We meet in the Old Town Hall in The Swan pub car park, Loddon. It's a members' club with inter-club league matches every evening; roll ups on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons starting at 2:00pm and on Tuesday morning starting at 10:00am (restricted to the first 12 turning up).

New members are always needed. Subs just £12 per year. Rink fee £2 per session. Just turn up and give it a try. For further information, please contact Paul Clemence (chair): 01508 218078.

Loddon and District Horticultural Society

On 10th August we are paying an evening visit to Homestead Nurseries at Kirstead when we will be given a tour of behind the scenes of the nurseries. As this year sees the 50th anniversary of the Society we will also be having a celebratory cake afterwards.



Don't forget that our Annual Open Show is held on 3rd September at the Jubilee Hall and schedules are available from Tricia Loades on 01508 520273 or email patricialoades@btinternet.com for a copy. There are classes for flowers, fruit, vegetables, flower arranging, cookery and children and local WIs. The show opens at 1:00pm.

For more details on our meetings contact Chairman Jean Cope on 01502 710024 or email jeancope52@gmail.com or Secretary Hazel Copland on 01508 520890 or email happyhaze50@gmail.com. Also follow us on our Facebook page.

Waveney Valley Arts Society

We are a friendly group who meet at the Fisher Theatre in Bungay on the first Wednesday of every month (excluding July and August). Our events provide a welcoming place to hear expert lecturers share their specialist knowledge. The theatre is open from 10:00am and our lectures start at 11:00am.



The next lecture will be as follows:

Wednesday 7th September: Votes for Women! Art and the Suffragettes
Dr Caroline Shenton.

Guests are welcome to join us for an individual lecture but there will be a charge of £10. If you wish to become a member of our society, the contact details are on the Website: <https://theartsociety.org/waveney-valley>

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Loddon Flower Club

5th July Linda Kingcott: Demonstration entitled 'Fascinating Rhythm'.

Meetings are held at St John's Church, George Lane, Loddon. Doors open at 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start. Visitors £6.



Flower Festival—Queen and Commonwealth—16th-17th July



The flower festival, held to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, will be at St John's Church, George Lane, Loddon. With 54 countries of the Commonwealth to choose from, you are welcome to make an arrangement. The festival is on 16th-17th July, 10:00am-3:30pm.

On Saturday at 4:00pm there will be a talk on The Queen's Life by Lois Gill. Lois will also be bringing her knitted queen for display. Tickets: £5 for adults; £2 for children under 14; available from Loddon Garden & DIY, High Street, Loddon.

We are available to arrange flowers for family occasions.

For more information contact Tricia Godfrey on 01508 480522 or tricia646@aol.com or Alex Pinder on 01508 493869 or nnark@aol.com or take a look at our website at www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk.

Loddon & Chedgrave District Society

We are a friendly group of people who like walking, visiting interesting gardens, historic buildings, and the occasional social evening.

Wednesday 6th July 10:00am Reydon Marshes. Walk through this lovely landscape, various lengths of walks suitable for all abilities. Lunch at the lovely cafe there. Contact June: 528853.

Sunday 17th July 10:30am Walking Treasure Hunt around Bungay. Meet at Chaucer Street car park. Picnic at Betty's meadow afterwards where we will find out the answers. Contact Sara Green at least 1 week before: 521958.

Wednesday 3rd August 10:30am Stokesby. Walk through nice countryside and along the river, approximately 5.5 miles. Lunch at The Ferry. Contact June: 528853.

Saturday 20th August 7:00-11:00pm Music at the Mill. Bar and BBQ. Walk from Hardley Staithe or catch the minibus from the signposted car park. Bus running from 6:30-7:30pm and 9:00-11:00pm. £1.00 per journey.

Membership fee is £6.00pa. Members will receive a programme. New members welcome.

For more information, contact the secretary June at junecs@btinternet.com
Tel: 01508 528853 or membership secretary Hillary meredithp3@sky.com
Tel: 01508 520457.

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Events

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- **Bounce and Rhyme** Monday, 10:15-10:45am.
- **Colouring Club** Monday, 3:30-4:30pm. Come and colour yourself calm with our ever-changing array of colouring sheets. Suitable for all ages.
- **Board Games** Thursday, 3:30-4:30pm. Suitable for all ages.
- **Beginner's Backgammon Club** Thursday, 12:00noon-2:00pm. Learn to play backgammon and play against our volunteer.
- **Knit, Crochet, & Natter** 2nd Thursday of the month, 2:30-3:30pm. Pop in to learn a new skill or to chat to friends whilst you knit.
- **Just a Cuppa** Friday 10:30am-12:30pm. Pop into the library for a free tea or coffee, chat to others in the library or our staff.
- **Loddon Loves Book Group** 2nd and last Fridays of the month, 5:45-6:45pm. Come and discuss the chosen book for the month. Advance booking essential. Please use the details below to book.
- **LEGO Club** Saturday 2:30-3:30pm. Suitable for children aged 5+.

Sink or Float?: Join us for a game show of Sink or Float! Guess what the object will do when placed in water. Whoever guesses the most correctly will win a prize! Thursday 28th July 2:00-3:00pm. No booking required, just turn up.

Lava Lamp Workshop: Using household products for this science experiment to make a lava lamp. Thursday 4th August 11:00am-12:00 noon; Booking required, please visit our website to book.

Learn about Colour: Looking at colours and how they work. You'll get to take away colour bouquets of flowers you've made yourself. Monday 8th August 12:00-1:00pm. No booking required, just turn up.

The Big Lego build—Marble Run: Use LEGO to construct your own marvellous marble run Monday 15th August 2:00-3:00pm. Booking essential.

Spinning Drums: Make a spinning drum to take home. Make some noise in the library! Thursday 25th August 3:00-4:00pm. No booking required, just turn up.

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Loddon and District Local History Group

Our May lecture was given by Dr Tom Williamson on 'The History of Orchards in Eastern Anglia.' The talk was based on a heritage project he had been involved in where research had been carried out on 10,000 orchard sites. Only 1,600 were still orchards.

He began by informing us that in 1871 orchards were mainly found in western England to produce cider. It had been difficult for that area to make beer as malting barley needs a lower rainfall than is found in the west. Eastern England had become arable over the centuries but there is evidence that some country houses in East Anglia made cider with ordinary apples and a commercial enterprise, that became Aspells' cider, was started in the eighteenth century near Stowmarket.

Dr Williamson outlined the different kinds of orchards that developed in East Anglia:

- Farmhouse orchards which looked nice in the spring and the surplus was sold. The land was also used for bee hives and as grazing for sheep. Quite a few survive;
- Commercial orchards where growing fruit trees was the main business. By the 1970s the use of sprays and weed killers meant the orchards were not looking that attractive;
- Garden orchards at country houses had become integrated into their garden design since the seventeenth century. Sometimes they were placed near the house for aesthetic reasons as at Somerleyton or in kitchen gardens like you can see at Holkham Hall and Houghton Hall;
- Orchards attached to big institutions like mental hospitals in the late nineteenth century, particularly in Herefordshire.

By 1900 there are thousands of orchards in East Anglia and the period 1850-1950 is viewed as the Orchard Century. Population growth and the spread of the railways meant more food was needed and could be transported around the country. By the end of the nineteenth century the continuing agricultural depression, caused by American imports of grain, resulted in the government setting up schemes for smallholders to grow more fruit. More and more commercial orchards were created and by 1960 the eastern counties became equally important to the western ones for growing apples.

A big decline followed as more profitable ways of using the land were developed and, in the 1960s, the government gave money for 'grubbing' out orchards. Fruit trees in East Anglia have been reduced by 84% in the last six decades.

20th July: Phyllida Scrivens: The Great Thorpe Railway Disaster of 1874

17th August: Georgette Vale: Robert Kett's widow gives her version of events in 1549.

All meetings held in St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon, starting at 1:30pm. Admission £3.

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Read Any Good Books Lately?

When the Sky Falls by Phil Earle

This children's novel was shortlisted for the 2022 Carnegie Medal. It's inspired by a true story of what happened to zoo animals in WWII, as the bombs started to rain down. Joseph is a young lad, charged with protecting Adonis the silverback gorilla, and to put an end to him if it all goes wrong. It's an emotional and exceptional book.

Birdcage Walk by Helen Dunmore

Set in Bristol at the time of the French Revolution, Lizzie is married to a property developer who has gambled on the market expanding, just as it begins to contract. Lizzie is from a family of radicals who thoroughly approve of the events happening across the channel while her husband views them with despair, and as the foreshadow of his changing fortunes. He also has a dark secret about the fate of his first wife and as Lizzie notices the change in his temperament, she begins to become fearful about his state of mind and intentions towards her.

The Eighth Detective by Alex Pavesi

This is such a clever book! I'm a big fan of the crime genre and this takes it to another level. There are murder mysteries within murder mysteries and the surprises keep on coming until the very end. The premise is that there are set rules to murder mysteries: there must be a victim; a suspect; a detective. The rest of it can be shuffled around to change it up and keep it interesting. Although it may sound complicated it's actually very easy to read and very much in the style of Agatha Christie with a modern twist!

The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes

Although Jojo Moyes is most famous for her books like *Me Before You*, I prefer her historical novels. Set in Depression-era America, Alice has married the handsome Bennett hoping to escape from her stifling life in England, only to be catapulted into an equally stifling small-town life in Kentucky. Her salvation comes from joining a group of women who are remote librarians, riding through the mountains delivering books to children and people who have no access to literacy. However, not everyone in the community welcomes their mission!

On the to be read pile!

The Escape Artist: The Man Who Broke Out of Auschwitz to Warn the World by Jonathan Freedland

Rudolf Vrba, along with his companion Fred Wetzler, were the first Jews to escape Auschwitz. This is the story of his escape and his subsequent attempts to expose the truth of what the Nazis were doing in Auschwitz.

Ruth Redford

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Nature Notes

As you read this, we will be halfway through 2022, though as I write it is still the beginning of June. We have blue tits nesting in the bird box we can see from our kitchen window, and I know that our sparrow nest box is also occupied. The common whitethroat that for the previous two springs has entertained us with its scratchy song has not returned this year. I finally caught up with a cuckoo on the 17th May as I drove along Cross Stone Street; it was flying over the fields. At the time of writing it is still the only one I have seen, though I have heard them regularly.

Rachel had one of those nature “wow” moments earlier in May when making her way to the car. She suddenly realised that there was a red kite flying overhead, gliding effortlessly. As I was following her, I was able to join in the experience. Then nearer the end of May while in Seething she had brilliant views of three grey partridges, two males and a female who were so caught up in their courtship duel that they were oblivious to her presence.

For me, going to Westleton Heath in the hope of hearing nightingales was one of the month’s highlights. Although these summer visitors tend to sing at their best late evenings and early mornings, they are usually vocal during the day as well. I had walked along a footpath with high hedges either side and caught snatches of nightingales singing. On reaching the end of the path I had to decide whether to return to the car via the road or retrace my steps. I thankfully chose the latter. Before I had walked a few yards a nightingale started in melodious song. It was so loud that even my dog was stopped in his tracks and stared into the undergrowth. Suddenly I caught sight of slight movement and there was the bird singing its heart out, close enough I could have reached out and touched it, (which I didn’t). An amazing experience to hear so many of these once common birds.

On the 18th May I had decided to go out birdwatching, either to Hickling Broad where there was a caspian tern or to RSPB Minsmere for a roseate tern. Before leaving I quickly checked what else was about and discovered that a white-tailed lapwing had turned up at Hickling, so my mind was made up. I was fortunate to see both the caspian tern and the white-tailed lapwing. The latter would normally be found in Iraq, Iran and Southern Russia, but this bird has been touring England for the last nine months, and I believe that Hickling is the furthest south it has come. Obviously, it was a first for me. In early June I did catch up with the roseate tern at Minsmere.

For anyone that is interested in learning more about wildlife, on the 30th July at Earsham Wetland Centre—their first free entry open day of 2022—called Wild Waveney. There will be more information about this event on their Facebook page.

As hopefully summer will bring with it warmer weather, make the most of it, get outside and take in all the beauty that is there. Nature, you know, is good for you!

Richard and Rachel Hull



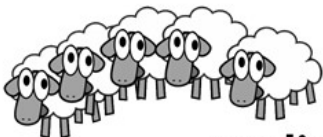
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Gardening Notes

From the Allotment—Andrew Milner

I confidently said in the June column that tender crops should be ok to plant out, only for a cold spell to hit around the Platinum Jubilee. I didn't lose anything, but it certainly set the squashes and courgettes back and I notice some people growing outdoor tomatoes took a hit. Goodness only knows what the weather will be like by the time you read this, but hopefully, you are all enjoying your fruit and veg harvest, busily picking and eating, freezing and preserving, particularly soft fruits like summer raspberries. It is well worth growing the autumn raspberry to keep this delicious fruit going as long as possible.

Once again, I had a poor crop of garlic as it was dry when it should have been wet and wet when it should have been dry. I guess the answer is plant more garlic bulbs to make up for their small size. New potatoes should be ready, and I start harvesting early when they are still young, tender and tasty. By the time they are finished the second earlies are ready. In my rotation leeks will go into the space left by the new potatoes. Also continue to plant successional crops and those vegetables that can be harvested in winter or will stand over it like leeks, kale or winter cabbage. There is still time to grow more beetroot, but I find as soon as it turns hot and no matter how much I water the spinach bolts.

From the Garden—Shirley Cross

The pond is finally full. When we had it dug in March we had no idea it wouldn't rain for weeks and weeks! The borders have been planted and although we have had deer, rabbits and a hare in the garden as yet the plants haven't been nibbled. I am still looking for a reliable peat free compost, some is just too woody and not all plants have thrived. A plant I am keen to add to the borders is Fuchsia Magellanica; it is a hardy bush growing to about two metres, happy in sun or partial shade. One variety has a local connection: Fuchsia Magellanica Lady Bacon with striking red, pink and purple flowers and small dark green leaves. Lady Priscilla Bacon was an avid collector of Fuchsias (and snowdrops) at Raveningham Hall. I haven't visited Raveningham Hall for a couple of years. Last time I came away with a large agapanthus and I know they usually have pelargoniums for sale so maybe time for another visit. The walled kitchen garden was also very impressive along with the stumpery (a 'rockery' of tree stumps).

July is the time to sit back and enjoy all your hard work in the garden and take notes for changes or new planting plans for next year. Local gardens open for charity are a good source of ideas and sometimes some unusual plants as the owners are often very keen gardeners. I hope to visit Wenhaston Grange this month, weather permitting of course.

End Piece

Appeal for Nature

Sadly, even during the 'No Mow May' campaign, large areas of grass, in public places as well as local gardens, are being cut to within an inch of the soil. It seems that the urge to 'tidy up' and 'make things look nice' is still a mind-set of many living here in our villages. Those who do leave areas to allow existing wild plants to grow are seen to be messy, lazy and even disinterested in keeping the place 'neat'. Therefore, I would like to make an appeal, not for your money or even for your time, but just to see it in your heart to leave things to themselves, and make a difference.

I have visited many villages where this has now become somewhat of a feature among the inhabitants. Wild flowers are allowed to exist alongside other pollinator friendly plants and even verges and roundabouts have not been cut. Of course, I am still aware that some maintenance is required to allow access to certain areas and cutting of grasses and wildflowers needs to be done at the end of the season, after seeding, to allow for growth next year. Please do think about what you are doing.

Go take a look at areas in places where the mower has been left unused and enjoy the buzz of insect life all around that is missing in most places. If you are making a trip to North Norfolk this summer and would like to get a taste of what a wildlife garden can look like, you can do no better than to visit Natural Surroundings on the Bayfield Estate; a truly inspirational place. Do please take a look at what they have done to what was once an open field. I can assure you that you will be amazed.

There are two wildlife groups in this area both trying hard to promote more care for the environment: Chet Valley B-Line and the South Yare Wildlife Group (SYWG). They are working in conjunction with one another and are trying their best to educate the general public on this important matter but they need you! The SYWG is hosting an Activities Day for Wildlife on 21st August, in The Jubilee Hall, Loddon. Watch out for further details. They will have various displays from organisations who are trying to 'do their bit'. I hope you will come along to discuss with them your doubts and fears and to hear what they have to say.

So, what I am saying is, please help us to care before it is too late.

Thank you.

Carol Webb





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